This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Controlled drug delivery using a thermally activated polymer implant	<p><i>In vitro</i> and rat studies suggest that a thermally gated polymer implant could be useful for controlled release of therapeutics. <i>In vitro</i>, a polymer impregnated with ibuprofen retained the compound at 37 °C and released it at 55 °C. Drug release was stopped by returning the polymer to 37 °C. In rats, subcutaneous implants of ibuprofen-impregnated polymer released pulses of compound into the bloodstream following brief infrared heating. Next steps include clinical testing of the technology.</p> <p>SciBX 2(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1779 Published online Dec. 17, 2009</p>	<p>Patents pending; available for licensing from Dolphys Medical B.V.</p> <p>Contact: Dirk van Asseldonk, Dolphys Medical B.V., Eindhoven, the Netherlands e-mail: dirk.van.asseldonk@dolphys.com</p>	<p>Keurentjes, J.T.F. <i>et al.</i> <i>Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i>; published online Dec. 2, 2009; doi:10.1002/anie.200904172 Contact: Jos T.F. Keurentjes, Eindhoven University of Technology, Eindhoven, the Netherlands e-mail: j.t.f.keurentjes@tue.nl</p>