

Publication

Anti-inflammatory and antimalarial meroterpenoids from the New Zealand ascidian *Aplidium scabellum*

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Bioassay-directed fractionation of an extract of the New Zealand ascidian *Aplidium scabellum* has afforded the anti-inflammatory secondary metabolite 2-geranyl-6-methoxy-1,4-hydroquinone-4-sulfate (1) and a family of pseudodimeric meroterpenoids scabellones A (2)-D (5). The benzo[c]chromene-7,10-dione scaffold contained within scabellones A-D is particularly rare among natural products. The structures were elucidated by interpretation of NMR data. Scabellone B was also identified as a moderately potent, nontoxic inhibitor of *Plasmodium falciparum*

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