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St. Louis health care start-ups invest \$25M this year

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St. Louis health care start-ups reported \$25.8 million in new investments through the third quarter of this year, a new report says.

That's compared to \$57.6 million through the third quarter of 2007 and \$20 million through the third quarter of 2006, according to the BioEnterprise Midwest Health Care Venture Investment Report released Tuesday.

"Despite the broader economic downturn, Midwestern health care start-ups continue to attract record levels of venture," said Baiju Shah, president of BioEnterprise, which tracks medical device, biopharmaceutical companies and health care software and service companies. "The Midwest continues to thrive because the region has a strong health care technology and talent base that is just starting to be discovered by national investors. In addition, the health care sector is seen as recession-proof."

Cleveland-based BioEnterprise is a business formation, recruitment and acceleration effort designed to support the growth of bioscience companies.

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