

New cembranoids from the octocoral *Sarcophyton stellatum*

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Crude extract of soft coral *Sarcophyton stellatum*, collected from Dongsha Atoll, has been shown to exhibit anti-inflammatory and anti-bacteria activities. The first chemical investigation of this marine organism was carried out by our group, and led to the isolation of six new cembranoids, compounds 1 to 6, along with fourteen known metabolites (7–20). The structures of these compounds were established by detailed spectroscopic analysis, including 1D and 2D NMR (^1H , ^{13}C , ^1H - ^1H COSY, HMQC, HMBC, and NOESY) spectroscopic data and comparison of the NMR data with those of known analogues.