This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Nanocarriers for targeted therapeutic delivery to cancer cells	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that peptide-phospholipid nanocarriers could help deliver cancer compounds to tumor cells. The nanocarriers were designed to target the surface receptor scavenger receptor class B member 1 (SCARB1), which is expressed on cancer cells at higher levels than on healthy cells. In mice carrying Scarb1⁺ and Scarb1⁻ tumors, the nanocarriers delivered payloads to the cytosol of tumor cells expressing the receptor. Next steps include modifying the technology to deliver small interfering RNA and small molecules.</p> <p>SciBX 2(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1646 Published online Nov. 12, 2009</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Zhang, Z. <i>et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i>; published online Oct. 28, 2009; doi:10.1002/anie.200903112</p> <p>Contact: Gang Zheng, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: gang.zheng@uhnres.utoronto.ca</p>