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Drug Discovery Today: Technologies

Volume 5, Issue 1, Spring 2008, Pages e23-e28

HTS Revisited

Ion channel screening “ automated patch clamp on the rise

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ddtec.2008.12.004>

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Ion channel proteins are of major importance for the human physiology and thus highly attractive molecular drug targets. Large-scale ion channel screening of wanted and unwanted drug effects is required, but has been limited by the lack of adequate screening technology, because available methods put a trade-off between high-throughput and high-information content.

The advent of automated patch clamp platforms has revolutionized ion channel screening, enabling investigations from a more functional perspective at a much higher throughput. The current status of automated patch clamp platforms, their strengths and drawbacks as well as future developments are reviewed.

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