This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Canine model of osteogenesis imperfecta (OI)	<p>A Dachshund model of OI could guide the development of new therapies for the bone disease. Genetic mapping of 11 Dachshunds with a severe form of hereditary OI revealed a mutation in <i>serpin peptidase inhibitor, clade H, member 1</i> (<i>Serpinh1</i>) that could represent a new OI-associated gene candidate in humans. Because canines are better model organisms for OI than genetically engineered mice due to their larger size, the dog model should provide a better tool for testing potential therapies. Next steps include determining whether SERPINH1 mutations are also responsible for OI in humans.</p> <p>SciBX 2(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1357 Published online Sept. 10, 2009</p>	Work unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Drögemüller, A.S. <i>et al. PLoS Genet.</i>; published online July 24, 2009; doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1000579</p> <p>Contact: Tosso Leeb, University of Berne, Berne, Switzerland e-mail: Tosso.Leeb@itz.unibe.ch</p>