COLLABORATION. THE WAY FORWARD IN DRUG DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT FROM NATURAL SOURCES

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Natural products have been a major source of novel leads for the development of effective drugs for the treatment of serious diseases, ranging from pain to infectious diseases to cancer. The discovery and development of such leads into effective drugs poses numerous challenges requiring multidisciplinary, and often, international collaboration. These challenges will be illustrated by a few examples of naturally-derived drugs developed by the U.S. National Cancer Institute.