This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug Platforms			
Reprogrammed neural crest stem cells for cell-based CNS therapy	<p>Reprogrammed neural crest stem cells could be used to treat CNS diseases. Neural crest stem cells normally give rise to peripheral nervous system (PNS) cells but not CNS cells. Mouse embryonic neural crest stem cells were isolated and cultured in conditions that caused the loss of their PNS cell phenotype and the gain of a CNS cell phenotype. In myelin-deficient mice, brain implantation of the reprogrammed cells gave rise to CNS myelinating oligodendrocytes. Next steps could include studying the reprogramming mechanisms that generate neural crest stem cells.</p> <p>SciBX 4(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.557 Published online May 12, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Binder, E. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online April 27, 2011; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0129-11.2011</p> <p>Contact: Hermann Rohrer, Max Planck Institute for Brain Research, Frankfurt am Main, Germany e-mail: rohrer@mpih-frankfurt.mpg.de</p>