## Synthesis of C<sub>10</sub>-Homoserine Lactones as Quorum Sensing Modulators in *Chromobacterium violaceum*

René García Del Valle, Néstor M. Carballeira

Department of Chemistry, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, P.O. Box 23346, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00931-3346.

In light of the rapid tendency of bacteria to develop resistance to current treatment, quorum sensing (QS) inhibition establishes a promising strategy. QS is a mechanism that bacteria have to communicate through chemical signals. These signals, also known as autoinducers, regulate gene expression for pathogenic traits such as virulence and biofilm formation. In gram-negative bacteria, these chemical signals are known to have a general structure of *N*-acylated-L-homoserine lactone (AHL), with variations on the aliphatic acyl region. Using a natural autoinducer of *Chromobacterium violaceum* as our base, we propose a series of monounsaturated and methoxylated  $C_{10}$ -AHL. The design and study of novel AHL forges a scaffold of compounds that could lead to a better understanding of the QS circuit to develop of potential therapies.