

Discovery and development of new antibacterial agents: a biotech's perspective

Stefano Donadio

^a KtedoGen & NAICONS, Via Fantoli 16/15, 20138 Milano, Italy

* stefano.donadio@ktedogen.com

There is an urgent need for new antibiotics effective against the increasing number of multidrug resistant pathogens. Despite this pressing medical need, the number of new antibacterial agents approved for human use has been steadily declining over the past decades.

Furthermore, with a few exceptions, all the approved antibacterials represent derivatives of already marketed compounds. As large pharmaceutical companies have been pursuing drugs for chronic indications, the antibacterial field has become the turf of the biotech sector, which is nowadays taking care of most compounds under clinical development.

In this scenario, I will present industrial initiatives in Italy in the antibacterial field, based on natural product technology, and the antibiotics that made these initiatives possible.