

Cover Picture

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The cover picture shows that chemical and biological knowledge need to be linked more to ensure that highly effective and target-specific drugs can be found more quickly. Additionally, the main and side effects must be controlled in the best interests of the individual patient. Despite the intensive use of high-throughput technologies in drug research, despite new insight in genomic and proteomic research and in structural biology, and despite the progress made in bio- and chemoinformatics, there is still a worldwide shortage of new and innovative drugs. The bottleneck in lead-structure generation lies in the preparation of new biologically relevant substances and therefore to a major extent in chemistry. The way medicinal chemists perceive their subject and its role in the natural sciences as well as in the value chain of drug research is crucial to counteract this shortage, as explained by Wess et al. on page 3341–3350.

