

SYMPOSIUM PAPER

**Pharmaceutical Discoveries Based on Targeted Ethnomedicinal Plants**

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There is worldwide need for using targeted ethnomedicinal data obtained from indigenous and other peoples in the discovery process leading to the development of new pharmaceuticals to improve human health. Results of biodirected screening against malaria, tuberculosis, and other organisms showed significant inhibition *in vitro* using crude extracts of Aguaruna medicinal plants. Fractions of the most active extracts using similar and additional screens have provided characterized compounds with high levels of efficacy. The value of this ethnobotanical approach as a model for future research will be discussed.