This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Biosynthesis of GE2270 and derivatives in <i>Nonomuraea</i>	<p>Biosynthesis of GE2270 in a strain of <i>Nonomuraea</i> bacteria could lead to the development of improved methods for synthesizing the thiopetide macrocycle and creating derivatives. GE2270 and its derivatives have potent activity against Gram-positive bacteria, but the bacteria that produces it, <i>Planobispora rosea</i>, is not amenable to genetic manipulation. The <i>P. rosea</i> gene cluster responsible for GE2270 synthesis was expressed in a strain of <i>Nonomuraea</i> that is amenable to genetic manipulation. In the transgenic <i>Nonomuraea</i> strain, manipulation of the GE2270 gene cluster resulted in the generation of four fully cyclized GE2270 variants. Next steps could include generating additional GE2270 variants and optimizing their potency and pharmacokinetic properties.</p> <p>SciBX 6(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.937 Published online Sept. 5, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; licensing status unavailable	<p>Tocchetti, A. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online Aug. 8, 2013; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2013.07.005 Contact: Margherita Sosio, Naicons scarl, Milan, Italy e-mail: msosio@naicons.com</p>