

Home News Journals Topics Care

Advertisement



The overpredictivity of the hERG assay is unnecessarily flagging safe drugs.



[Log in](#) | [My account](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Subscribe [Renew my subscription](#) | [Sign up for alerts](#)

f IN THE PIPELINE 40

Derek Lowe's commentary on drug discovery and the pharma industry. An editorially independent blog from the publishers of *Science Translational Medicine*. All content is Derek's own, and he does not in any way speak for his employer.



By Derek Lowe



DRUG DEVELOPMENT

The Open Source Malaria Project, So Far

By [Derek Lowe](#) | 16 September, 2016

The Open Source Malaria (**OSM**) project has **a paper out** (open-access, fittingly) in *ACS Central Science*, and it's an interesting read. This is the effort from Mat Todd at Sydney and many, many others around the world to build on the malaria phenotypic screening results **released** in 2010 (and **prioritized** in 2011) by GSK. They've been following a true open-source model – every part of the project is out there for people to see, and for anyone to join in with suggestions. That's always going to be trickier to do than it is in the software world, where the amount of equipment needed is far lower and there are correspondingly few barriers to entry, but this work shows that (under favorable conditions) it can be done. There's a **lot** of **rot** talked about open-source drug discovery, but this is one of the closest examples to the open-source-coding world that I'm aware of.

The paper's actually a good read, and I think it's the open-source nature of the work that does it. More than almost any paper I've ever read, it goes into the ins and outs of the work on the various lead series. It's actually a very accurate look into how these things work – synthetic difficulties, re-routing, structure-activity surprises, arguments about which structures are worth moving on with, tradeoffs at every turn. This is exactly how medicinal chemistry works, and in the future I'll be recommending this paper to show people a blow-by-blow account of it.

About Us

About Journals Leadership Team Members Work at AAAS

Advertise

Advertising Kits Custom Publishing

For Members

Site License Info For Members For Subscribers

International

Chinese Japanese

Help

Access & Subscriptions Site Tools & Features Technical Support Reprints & Permissions

Stay Connected



© 2017 American Association for the Advancement of Science. All rights Reserved. AAAS is a partner of HINARI, AGORA, OARE, CHORUS, CLOCKSS, CrossRef and COUNTER.

[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#)