DRUG DISCOVERY TODAY

Cover Story
In their Keynote Review, Manfred Hauben and Andrew Bate discuss the theory and application of contemporary computer algorithms for the detection of adverse events in post-marketing data of drugs. Safety information about medicines sometimes only comes to light after market approval of a drug and drug safety professionals are increasingly challenged by the size and complexity of some spontaneous reporting system databases. Computer algorithms that statistically analyse the reporting frequency of huge numbers of drug-event combinations are therefore increasingly popular and this Keynote review will discuss the application of computer algorithms, introduce those algorithms under development and discuss practical considerations in the implementation of computer algorithms in a drug safety signal protection program.

REVIEWS