

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Prodrug approach to improving bioavailability of guanidino-containing compounds	<p>The oral bioavailability of guanidino-containing drug compounds could be improved by synthesizing them as amino acid prodrugs. <i>In vitro</i>, amino acid esters of a guanidino-containing molecule were absorbed more efficiently in human cells than the unmodified parent compound. The esters also had high <i>in vitro</i> affinity for an enzyme that activates amino acid prodrugs. Future studies could include synthesizing and testing valine and isoleucine esters of guanidino-containing therapeutics.</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Sun, J. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Dec. 3, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm9011559</p> <p>Contact: Gordon L. Amidon, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: glamidon@umich.edu</p>
	<p>SciBX 3(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.30 Published online Jan. 7, 2010</p>		