

3RD EUROPEAN CHEMISTRY CONFERENCE

October 12, 2020 | Virtual Conference

Quinones as Useful Building Blocks for New Materials

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Quinones are common subunits in both natural products and in synthetic materials. Quinones derived from natural sources have seen increased use as building blocks for supramolecular chemistry and pharmaceutical chemistry. This presentation will focus on two readily available types of benzoquinones: hydroxy benzoquinones and nitro benzoquinones. Hydroxy benzoquinones can undergo useful cycloadditions to form tomichaedin, a natural naphthoquinone and anthraquinone diesters, novel monomers. Nitro benzoquinones are highly reactive and participate in cycloaddition reactions and nucleophilic addition reactions to rapidly generate polycyclic systems.