This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Increasing inhibitory potency of peptidomimetics by conjugating them to a photoactivated ruthenium complex	<p>The therapeutic potency of peptidomimetic inhibitors could be increased by conjugating the compounds to a photoactivated ruthenium complex. In human endothelial cell lines, photoactivated peptidomimetic conjugates produced reactive oxygen species (ROS) that led to better inhibitory potency than that seen using the corresponding nonconjugated peptidomimetics. As proof of concept, conjugates targeting VEGF receptor 2 (KDR/FLK-1; VEGFR2) showed a greater than 800-fold increase in potency compared with control peptidomimetics, with no off-target effects. Ongoing work includes synthesizing ruthenium conjugates of lead inhibitors identified in combinatorial screens.</p> <p>SciBX 3(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.358 Published online March 18, 2010</p>	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Lee, J. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online March 14, 2010; doi:10.1038/nchembio.333</p> <p>Contact: Thomas Kodadek, The Scripps Research Institute, Scripps Florida, Jupiter, Fla. e-mail: kodadek@scripps.edu</p>