

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Simplified, high-yield synthesis of Tamiflu oseltamivir	<p>A new method to synthesize Tamiflu oseltamivir can lower cost and increase the yield of the influenza drug. The synthesis method requires three reaction chambers, uses inexpensive reagents and no toxic metals and has a yield of 57%. Previously, the best yield for Tamiflu synthesis was about 35% and required the use of toxic metals. Next steps include further modifications to increase the synthesis efficiency.</p> <p>Tamiflu, a neuraminidase inhibitor from Gilead Sciences Inc. and Roche, is marketed to treat and prevent influenza.</p> <p>SciBX 2(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.162 Published online Jan. 29, 2009</p>	Patent application filed covering synthesis method; available for licensing from the Tokyo University of Science Technology Licensing Organization	<p>Ishikawa, H. <i>et al.</i> <i>Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i>; published online Jan. 3, 2009; doi:10.1002/anie.200804883</p> <p>Contact: Yujiro Hayashi, Tokyo University of Science, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: hayashi@ci.kagu.tus.ac.jp</p>