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In this month's issue of *Drug Discovery Today*, Guido Zaman gives an update on recent developments in the supply of cells for drug discovery. As cell-based screening is gaining momentum due to advances in detection technologies, a reliable supply with cells of consistent quality is paramount. The use of cryopreserved cells instead of cells that are continuously maintained in culture decreases day-to-day variation, removes passage effects and improves the consistency of cell-based assay results. Cryopreservation techniques uncouple cell culturing from drug screening activities and allow the use of cells as reagents. Division-arrested cells have been used successfully in fully-automated screening platforms; they significantly reduced the plate-to-plate variability in assay signal.

# DRUG DISCOVERY TODAY

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