This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Purified population of early cardiovascular progenitor cells	A purified population of cardiovascular progenitor cells could help treat myocardial infarction (MI) and other cardiovascular diseases. Bone morphogenetic protein 2 (BMP2)-induced cardiovascular progenitor cells were purified based on their expression of <i>fucosyltransferase 4</i> (<i>FUT4</i>; <i>SSEA-1</i>). In a rhesus monkey model of myocardial infarction, transplantation of the purified progenitor cells into scarred tissue, as compared to no transplantation, led to engraftment and about 20% recolonization of the region with no formation of teratomas. Next steps include generating a clinical-grade cell bank under GMP conditions and developing a collagen patch to deliver the cells. SciBX 3(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.453 Published online April 8, 2010	Patent pending; available for licensing by June	Blin, G. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online March 24, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI40120 Contact: Michel Pucat, Institut National de la Sant et de la Recherche Mdicale (INSERM), Campus Genopole 1, Evry, France e-mail: michel.puceat@inserm.fr Contact: Philippe Menasch, Georges Pompidou European Hospital, Paris, France e-mail: philippe.menasche@egp.aphp.fr