Dear Professor Nikolić,

We are forwarding to you a manuscript entitled “Synthesis of Two Novel C-19 Analogues of (±)-Alstoscholarisine A”, in hope that it fulfills all the requirements for publishing in Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society, as a short communication.

Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s and Huntington’s disorder are the most common examples of currently incurable neurodegenerative diseases, characterized by a progressive loss of neuronal function. In recent years, it has been realized that small molecules could promote neuronal stem cells (NSC) proliferation and differentiation, which could potentially have important therapeutic application. In 2014, indole alkaloid alstoscholarisine A was isolated from *Alstonia scholaris,* which significantly promotes adult NSC proliferation and differentiation. In our communication, we described the first racemic synthesis of two novel C-19 alstoscholarisine A analogues. These derivatives are expected to have significantly changed biological activity, compared to alstoscholarisine A: the C-19 methyl substituent was replaced with an aromatic group (phenyl) or with a longer aliphatic group (butyl). The article should be of interest to the specialists in the field of organic synthesis, as well as to a broad community of organic chemists which, in the authors’ opinion, should justify its publishing in Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society.

We confirm that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not under consideration by another journal. All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission to Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society.

Please find the list of suggested reviewers:

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I thank you in advance for your time and attention.

Yours sincerely,

Zorana Ferjancic