

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Gram-scale preparation of paclitaxel precursors for synthesis of taxane analogs	Gram-scale synthesis of two paclitaxel precursor molecules could enable discovery of biologically active taxanes. An 8-step reaction sequence produced gram-scale quantities of the paclitaxel precursor taxadienone with an overall yield of 20%. An additional 3-step reaction sequence produced gram-scale quantities of taxadiene from taxadienone with an overall yield of 52%. Planned work includes the synthesis of paclitaxel and other taxanes from taxadienone. <i>SciBX</i> 4(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1279 Published online Nov. 17, 2011	Unpatented; unlicensed	Mendoza, A. <i>et al. Nat. Chem.</i> ; published online Nov. 6, 2011; doi:10.1038/nchem.1196 Contact: Phil Baran, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: pbaran@scripps.edu