

Drugmaker To Use AI In Research

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yond this, AI tools can also offer completely new scientific opportunities and aid reasoning and understanding of human biology and drug mechanics,” said Novo Chief Executive Mike Doustdar.

Drug researchers hope AI models can help solve some of the most intractable issues in biology by using their powers to find ways to fight diseases. Yet despite the investments, companies’ bets on the tech-

nology have yet to pay off.

While some AI-discovered candidates are being tested in humans, AI has yet to produce an approved drug. So far, some industry officials say, the sector has seen the biggest direct benefits of AI in automating routine work, such as synthesizing research, analyzing large data sets and designing human studies.

“You can leverage AI on both sides, on creating more sales, being faster, finding more patients, and on the other side, becoming more efficient and being able, therefore, to do more with less,” Ipsen CEO David Lowe told *The Wall Street Journal* last month.

Companies also are finding it useful in identifying patients with conditions who

could participate in drug studies.

Other companies have found it particularly useful in identifying patients with rare genetically driven diseases that might appear in large scans of electronic health records, said Bill Coyle, the region managing principal for Europe for global consulting and technology firm ZS.

“You have known diagnoses, and could essentially find patterns in claims data, and create algorithms that you would then pull those out,” said Coyle.

Novo has entered into partnerships with the aim of speeding up the discovery and development of drugs through AI. This year, the Danish drugmaker said it would work with ChatGPT maker OpenAI, and

created an AI innovation hub with Amazon Web Services.

As part of the partnership with Anthropic, Novo will test Claude Science to help address scientific problems, it said. The drugmaker also plans to use Anthropic’s models to strengthen AI-driven software development, it added.

“We can shorten research timelines, improve outcomes, and discover medicines and treatments that significantly improve human life. That is exactly what our collaboration with Novo is built to achieve,” said Dario Amodei, co-founder and chief executive of Anthropic.

A spokesman for Novo didn’t provide specifics on the terms of the deal or which drug-discovery programs they might target.