This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Phosphatidylserine-displaying liposomes to decrease inflammation	Liposomes engineered to display phosphatidylserine on their surface could be used to repair tissue damage after heart attacks. In a mouse model of inflammation, liposomes displaying phosphatidylserine, which is normally expressed on the surface of apoptotic cells and is recognized by macrophages as an anti-inflammatory signal, led to higher levels of anti-inflammatory cytokines and lower expression of proinflammatory markers than control liposomes. In a rat model of heart attack, phosphatidylserine-presenting liposomes increased angiogenesis and decreased cardiac scarring compared with control liposomes. Next steps could include testing phosphatidylserine-containing liposomes in additional models of cardiac damage.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Harel-Adar, T. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Jan. 17, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1015623108 Contact: Smadar Cohen, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel e-mail: scohen@bgu.ac.il
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