

The Natural Lead Structure Suggestion Tool

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More than 50% of all new drugs from the last 30 years are derived from natural products produced by plants and microbes. However, new routes of discovery are needed and there are currently no specialised resources available to identify the active compounds in natural products.

Dr Thomas Wilhelm at the Institute for Food Research and Dr Wiktor Jurkowski (TGAC) will use the Norwich Research Park Translational Funding to develop a prototype software tool which will predict active compounds for drug development. The new software will be able to suggest lead structures for drug development and to contribute to reduce the risks of having to stop at later stages of development due to adverse patient side effects. This software could cut the costs of the drug research and accelerate the process of new drug discovery.