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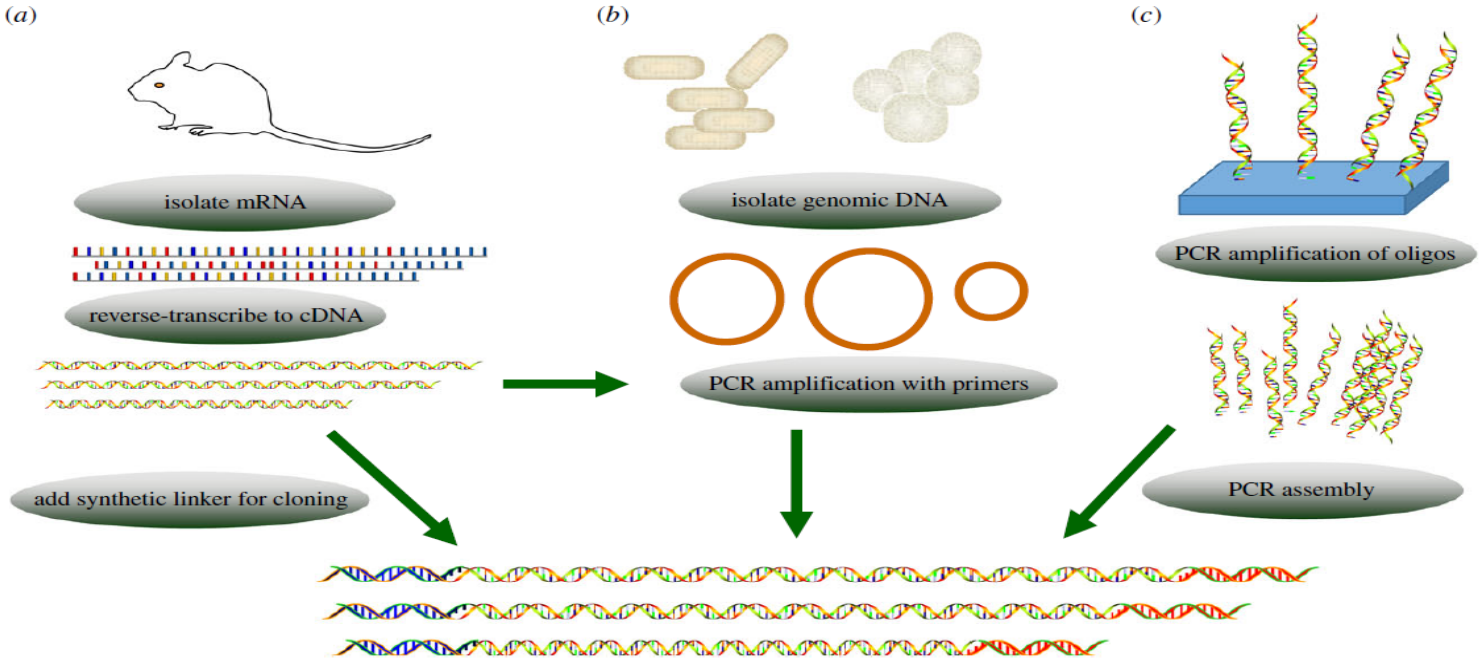

Biosimilars are emerging as affordable alternatives to the otherwise expensive biotherapeutic products. Production of biosimilar products is a challenge as they need to be very similar to the innovator product with respect to analytical as well as clinical comparability. Many of the biosimilar products are manufactured in microbial hosts such as *E. coli.* and *Pichia pastoris*. This project will focus on designing efficient and novel cloning and expression strategies for a biotherapeutic, in *E. coli*. Clones thus far suffer from poor titer (less than 0.5 mg/ml). Key objectives of the project include:

1. High titer
2. Product quality profile similar to innovator
3. Creation of an antibiotic free or acceptable antibiotic clone
4. Media optimization
5. Optimization of operational parameters

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