This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Instrumentation			
High throughput laser neurosurgery screening of <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>	<p>A high throughput <i>C. elegans</i>-based microsurgery and imaging platform could be used to screen for small molecule regulators of neurogenesis. The platform loads worms from 96-well plates into a microfluidic chamber, orients them underneath a high-resolution microscope and permits precise laser microsurgery of individual axons with an average speed of 20 seconds per worm. Next steps include screening in <i>C. elegans</i> disease models such as Alzheimer's disease (AD) and Parkinson's disease (PD).</p> <p>SciBX 3(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1252 Published online Oct. 21, 2010</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Samara, C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Oct. 11, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1005372107</p> <p>Contact: Mehmet Fatih Yanik, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: yanik@mit.edu</p>