

Structure Elucidation of Secondary Metabolites from the Caribbean Marine Hexacoral *Parazoanthus tunicans* and its relationship with CYP51

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CYP51 is a promising therapeutic target for neglected tropical diseases such as Chagas disease and leishmaniasis, which are caused by the kinetoplastid protozoa *Trypanosoma cruzi* and various *Leishmania* species. Performed studies by functional chromatography shows that extracts from *P. tunicans* exhibits a potential biological activity against CYP51. Our research aims to isolate, characterize and evaluate the biological activity of secondary metabolites from the marine hexacoral *P. tunicans*. Recently, we isolated a number of compounds belonging to the butanolides family from this organism, which could be linked to the CYP51 activity; however, these compounds have not been previously associated with this type of biological activity. Now, we are still looking to discover a new drug generation for the treatment of tropical diseases like trypanosomiasis.