This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Fluoro hexitol nucleic acid-modified antisense oligonucleotide therapeutics	<p>Mouse studies suggest oligonucleotides modified with 3'-fluoro hexitol nucleic acid (FHNA) could have less hepatotoxicity than locked nucleic acid (LNA)-based therapeutics. In mice, intraperitoneal injection of FHNA- and LNA-modified oligonucleotides targeting PTEN (MMAC1; TEP1) produced similar reductions in expression of the target, although the FHNA-injected animals had less liver toxicity. Next steps include evaluating FHNA oligonucleotides in additional disease models.</p> <p>SciBX 4(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1158 Published online Oct. 20, 2011</p>	<p>Patent application filed; available for licensing from Isis Pharmaceuticals Inc.</p> <p>Contact: Kevin Skol, Isis Pharmaceuticals Inc., Carlsbad, Calif. phone: 760-603-2459 e-mail: kskol@isisph.com</p>	<p>Egli, M. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i>; published online Sept. 14, 2011; doi:10.1021/ja207086x</p> <p>Contact: Punit P. Seth, Isis Pharmaceuticals Inc., Carlsbad, Calif. e-mail: pseth@isisph.com</p> <p>Contact: Martin Egli, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. e-mail: martin.egli@vanderbilt.edu</p>