This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
High-yield production of recombinant adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors	<p>A baculovirus-based method for producing AAV vectors in insect cell culture could be used to generate high yields of clinical-grade vectors for gene therapy. Traditional baculovirus expression systems require simultaneous infection with three distinct helper viruses. The new construct requires a single helper virus and amplifies its own expression through a mechanism triggered by infection. In cultured insect cells, the construct yielded about 10-fold higher levels of AAV proteins than the traditional baculovirus expression system. Next steps include confirming that the AAV vectors produced in insect cells are equivalent to those from mammalian cells.</p> <p>Targeted Genetics Inc. and Ceregene Inc. have AAV-based therapeutics in development for a range of cardiovascular, neurological and inflammatory disease indications.</p> <p>SciBX 2(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.471 Published online March 19, 2009</p>	<p>Patent filed by University of Florida; licensing status undisclosed</p> <p>Contact: Elizabeth Garami, Office of Technology Licensing, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla. e-mail: egarami@uf.edu</p>	<p>Aslandi, G. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 10, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0810614106</p> <p>Contact: Sergei Zolotukhin, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla. e-mail: szlt@ufl.edu</p>