This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Antidotes for aptamer-based therapeutics	<p>A screen identified nucleic acid-binding polymers that could be used to reverse the effects of aptamer-based therapeutics. In coagulation and platelet function assays, two of the nucleic acid-binding polymers reversed the effects of eight different aptamers within five minutes. In pigs, one of the polymers reversed the effects of an anticoagulant aptamer within about five minutes. Next steps include evaluating the polymers in a heart surgery animal model and developing optimized and rationally designed candidates.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 2(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1487 Published online Oct. 8, 2009</p>	<p>Multiple patents filed covering universal antidote technology for nucleic acid-based aptamers; available for licensing from the Duke University Office of Licensing & Ventures</p>	<p>Oney, S. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Oct. 4, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1990 Contact: Bruce A. Sullenger, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, N.C. e-mail: bruce.sullenger@duke.edu</p>