This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Reengineered adeno-associated virus (AAV) for increased specificity against cardiac and skeletal muscle tissues	<p>AAV reengineered to have increased specificity for cardiac and skeletal muscle tissue could be useful gene therapy vectors for musculoskeletal diseases. Wild-type AAV serotypes are preferentially sequestered in the liver. In mice, the reengineered AAV had similar transduction efficiencies in cardiac and skeletal muscle tissues and less transduction efficiencies in liver tissues compared with wild-type AAV. Next steps include evaluating i.v. delivery of the reengineered AAVs in nonhuman primates and in isolated limb perfusion systems.</p> <p>SciBX 3(3); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.102 Published online Jan. 21, 2010</p>	<p>Patent pending covering method for reengineering AAVs, the clones generated and their therapeutic use; licensing enquiries should be directed to The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Office of Technology Development</p>	<p>Asokan, A. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Dec. 27, 2009; doi:10.1038/nbt.1599 Contact: Aravind Asokan, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: aravind@med.unc.edu</p>