This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
<i>In vitro</i> human cell-based model of the human blood brain barrier (BBB)	<p>An <i>in vitro</i> cell-based model of the BBB could guide the development of new treatments for neurological disorders. The model, which consisted of a monolayer of adult human brain endothelial cells and astrocytes, was able to discriminate radioactive ligands known to penetrate the CNS from those that did not. <i>In vitro</i> pharmacokinetic data generated from the model showed a strong correlation with the known <i>in vivo</i> pharmacokinetic data of the radioactive ligands. Next steps could include using the model to screen for compounds that could penetrate the BBB.</p> <p>SciBX 3(36); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1106 Published online Sept. 16, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Mabondzo, A. <i>et al. Mol. Pharm.</i>; published online Aug. 26, 2010; doi:10.1021/mp1002366 Contact: Praveen V. Balimane, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Princeton, N.J. e-mail: praveen.balimane@bms.com Contact: Aloïse Mabondzo, French Atomic Energy and Alternative Energies Commission, Gif-sur-Yvette, France e-mail: aloïse.mabondzo@cea.fr</p>