This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
<i>In vivo</i> PET imaging of glucocerebrosidase (GCase) replacement therapy using an ¹⁸ F-labeled fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG)-derived agent	<p>An ¹⁸F-FDG-derived PET imaging agent could help monitor therapeutic regimens that use recombinant GCase to treat Gaucher's disease, a lysosomal storage disorder. The imaging agent consisted of ¹⁸F-FDG conjugated to recombinant GCase. In healthy mice, tail vein injection of the imaging agent enabled real-time monitoring of GCase biodistribution, the mechanism of organ uptake, half-life and routes of elimination. Future studies could include developing ¹⁸F-FDG-derived imaging agents to monitor recombinant enzyme therapies for other lysosomal storage diseases.</p> <p>Genzyme Corp. markets Cerezyme imiglucerase, a recombinant form of GCase, to treat type I Gaucher's disease.</p> <p>SciBX 3(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.718 Published online June 10, 2010</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Phenix, C.P. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 31, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1003247107</p> <p>Contact: Stephen G. Withers, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada e-mail: withers@chem.ubc.ca</p>