This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Kinase suppressor of ras 2 (KSR2)-deficient mice as obesity models	<p><i>Ksr2</i>-deficient mice could serve as models to help guide development of new obesity therapies. <i>Ksr2</i>-deficient mice were obese, resistant to insulin and had greater adiposity compared with controls that had functional <i>Ksr2</i>. The <i>Ksr2</i>-deficient mice also were hypophagic and hyperactive compared with the same controls. Next steps include additional studies to understand how KSR2 deficiency causes the observed phenotype in the mouse.</p> <p>SciBX 2(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1710 Published online Dec. 3, 2009</p>	Patent application filed covering <i>Ksr2</i> knockout mice as a model for identifying agents that might be useful in treating human obesity and insulin resistance	<p>Costanzo-Garvey, D.L. <i>et al.</i> <i>Cell Metab</i>; published online Nov. 3, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.cmet.2009.09.010 Contact: Robert E. Lewis, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Neb. e-mail: rlewis@unmc.edu</p>