This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Zebrafish model of Cushing's disease	<p>A zebrafish model of Cushing's disease could aid the development of new treatments. Zebrafish overexpressing <i>pituitary tumor transforming 1</i> (<i>Pttg1</i>) developed adrenocorticotropin-secreting pituitary tumors and had metabolic symptoms similar to those in patients with Cushing's disease. R-roscovitine reversed the symptoms in the zebrafish model. In xenograft mice with pituitary tumors, the compound decreased tumor growth compared with vehicle. Ongoing work includes using the model to screen for compounds that could treat Cushing's disease. Seliciclib (R-roscovitine), an inhibitor of cyclin dependent kinase 2E (CDK2E), CDK2A, CDK7 and CDK9 from Cyclacel Pharmaceuticals Inc., is in Phase II testing to treat non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and nasopharyngeal cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.551 Published online May 12, 2011</p>	Patented by Cedars-Sinai Medical Center; available for licensing	<p>Liu, N.-A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 2, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1018091108</p> <p>Contact: Shlomo Melmed, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: melmed@csmc.edu</p>