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Singapore biotech startup raises $10M to enhance drug discovery

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The money will be used to further develop its drug discovery platform, hire more scientists in its home bases of San Francisco and Singapore and pursue medical studies.



Engine Biosciences, a Singaporean startup that is using artificial intelligence to make drug discovery more efficient, has raised $10 million led by two Silicon Valley investors named DHVC and 6 Dimensions Capital. Other investors include WuXi AppTec, EDBI, Pavilion Capital, Baidu Ventures, WI Harper, and Nest.Bio Ventures.

The money will be used to further develop its drug discovery platform, hire more scientists in its home bases of San Francisco and Singapore and pursue medical studies. The company's technology uses machine learning to understand genetic interactions that underlie diseases. This kind of information is important for helping scientists develop new drugs to cure said diseases. Engine's technology is designed to dramatically increase the speed and efficiency of the discovery process.

Drug development has a high rate of failure and investors hope this technology can help improve the success numbers. The technology has been used in cases such as finding new ways to apply old drugs, to identifying biological factors in diseases, in supporting unique treatments based on genetics and for analysing proteins within a gene.