This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Amphiphilic peptide aggregates for hydrophobic drug delivery or hemostasis	<p>A small amphiphilic peptide could deliver hydrophobic compounds or be used as a hemostatic agent. An aqueous solution of the nine-residue amphiphilic peptide aggregated into a hydrogel that could encapsulate the hydrophobic drug pyrene and slowly deliver the drug to liposomes <i>in vitro</i>. An aqueous solution of the peptide delivered to a wounded rat liver stopped the bleeding faster than the hemostatic agent chitosan. Ongoing work is investigating the properties and applications of other nine-residue amphiphilic peptides.</p> <p>SciBX 2(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.511 Published online March 26, 2009</p>	Patented; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Ruan, L. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 16, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0900026106 Contact: Xiaojun Zhao, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: xiaojunz@mit.edu</p>