This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Inflammation-dependent, cationic liposome-mediated blood-brain barrier (BBB) targeting	<p>Studies in rats suggest that cationic liposomes could be used to deliver drugs to inflammatory sites on the BBB to treat neuroinflammatory diseases like multiple sclerosis (MS). In rats with experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), cationic liposomes injected into the tail veins accumulated in spinal cord endoneural vessels at levels that correlated with severity of neuroinflammation and disease progression. Liposome accumulation was detected at the early stages of disease progression. Next steps include determining the correlation between the targeting ability of the cationic liposomes and BBB permeability.</p> <p>SciBX 2(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.600 Published online April 9, 2009</p>	Patent status undisclosed; licensing status not applicable	<p>Haas, H. <i>et al. Mol. Pharm.</i>; published online March 12, 2009; doi:10.1021/mp8001478</p> <p>Contact: Heinrich Haas, MediGene AG, Martinsried, Germany e-mail: h.haas@medigene.com</p>