This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Nanocarriers for brain tumor-specific delivery of small interfering RNA	Quantum dots linked to tumor-targeting peptides could help deliver siRNA to cancer cells. Two types of peptides were attached to the surface of quantum dot-siRNA conjugates: an Arg-Gly-Asp tripeptide that recognized integrins preferentially expressed on tumor cells and an HIV Tat-derived peptide that enabled the conjugates to efficiently enter target cells. Conjugates carrying epidermal growth factor variant III (EGFRvIII) siRNA induced apoptosis in human brain cancer cells. Ongoing work includes using the quantum dot-siRNA conjugates to regulate signaling pathways in human stem cells.	Unpatented; available for licensing	Jung, J. <i>et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i> ; published online Nov. 30, 2009; doi:10.1002/anie.200905126 Contact: KiBum Lee, Rutgers University, Piscataway, N.J. e-mail: kblee@rutgers.edu
	SciBX 3(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.29 Published online Jan. 7, 2010		