

## Drug repurposing: An alternative drug discovery approach

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### Abstract

There are 7000 identified rare diseases in which only 400 have a licensed treatment. As the drug discovery process is very lengthy and probability of failures are quite prominent, that's why scientists prefer drug repurposing approach to bypass the hectic, lengthy, unsure and much costly process of drug discovery. Thus, it shows a promising approach in drug discovery by identifying new therapeutic prospects for same old drugs. In spite of the stones to be turned, this approach is catching the eye of the scientists since last twenty years. Eventually in the present scenario where the whole world is being a prey to the unwanted guest of a contagious viral disease namely COVID-19, repurposed drugs brought a hope which are now showing very good efficiency in the covid-19 pandemic as well and they are playing the major role now in the treatment therapy. This review is focused on the basics of drug repurposing, the strategies involved, the downsides of it, and actually what makes it an alternative way from the drug discovery process.

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