This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
<i>Ex vivo</i> strategy for stimulating myeloid cell self-renewal	<p>A study in cell culture and in mice suggests that knockdown of two transcription factors could help improve expansion of nontumorigenic monocytes for tissue regeneration in inflammatory disease and cancer. <i>In vitro</i>, nonproliferating murine blood monocytes treated with small hairpin RNA targeting two transcription factors associated with monocyte differentiation underwent growth and stem cell-like self-renewal compared with untreated controls. In mice, the <i>ex vivo</i>-generated cells were functional and integrated into the native population of monocytes. Next steps include testing the therapeutic capacity of the monocytes.</p> <p>SciBX 2(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1713 Published online Dec. 3, 2009</p>	<p>Patent pending; available for licensing Contact: Matthieu Collin, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), Paris, France e-mail: matthieu.collin@inserm-transfert.fr</p>	<p>Aziz, A. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Nov. 6, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1176056 Contact: Michael H. Sieweke, Aix-Marseille University, Marseille, France e-mail: sieweke@ciml.univ-mrs.fr</p>