This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Silicon nanowires for delivery of biomolecules into living cells	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that silicon nanowires could help deliver biomolecules to a variety of cell types for <i>in vitro</i> research. When cells were placed over nanowires coated with biomolecules such as small interfering RNAs, peptides, DNA and proteins, the nanowires penetrated the cell membranes, delivering biomolecules directly to the cytosol and altering cellular function. Next steps include developing a biological discovery or assay platform to use the technology. SciBX 3(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.131 Published online Jan. 28, 2010	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Shalek, A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Jan. 11, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0909350107 Contact: Hongkun Park, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: Hongkun_Park@harvard.edu Contact: Eun Gyeong Yang, Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information, Seoul, South Korea e-mail: eunyang@kist.re.kr