This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Macaque model of HIV	<p>An engineered strain of HIV-1 capable of infecting macaques provides a better primate model for AIDS research. In pig-tailed macaques, i.v. injection of stHIV-1, an HIV-1 strain containing a mutation in the <i>Vif</i> gene, resulted in acute viremia similar to that seen in humans, which persisted for months and was partially controlled by CD8⁺ T cells. <i>In vitro</i>, stHIV-1 robustly replicated in macaque lymphocytes. Also in macaques, the antiretroviral drugs tenofovir disproxil fumarate, emtricitabine and efavirenz were effective against the virus, and a standard HIV therapy combining the three drugs protected the macaques against high i.v. doses of the virus. Next steps will include the design of highly replicative variants of stHIV-1.</p> <p>SciBX 2(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.383 Published online March 5, 2009</p>	U.S. nonprovisional patent application filed and pending; available for licensing	<p>Hatzioannou, T. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 2, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0812587106</p> <p>Contact: Paul D. Bieniasz, The Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: pbienias@adarc.org</p> <p>Contact: Theodora Hatzioannou, same affiliation as above e-mail: thatzio@adarc.org</p> <p>Contact: Jeffrey D. Lifson, National Cancer Institute, Frederick, Md. e-mail: lifson@ncifcrf.gov</p> <p>Contact: Vineet N. KewalRamani, same affiliation as above e-mail: vineet@ncifcrf.gov</p>