This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Soluble T cell receptor (TCR) oligomers to inhibit cytotoxic T cell responses to adeno-associated virus (AAV) vector-based gene therapy	<p>Studies in human cell cultures suggest that soluble TCR multimers can prevent cytotoxic T cells from killing transgene-expressing hepatocytes used for gene therapies. Soluble TCR multimers recognized the AAV capsid and had high affinity for capsid antigen-HLA complexes. In cocultures of blood monocytes and AAV-transduced hepatocytes, the soluble TCR multimers prevented cytotoxic T cells from destroying AAV-transduced hepatocytes. Ongoing work includes developing a murine model and confirming the findings in mice.</p> <p>SciBX 2(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.851 Published online May 21, 2009</p>	Patented; available for licensing; patents on the TCR and AAV capsid epitopes held by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	<p>Pien, G. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 11, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI36891</p> <p>Contact: Katherine A. High, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: high@email.chop.edu</p>