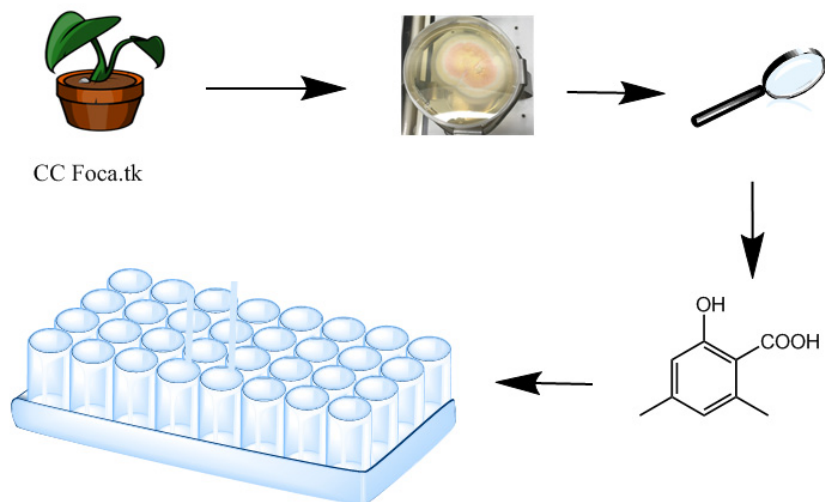


## Antitumor and antimicrobial compounds from endophytic fungi



Endophytic fungi, which live inside plants, are an important source for bioactive natural products. The well known antitumor drug Taxol which is used for the treatment of cancer cannot be only found in *Taxus* species but also in endophytic fungi that have been isolated from *Taxus* plants.

The purpose of this project is to isolate endophytic fungi from various sources and to study their bioactive compounds. Sampling locations are in China and include marine organisms and medicinal plants. Fungi are identified by PCR and Blast search. Following taxonomic identification fungi are fermented on different culture media in order to obtain their metabolites for further investigations including spectroscopic structure elucidation and analysis of their biological activity. Analysis of biological activities focusses on antitumor and antibiotic activities. The latter investigations are carried out in close collaboration with other groups within the GRK.

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