This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Synthetic, homogenous erythropoietin (EPO)	<p>Solid-phase synthesis of homogenous, glycosylated EPO could lead to synthetic approaches for manufacture of biologics. Four oligosaccharides were synthesized and attached to peptide fragments obtained by solid-phase peptide synthesis. The glycosylated peptides were assembled by chemical ligation to yield homogenous EPO with one O-linked and three N-linked glycans. After assembly, EPO was folded. In a cultured, bone marrow-derived cell line and in mice, synthetic EPO exhibited activity comparable to Procrit. Next steps include synthesis of mutant proteins with oncogenic properties.</p> <p>Johnson & Johnson markets Procrit recombinant EPO to treat anemia.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 7(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.67 Published online Jan. 16, 2014</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Wang, P. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Dec. 13, 2013; doi:10.1126/science.1245095</p> <p>Contact: Samuel J. Danishefsky, Sloan-Kettering Institute, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y.</p> <p>e-mail: s-danishefsky@ski.mskcc.org</p>