This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Lipid nanoparticle formulations for spleen-specific delivery of small interfering RNA to macrophages and dendritic cells (DCs)	<p>Mouse studies suggest large lipid nanoparticles could be used for spleen-specific delivery of siRNA to macrophages and DCs. In mice, cationic lipid nanoparticles loaded with siRNA accumulated in the spleen, leading to siRNA-mediated knockdown of a target gene in macrophages and DCs. Next steps include selecting potential therapeutic targets for the technology.</p> <p>Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc. is developing siRNA delivery platforms.</p> <p>SciBX 4(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1162 Published online Oct. 20, 2011</p>	Patent application filed for multiple indications; available for licensing through Alnylam Pharmaceuticals	<p>Basha, G. <i>et al. Mol. Ther.</i>; published online Oct. 4, 2011; doi:10.1038/mt.2011.190</p> <p>Contact: Genc Basha, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada e-mail: gbasha@mail.ubc.ca</p>