This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Macrophage-based gene delivery to hypoxic tumor regions	<p>Mouse studies suggest that macrophage-based oncolytic virus delivery could be used to treat prostate and other solid cancers. Macrophages were transduced with an oncolytic adenovirus that replicated only in hypoxic regions of the prostate. In mice with human prostate tumors, the transduced macrophages migrated to hypoxic tumor regions, which led to adenoviral replication, decreased tumor volume and pulmonary metastases and increased survival compared with nontransduced macrophages or viral particles alone. Next steps include using the macrophage-based virus delivery system in animal models of hypoxia-associated diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 4(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.294 Published online March 10, 2011</p>	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Muthana, M. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online Jan. 13, 2011; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-10-2349</p> <p>Contact: Claire E. Lewis, The University of Sheffield Medical School, Sheffield, U.K. e-mail: claire.lewis@sheffield.ac.uk</p>