This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Synthesis of (+)-chaetocin	A method for synthesizing (+)-chaetocin could help generate small molecules to treat cancer. (+)-Chaetocin has activity against bacteria and cancers. Synthesis of (+)-chaetocin was achieved in nine steps, starting with a protected <i>N</i>-methyl-D serine. <i>In vitro</i>, synthetic (+)-chaetocin inhibited the cancer target euchromatic histone-lysine <i>N</i>-methyltransferase 2 (EHMT2; G9A). SAR studies to evaluate the biological activity of chaetocin derivatives are underway. SciBX 3(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.389 Published online March 25, 2010	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Iwasa, E. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i>; published online March 8, 2010; doi:10.1021/ja101280p Contact: Mikiko Sodeoka, RIKEN Advanced Science Institute, Wako, Saitama, Japan e-mail: sodeoka@riken.jp