



CODEN [USA]: IAJPBB

ISSN : 2349-7750

**INDO AMERICAN JOURNAL OF  
PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES**

SJIF Impact Factor: 7.187

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15179995>Available online at: <http://www.iajps.com>

Review Article

**MODERN APPROACH TO COMPUTER AIDED DRUG  
DESIGNING****Dr. Somesh Kumar Saxena\*<sup>1</sup>, Nageshwar Prasad Jaiswal<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Shailesh Jain<sup>1</sup>**  
<sup>1</sup> SAM College of Pharmacy, SAM Global University, Raisen, Madhya Pradesh, India.**Abstract:**

*Pharmaceutical Drug Discovery uses chemical biology and computing drug design for efficient identification and optimization of lead connections. Chemical biology is primarily involved in the education of target biological functions and the mechanisms of action of chemical modulators. Computer-aided drug design, on the other hand, uses targets (structured) or structural knowledge about well-known ligands with biological activity (ligand-based) to facilitate the determination of promising candidates. In the meantime, both pharmaceutical companies and academic research groups used a variety of virtual screening techniques to reduce costs and time to discover powerful drugs. Despite the rapid advances in these methods, continuous improvement of future measures for drug discovery is extremely important. The advantages of structure-based and ligand-based drug design demonstrate that its supplementary use and integration into experimental routines have a strong impact on rational drug design. This article outlines its applications in rational drug development integrated with current arithmetic drug design to support the progress of drug discovery.*

**KEYWORDS:** Drug Discovery, Computer-aided drug design, Combinatorial Chemistry, high-through substitution (HTS), New Molecular entity (NME), Virtual screening.

**Corresponding author:**

**Dr. Somesh Kumar Saxena,**  
SAM College of Pharmacy, SAM Global University,  
Raisen, Madhya Pradesh, India.  
E-mail: [somesh1207@gmail.com](mailto:somesh1207@gmail.com)  
Mob. No: 9669430469

QR code



Please cite this article in press **Somesh Kumar Saxena et al., Modern Approach To Computer Aided Drug Designing., Indo Am. J. P. Sci, 2025; 12(04).**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Bringing new medicines to the market is a costly process in terms of money, labor and time. Drug discovery and development lasts an average of 10-15 years. Combinatorial chemistry innovations that have led to an increase in configured databases covering large chemistry rooms will support the expansion of active substance discovery and the development of high-through substitution (HTS). Nevertheless, in recent years the number of new molecular entities (NMEs) has been successfully decreasing. To this end, adoption of CADD technology (computer-aided drug discovery) by top pharmaceutical companies and other research groups for the preliminary stage of active substance discovery was essentially important in order to accelerate the drug development process in a more cost-effective way and minimize power amplifier errors. Latest successes with rational drug design have been reported elsewhere. Although HTS accounts for a large part of the pharmaceutical discovery process in the pharmaceutical industry due to its high success rate, the lack of a major understanding of the molecular mechanisms behind the identified hit activity could hinder the search for promising candidates. The use of rational drug design used in CADD provides a knowledge-based approach that can provide valuable information on the patterns of interaction between proteins and ligands (complexity) and binding affinity. Furthermore, the availability of supercomputers, parallel processing, and advanced software has significantly accelerated lead identification rates in drug research.

**A Brief History of CADD**

In 1900, the concept of receptors, locks and keys was given by P. Ehrlich (1909) and E. Fisher. In the 1970s, the concept of quantitative structural activity relationships (QS-AR) was determined and limited in two-dimensional analysis. In the 1980s, the era of CADD molecular biology, X-ray crystallography and multidimensional NMR molecular models were carried out along with computer graphics. In the 1990s, the world of innovative medicine introduced more modern technologies such as the formation of twins in the human genome, along with combination chemistry and high-throughput screening.

The present landscape of the drug discovery process incorporates a range of fields, including chemical and structural biology, computational chemistry, organic synthesis, and pharmacology. Therefore, it consists of several stages:

- a. Identification of targets involves the discovery and separation of individual targets to examine their functions and associate them with a particular disease.
- b. Target validation is the stage in which the drug target is associated with the disease of interest and is the ability to regulate biological functions in the body after binding to a partner molecule. Goals - Many studies have been conducted to determine that tumors are related to disease status.
- c. Identification of lead involves the discovery of synthetic chemicals that exhibit some degree of efficacy and specificity towards biological targets, and is assumed to be the occurrence of drugs that can cure the intended disease.
- d. Lead optimization involves enhancing the effectiveness and other important characteristics of lead compounds and their analogs through a series of iterative evaluation cycles. Therefore, both -vitro and -vivo experiments are carried out to prioritize and select candidates with optimal development potential for development as safe and efficient drugs. Additionally, structural relationships (SARs) have been developed to determine the relevant pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic properties that can be applied to analogs synthesized for evaluation.
- e. Preclinical stages include drug synthesis and research, in vivo animal studies on efficacy and toxicity, and characterization of toxicity.
- f. Clinical trials consist of three phases designed to assess the safety, potential side effects, appropriate dosage, effectiveness, and the pharmacokinetic and pharmacological characteristics of a candidate drug in human volunteers.

Year	Generic Name	Brand Name	Manufacturer	Against / Inhibits
1989	Zanamivir (vonltzstein et al., 1996)	Relenza	GlaxoSmithKline	Neuraminidase
1997	Nelfinavir (Kaldoretal., 1997)	Viracept	Hoffman-La Roche	HIV protease
1998	Raltitrexed (Blackledge, 1998)	Tomudex	AstraZeneca	Thymidylate
1999	Amprenavir (Adkins & Faulds, 1998)	Agenerase	GlaxoSmithKline	HIV protease
2007	Raltegravir (Schames et al., 2004)	Isentress	Merck	HIV integrase

#### Some marketed drugs developed by use of Structure-based Drug Design

The structure-based drug design process includes the following points:

1. The preparation of the selected target must be produced in the form of a solution, and its structure must be determined with the aid of crystallography.
2. Appropriate analysis of the structure must be performed to determine the binding site.
3. Various connections from the database should be docked to the binding site and evaluated for their affinity to the sites.
4. Biochemical assays include the use of leads and tests bound to the target.

#### Virtual Screening:

Virtual screening can be divided into two main strategies:

1. ligand-based virtual screening (LBVS) and
2. structure based or target-based virtual screening (SBVS)

Both approaches can be used simultaneously, and ample information is available. Like any modelling process, experimental data is required before making predictions. In LBVS, information on other similar biologically active connections (keys) is used, but the

SBVS 3D model of the target protein (Locks) is used. The 3D models of target proteins are either derived from X-ray crystallography and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) experiments or homology modelling, where the existing experimental data is used to build comparative models of proteins from their amino acid sequence. The chemical libraries that are screened are usually created using combinatorial chemistry techniques or they are built from natural products, such as chemicals extracted from plants.

It is expected that you will be able to obtain more bioactive connections than you would get from the random selection. The numerous connections being tested means that the virtual screening methods must be prompt enough to be extremely useful in drug development. Virtual screening is only a small portion of HTS, as both hardware and software progress has reduced the prices of powerful computing. It is also possible to predict the biological activity of molecules that are easily possible but not yet present (virtual library). This strategy is often used during the lead optimization phase.

METHOD	EXAMPLE(S)	APPROACH
0D/1D	Atom counts	Generated from molecular graph
2D fingerprints	MACCS	Quantitative comparison of bit strings
3D descriptors	UNITY3D, NPR, USR, ESshape3D, GRIND	Generated using intramolecular distances
Pharmacophores	Catalyst	Common features of active molecules are detected
3D similarity based on pair-wise alignment	ROCS/EON, BRUTUS, ShaEP, FlexS	Comparison of superimpose molecules

Some of the commonly used LBVS approaches

**DATA SOURCES:**

Data accessibility is crucial to the success of drug discovery and development campaigns. Scientific literature and case reports accumulated a large amount of organic molecules, biological sequences, and related information. This data is structured and stored in many databases. Hundreds of biological databases are explained each year. At the same time, computer algorithms are being actively developed to facilitate the design of combinatorial libraries.

**Small molecule databases:**

Small molecule databases represent important resources for investigating biochemical interactions and play an increasing role in modern discoveries with the accumulation of data. Many repositories from biologically interesting small molecules and their physicochemical properties have been compiled. This includes databases from well-known chemicals, medicinal products, carbohydrates, enzymes, reactants, natural products, and natural products. Starting in January 2009, there is information about 571 000 connections available for purchase in database information, but that screening complete counter section connections Directory memory saves more than 4.5 million unique structures.

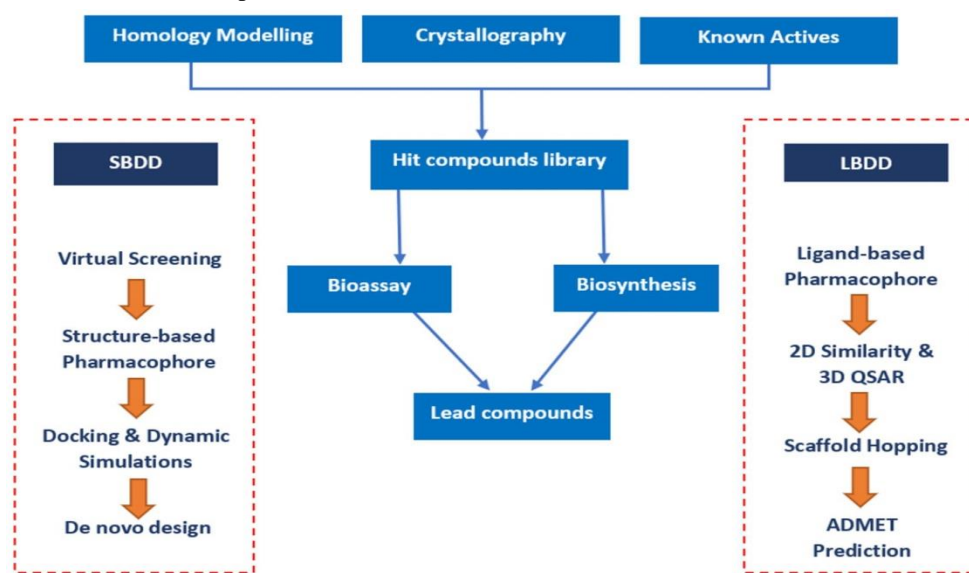
**Biological databases:**

Sequencing of Human and Other Model Organisms Genomes are increasingly generating a large amount of data related to testing for human diseases. Some of these data sources are International Collaborative Gene Bank, DNA Data Bank of Japan (DDBJ), and

European Institute of Molecular Biology (EMBL) serve as global repository of differences in nucleotide sequences. The three databases synchronize data records daily. Swiss-Prot and the Protein Information Resource (PIR) provide comprehensive and professionally annotated protein sequences and functional information. Currently, the total number of 410 518 protein sequences is indexed by Swiss Proceedings.

**Benefits of CADD:**

- Price savings: Many biopharmaceutical organizations use CADD that allows you to reduce cost burden.
- Conventional experimentation requiring animal and human models are actually replaced by CADD, which saves both time and value.
- It's far hoped that in case of some diseases like Influenza, Computational Drug Designing will play a crucial position in lowering the probabilities of drug resistance and for that reason might cause manufacturing of lead compounds which might goal the causative aspect.
- Taking benefit of computational strategies, mighty hits can be acquired in a matter of weeks. CADD has also brought about production of high excellent datasets and libraries that can be optimised for high molecular variety or similarity.
- Biochemical assay contain of software of Leads and checks which might be made to bind at the goal sites.



Conventional pathways in structure-based drug design (SBDD) and ligand-based drug design (LBDD)

**Limitations of CADD:**

- Lack of accurate experimental information that restricts similarly development of CADD.
- A few strategies regarding computer Aided Drug Designing are time consuming, especially while seeking out a proper lead component.

**Future prospects of CADD:**

- Computer Aided Drug Designing could be more useful for pharmaceutical product development.
- In keeping with experts view, the companies that can efficiently put CADD into effect will likely to beat the ones in opposition which nonetheless use old style approaches.
- This approach is hoped to be greater cost effective.

**CONCLUSION:**

Computer-Aided Drug layout is a transformative catalyst in modern-day drug discovery, poised at the intersection of organic intricacies and computational prowess. The adventure from ancient breakthroughs to the cutting-edge landscape underscores its pivotal function in expediting drug improvement. However, as CADD charts its destiny trajectory, challenges emerge, necessitating chronic optimization, moral considerations, and the integration of numerous organic information success tales exemplify the tangible impact of CADD on clinical applications, at the same time as the infusion of system getting to know augments predictive talents, unveiling new frontiers. Collaborative networks and international initiatives democratize drug discovery, emphasizing the power of cohesion. The convergence of customized medicinal drug offers tailored solutions, albeit with ethical and accessibility demanding situations. Looking in advance, quantum computing, immersive technology, and green chemistry promise a paradigm shift traumatic a delicate balance among innovation and ethical obligation, collaborative platforms and open-source projects.

It is predicted that Computer Aided Drug Designing will comprise of integration of chemistry and biology, along with chemo-informatics, bioinformatics, accordingly main to advent of a new subject Pharmacoinformatics. Nowadays, Computational technique for Drug designing is grabbing more attention as anybody is keen on saving time and cash and aiming for greater income at lesser time, particularly in case of industries. There has been a time where layout of newer drug molecules

became tedious system, which would devour time and money, however because of advent of this technique and particularly researches in this subject matter we can say that the impossible has been made feasible. Also, the new molecules designed by way of it can be used as explore for further studies therefore ensuring CADD a vivid future in coming years.

**REFERENCES:**

1. Leach, A.R.; Gillet, V.J. Molecular modeling: Principles and applications. *J. Chem. Inf. Model.* **2007**, *47*, 5–27.
2. Jumper, J.; Evans, R.; Pritzel, A.; Green, T.; Figurnov, M.; Ronneberger, O.; Tunyasuvunakool, K.; Bates, R.; Židek, A.; Potapenko, A.; et al. Highly accurate protein structure prediction with AlphaFold. *Nature* **2021**, *596*, 583–589. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03819-2>
3. Yang, J.; Anishchenko, I.; Park, H.; Peng, Z.; Ovchinnikov, S.; Baker, D. Improved protein structure prediction using predicted interresidue orientations. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* **2020**, *117*, 1496–1503. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1914677117>
4. Du, Z.; Su, H.; Wang, W.; Ye, L.; Wei, H.; Peng, Z.; Anishchenko, I.; Baker, D.; Yang, J. The trRosetta server for fast and accurate protein structure prediction. *Nat. Protoc.* **2021**, *16*, 5634–5651. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41596-021-00628-9>
5. Kim, D.E.; Chivian, D.; Baker, D. Protein structure prediction and analysis using the Robetta server. *Nucleic Acids Res.* **2004**, *32*, W526–W531. <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkh468>
6. Baek, M.; DiMaio, F.; Anishchenko, I.; Dauparas, J.; Ovchinnikov, S.; Lee, G.R.; Wang, J.; Cong, Q.; Kinch, L.N.; Schaeffer, R.D.; et al. Accurate prediction of protein structures and interactions using a three-track neural network. *Science* **2021**, *373*, 871–876. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abj8754>
7. Lin, Z.; Akin, H.; Rao, R.; Hie, B.; Zhu, Z.; Lu, W.; Smetanin, N.; Verkuil, R.; Kabeli, O.; Shmueli, Y.; et al. Language models of protein sequences at the scale of evolution enable accurate structure prediction. *bioRxiv* **2022**, *2020*, 500902. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.07.20.500902>
8. Wu, R.; Ding, F.; Wang, R.; Shen, R.; Zhang, X.; Luo, S.; Su, C.; Wu, Z.; Xie, Q.; Berger, B.; et al. High-resolution de novo structure prediction from primary sequence. *bioRxiv* **2022**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.07.21.500999>



9. Niazi, S.K.; Mariam, Z. Reinventing Therapeutic Proteins: Mining a treasure of new therapies. *Biologics* **2023**, *3*, 72–94. <https://doi.org/10.3390/biologics3020005>
10. Berendsen, H.J.C.; Van Der Spoel, D.; Van Drunen, R. GROMACS: A message-passing parallel molecular dynamics implementation. *Comput. Phys. Commun.* **1995**, *91*, 43–56. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0010-4655\(95\)00042-E](https://doi.org/10.1016/0010-4655(95)00042-E)
11. Harvey, M.; Giupponi, G.; De Fabritiis, G. ACEMD: Accelerating Biomolecular Dynamics in the Microsecond Time Scale. *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **2009**, *5*, 1632–1639. <https://doi.org/10.1021/ct9000685>
12. Eastman, P.; Swails, J.; Chodera, J.D.; McGibbon, R.T.; Zhao, Y.; Beauchamp, K.A.; Wang, L.; Simmonett, A.C.; Harrigan, M.P.; Stern, C.; et al. OpenMM 7: Rapid development of high performance algorithms for molecular dynamics. *PLoS Comput. Biol.* **2017**, *13*, e1005659. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1005659>
13. Adcock, S.A.; McCammon, J.A. Molecular dynamics: Survey of methods for simulating the activity of proteins. *Chem. Rev.* **2006**, *106*, 1589–1615. <https://doi.org/10.1021/cr040426m>
14. Morris, G.M.; Lim-Wilby, M. Molecular docking. *Methods Mol. Biol.* **2008**, *443*, 365–382. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18446297>
15. Trott, O.; Olson, A.J. AutoDock Vina: Improving the speed and accuracy of docking with a new scoring function, efficient optimization, and multithreading. *J. Comput. Chem.* **2010**, *31*, 455–461. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcc.21334>
16. Morris, G.M.; Huey, R.; Lindstrom, W.; Sanner, M.F.; Belew, R.K.; Goodsell, D.S.; Olson, A.J. AutoDock4 and AutoDockTools4: Automated docking with selective receptor flexibility. *J. Comput. Chem.* **2009**, *30*, 2785–2791. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcc.21256>
17. Friesner, R.A.; Banks, J.L.; Murphy, R.B.; Halgren, T.A.; Klicic, J.J.; Mainz, D.T.; Shenkin, P.S. Glide: A new approach for rapid, accurate docking and scoring. 1. Method and assessment of docking accuracy. *J. Med. Chem.* **2004**, *47*, 1739–1749. <https://doi.org/10.1021/jm0306430>
18. Ewing, T.J.A.; Makino, S.; Skillman, A.G.; Kuntz, I.D. DOCK 4.0: Search strategies for automated molecular docking of flexible molecule databases. *J. Comput. Aided Mol. Des.* **2001**, *15*, 411–428. <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1011115820450>
19. Venkatachalam, C.M.; Jiang, X.; Oldfield, T.; Waldman, M. LigandFit: A novel method for the shape-directed rapid docking of ligands to protein active sites. *J. Mol. Graph. Model.* **2003**, *21*, 289–307. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1093-3263\(02\)00164-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1093-3263(02)00164-X)
20. Bitencourt-Ferreira, G.; De Azevedo, W.F. Docking with SwissDock. *Methods Mol. Biol.* **2019**, *2053*, 189–202. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4939-9752-7\\_12](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4939-9752-7_12)
21. Karatzas, E.; Zamora, J.E.; Athanasiadis, E.; Dellis, D.; Courmia, Z.; Spyrou, G.M. ChemBioServer 2.0: An advanced web server for filtering, clustering and networking of chemical compounds facilitating both drug discovery and repurposing. *Bioinformatics* **2020**, *36*, 2602–2604. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btz976>
22. Sahoo, R.N.; Pattanaik, S.; Pattnaik, G.; Mallick, S.; Mohapatra, R. Review on the use of Molecular Docking as the First Line Tool in Drug Discovery and Development. *Indian J. Pharm. Sci.* **2022**, *84*, 1334–1337. <https://doi.org/10.36468/pharmaceutical-sciences.1031>