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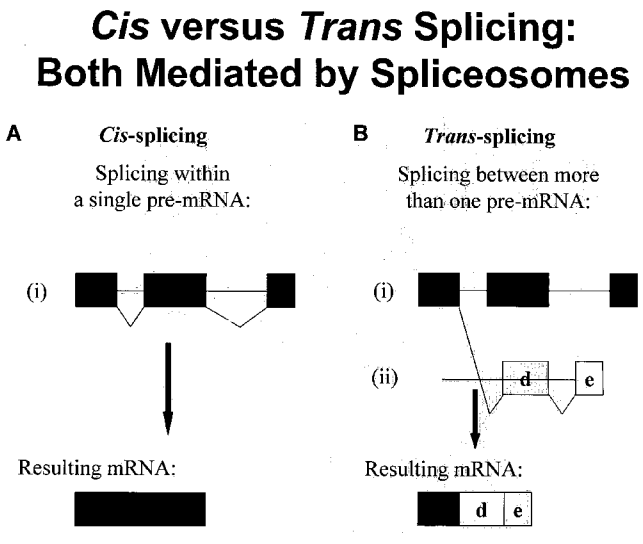
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(54) **Title:** TARGETED TRANS-SPLICING OF HIGHLY ABUNDANT TRANSCRIPTS FOR IN VIVO PRODUCTION OF RECOMBINANT PROTEINS



(57) **Abstract:** The present invention provides methods and compositions for generating novel nucleic acid molecules through RNA trans-splicing that target a highly expressed pre-mRNA and contain the coding sequence of a protein or polypeptide of interest. The compositions of the invention include pre-trans-splicing molecules (PTMs) designed to interact with the target precursor messenger RNA molecule (target pre-mRNA) that is abundantly expressed, and mediate a trans-splicing reaction resulting in the generation of novel chimeric RNA molecule (chimeric RNA) capable of encoding a protein or polypeptide of interest. The invention provides for the *in vivo*production of chimeric RNA molecules that encode and result in the production of a protein or polypeptide of interest.

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