Automation in Drug Discovery - A Structural Biology Perspective

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The impact of automation on the drug discovery process has been significant over the past 10 years and continues to grow. Initially, the expenditure required to automate drug discovery was so great that only large pharmaceutical companies could afford to take advantage of the technology. The arrival of the genomics era and generation of niche biotechnology companies has fuelled the automation and integration of areas as diverse as synthetic gene building to automated X-ray data collection. Now, new and more challenging procedures can be tackled by modern robotics.