This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Transdermal drug delivery using carbon nanotube membranes	<p>A transdermal drug delivery system using carbon nanotube membranes could provide a noninvasive approach to treating multiple diseases. In a proof-of-concept study, the system delivered nicotine through a patch of human skin at a rate of about 1.3 $\mu\text{mol/hr}$ per cm^2 when activated and about 0.33 $\mu\text{mol/hr}$ per cm^2 when inactivated. Those values are comparable to those for marketed nicotine cessation treatments. Next steps include evaluating the transdermal delivery system in animals.</p> <p>SciBX 3(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.780 Published online June 24, 2010</p>	<p>Transdermal drug delivery system patented; available for licensing from the University of Kentucky Commercialization & Economic Development Office</p>	<p>Wu, J. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online June 14, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1004714107 Contact: Bruce J. Hinds, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. e-mail: bjhinds@engr.uky.edu Contact: Audra L. Stinchcomb, same affiliation as above e-mail: audra.stinchcomb@uky.edu</p>