This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Patient-specific induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cell models of Leopard syndrome	<p>Patient-derived iPS cell lines could be good models of the rare congenital disorder Leopard syndrome, which is characterized by hypertrophic cardiomyopathy caused by <i>protein tyrosine phosphatase non-receptor type 11</i> (<i>PTPN11</i>) mutations. Fibroblast-derived iPS cell lines from Leopard syndrome patients differentiated into cardiomyocytes with increased markers of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy compared with cardiomyocytes from control iPS cell lines. The iPS cells from Leopard syndrome patients also showed increased deregulation of Ras-mitogen-activated protein kinase signaling, which is indicative of <i>PTPN11</i> mutations. Future studies could include utilizing patient-derived iPS cells to investigate the molecular mechanisms of Leopard syndrome pathogenesis.</p> <p>SciBX 3(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.745 Published online June 17, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Carvajal-Vergara, X. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online June 9, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature09005</p> <p>Contact: Ihor Lemischka, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: ihor.lemischka@mssm.edu</p>