This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Ring expansion approach for synthesizing libraries of macrolactones and macrolactams	A synthetic approach using ring expansion to generate lactone and lactam classes of macrocycles could provide new drug leads for targets that are difficult to modulate with small molecules. A series of bicyclic precursor molecules were synthesized in 4–5 steps, and oxidative ring expansion of these precursors generated a library of chemically diverse macrolactams and macrolactones. Next steps include preparing a larger library using the methodology and applying ring expansion routes to other classes of macrocycles.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Kopp, F. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online March 11, 2012; doi:10.1038/nchembio.911 Contact: Derek S. Tan, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: tand@mskcc.org
	SciBX 5(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.348 Published online March 29, 2012		