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Danaher accelerates Life Sciences research with new AI-powered autonomous lab

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US-based Danaher Corporation has announced plans to launch its first AI-powered autonomous lab, designed to help researchers develop custom antibodies and other molecular tools faster and more efficiently.

Expected to operate at scale in early 2027, the lab will combine artificial intelligence, robotics and technologies from several Danaher operating companies in one connected workflow. It is the first step in a broader Danaher initiative to create smart instruments, integrated workflows and autonomous labs that accelerate scientific research.

Based at Abcam, a Danaher company, the lab uses AI to help create new affinity reagents, including antibodies, then builds and tests each one, feeding every result back into the model to improve the next design.

The lab brings together industry-leading technologies and expertise from several Danaher operating companies, including Beckman Coulter Life Sciences, Cytiva, Genedata, Integrated DNA Technologies, and Molecular Devices, in one connected workflow. The device orchestration and robotic automation is the result of collaborative work with Automata. This continuous design-make-test-learn loop can run in a fraction of the time it takes today, without trading speed for scientific rigor.

This approach applies the same test-and-verify discipline of continuous improvement long used across Danaher operations to an AI-enabled laboratory environment. The lab is set to be an early proof point for how Danaher's smart instruments, AI-ready data, and expert agentic systems can accelerate scientific discovery and medical progress.