This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Pressure-enhanced adenovirus delivery of glial cell-derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF) to the brain to treat Parkinson's disease (PD)	<p>Nonhuman primate studies suggest that pressure-driven delivery of GDNF via adenoviral vector could help treat PD. Standard intracranial delivery of adenoviral vector GDNF has shown poor efficacy in humans. In a macaque model of PD, continuous delivery of a GDNF-expressing vector under positive pressure directly into the putamen improved functional deficits, dopaminergic neuron recovery and striatal neurotrophil fiber regrowth without long-term toxicity compared with delivery of saline control. Next steps could include clinical testing in PD patients.</p> <p>Amsterdam Molecular Therapeutics' AMT-090, a GDNF gene therapy for PD, is in preclinical testing.</p> <p>SciBX 3(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.905 Published online July 29, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Kells, A.P. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online July 14, 2010; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0942-10.2010 Contact: Krystof S. Bankiewicz, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: krystof.bankiewicz@ucsf.edu</p>