

Table 8.1: Overview of the process of discovery and development of medicines

| Objective | Stage no. | Description | Average number of compounds entering each stage | Average use of animals |
|---|------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Discovery and selection of potential new medicines | 1 | Target identification | - | 5-15% |
| | 2 | Identification of possible medicines | 1,000,000 | |
| The characterisation of promising candidate medicines | 3 | Lead identification | 1,000 | 60-80% |
| | 4 | Lead optimisation | 200 | |
| Ensuring the safety of selected candidates | 5 | Selecting candidate medicines | 17 | 10-20% |
| Clinical studies on humans | 6 | Concept testing | 12 | Generally none |
| | 7 | Development for launch | 9 | Generally none |
| | 8 | Launch phase | 2.2 | Generally none |