

Issue Tracker



Together,
there's
something
science
can do.

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[AI and Tech Companies joining the Open Science effort in Drug Discovery:](#) At DevDay 2024 (April 12th), several industry leaders in tech and AI Development such as DP Technology and CATL got together to initiate an AI for Science open science ecosystem. Through this platform, they hope to integrate the strengths of AI, cloud computing, and industry applications to accelerate the open-source development of datasets, algorithms, code and pre-trained models. DP Technology also showcased various large science models at DevDay 2024 which can be used for drug discovery and drug development.

[American drug shortages reach new highs:](#) The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists reports that drug shortages have reached a new high – at the end of the first quarter of 2024, 323 shortages have been identified. Increased demand, manufacturing problems and decreased production of generics due to market forces have all contributed to the creation of shortages. The US Department of Health and Human Services recently issued a [report](#) seeks to address the shortage through supply chain resilience.

[FTC challenges an additional 300 patents filed with the FDA:](#) The US Federal Trade Commission sent warnings to 10 major pharmaceutical companies, including in relation to Novo-Nordisk's Ozempic, stating that it would contest patents that are improperly listed in the Food and Drug Administration's Orange Book. The FTC seeks to encourage generic drug entry by reducing "patent thickets" that block regulatory approval and thus lower prices for consumers. In response to an earlier set of warnings issued in 2023, brand name pharma companies set pocket price caps for asthma inhalers and delisted improperly listed patents.

[New mRNA vaccines could provide personalized cancer cures:](#) Moderna recently launched clinical trials of a new mRNA vaccine therapy for three types of cancers. They are partnering with Merck for a late-stage trial that administers Moderna's vaccine technology against melanoma in combination with Merck's immunotherapy Keytruda. Additionally, BioNTech, a German vaccine maker, also created mRNA vaccines against melanoma, plus head and neck cancers. These vaccines are currently in phase 2 trials.

[Novo-Nordisk, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Wellcome announce \\$300 Million research partnership:](#) The partnership will allocate these funds over 3 years to address global issues exacerbated by climate change – including malnutrition and antibiotic-resistant pathogens. This partnership is formed at a time where progress in eliminating diseases is at risk due to faltering funding and attention towards global health and development. Funds will also be used to support institutions and researchers in low- and middle-income settings and to help advance relevant research agendas locally.