This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Multilayered capsules for <i>in vivo</i> bone formation	A study in mice suggests that multilayered capsules could aid bone repair <i>in vivo</i> . Researchers fabricated multilayered capsules composed of poly-L-glutamic acid and poly-L-lysine with bone morphogenetic protein 2 (BMP2) and transforming growth factor- β 1 (TGFB1; TGF β 1). In mice, subcutaneous injection of a gel suspension containing mouse embryonic stem cells and the capsules induced bone formation, whereas injection of a gel suspension containing cells and capsules without growth factors did not. The growth factor-containing capsules also induced regeneration and vascularization. Next steps include evaluating the use of the capsules with human stem cells.	Work unpatented; available for licensing from Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM)	Facca, S. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Feb. 15, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0908531107 Contact: Nadia Benkirane-Jessel, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), Strasbourg, France e-mail: nadia.jessel@medecine.u-strasbg.fr
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