This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Polysilsesquioxane nanoparticles for targeted platinum-based chemotherapy release	<p>Tumor-targeting nanoparticles containing platinum-based chemotherapy may treat cancers more effectively than chemotherapy alone. In a panel of human colon and pancreatic cancer cell lines, oxaliplatin-containing polysilsesquioxane nanoparticles showed cytotoxicity similar to or greater than that of oxaliplatin alone. In a mouse xenograft model of pancreatic cancer, the nanoparticles reduced tumor growth compared with oxaliplatin alone. Next steps at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) and Coordination Therapeutics Inc., a UNC spin-out, include generating undisclosed preclinical data and moving the nanoparticle platform into clinical trials.</p> <p>SciBX 4(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1077 Published online Sept. 29, 2011</p>	Patent application filed by UNC for pancreatic and colon cancer; not available for licensing	<p>Della Rocca, J. <i>et al. Angew. Chem.</i>; published online Sept. 14, 2011; doi:10.1002/anie.201104510 Contact: Wenbin Lin, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: wlin@unc.edu</p>