Small molecular drugs (not including acyclics) accounted for 63 percent of the 49 new therapeutic drugs approved by the FDA in 2020, in line with the percentage from 2019. Of the 31 small molecule drugs approved, 20 (or 65%) were structurally novel, meaning they had at least one new molecular entity (NME) based on a new molecular shape, according to an analysis by CAS. This infographic displays the structures and key information about each of the small molecule drugs approved in 2020. The table is arranged by the number of approved NMEs on the same shape. Therefore, the structurally novel NMEs are presented first as their shapes have not been used in any previously approved NMEs.

**Small Molecules Continued to Drive Drug Innovation in 2020**

65% of small molecule drugs approved in 2020 were structurally novel and Big Pharma originated 20% of those.