Trends in research & development of biopharmaceuticals in international pharmaceutical companies.

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About 100 biopharmaceuticals are marketed today worldwide. Sales will exceed \$ 20 billion in 2004, representing growth of about 40-fold in the past 17 years. Most of the easily discovered and developed products are already on the market. Today, the discovery & development of biopharmaceuticals takes significant work and resources, technologies that can be quickly deployed, facilities for development and production, and regulations that encourage innovation. Recent trends in all four of these areas that critically affect the development of biopharmaceuticals will be discussed.