This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Penetration through the blood brain barrier using adenosine receptor agonists	<p>Studies in mice suggest adenosine receptor agonists could increase the permeability of the blood brain barrier (BBB) to systemically delivered CNS therapies. Mice treated with adenosine A1 receptor (ADORA1) and adenosine A2A receptor (ADORA2A) agonists had higher brain uptake of dextran and of an antibody to β-amyloid ($A\beta$) compared with vehicle controls. Next steps include testing adenosine receptor agonists as adjuncts to therapeutics in animal models of CNS disorders.</p> <p>One of the ADORA2A agonists used in the study was Lexiscan regadenoson, which is marketed by Gilead Sciences Inc. and Astellas Pharma Inc. as a cardiovascular imaging agent.</p> <p>CorVue binodenoson, an ADORA2A agonist from Pfizer Inc., is in registration for cardiovascular imaging.</p> <p>SciBX 4(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1078 Published online Sept. 29, 2011</p>	Patent pending; licensed to Adenios Inc.	<p>Carman, A.J. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online Sept. 14, 2011; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.3337-11.2011</p> <p>Contact: Margaret Bynoe, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. e-mail: msb76@cornell.edu</p>