This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Generation of neuronal progenitor cells from protein-reprogrammed induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells	<p><i>In vitro</i> and rat studies suggest protein-reprogrammed iPS cells could be useful for treating Parkinson's disease (PD). In cell culture, direct delivery of reprogramming proteins caused human iPS cells to differentiate into functional neuronal progenitor cells without the cellular senescence and apoptosis seen when using virus-based reprogramming of iPS cells. In a rat PD model, striatum transplantation of the protein-reprogrammed neuronal progenitor cells decreased the severity of PD-related motor deficits compared with injection of saline control. Next steps include identifying a method to increase protein reprogramming efficiency.</p> <p>SciBX 4(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.610 Published online May 26, 2011</p>	Patent application filed in U.S.; available for licensing	<p>Rhee, Y.-H. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 16, 2011; doi:10.1172/JCI45794 Contact: Sang-Hun Lee, Hanyang University, Seoul, South Korea e-mail: leesh@hanyang.ac.kr Contact: Kwang-Soo Kim, McLean Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Belmont, Mass. e-mail: kskim@mclean.harvard.edu</p>