This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
<i>In utero</i> adult bone marrow transplantation to treat osteogenesis imperfecta	<p><i>In utero</i> transplantation of adult bone marrow into a developing embryo could be useful for treating osteogenesis imperfecta, a genetic disorder caused by collagen deficiency that results in weak and fragile bones. In a mouse model of the disorder, embryos receiving adult bone marrow cells <i>in utero</i> had significantly higher survival rates than nontransplanted controls ($p=0.04$). Bones in mice that received the transplant had higher bone mineral density and stiffness and were able to withstand higher loads compared with controls. Next steps include developing strategies to increase the rate of donor cell engraftment in bone.</p> <p>SciBX 2(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.854 Published online May 21, 2009</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Panaroni, C. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online May 4, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-12-195859</p> <p>Contact: Antonella Forlino, University of Pavia, Pavia, Italy e-mail: aforlino@unipv.it</p>