This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Polyethylene glycol (PEG)-bonded polyacrylamide (PAM) fluorescent hydrogel fibers for <i>in vivo</i> glucose monitoring	<p>PEG-bonded PAM fluorescent hydrogel fibers might be used as long-term implants for glucose monitoring in patients with diabetes. In glucose solutions, the fluorescent hydrogel fibers emitted different wavelengths for varying glucose concentrations. Mouse ears injected with PEG-bonded hydrogel fibers had less inflammation than ears given fibers without PEG. In mice, the fluorescent fibers detected glucose variation for up to four months following serum glucose challenge. Next steps include performing additional calibration with blood sugar levels and decreasing the size of the detectors.</p> <p>SciBX 4(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.886 Published online Aug. 11, 2011</p>	Two patents pending in Japan covering the work; unavailable for licensing	<p>Heo, Y.J. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 1, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1104954108</p> <p>Contact: Shoji Takeuchi, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: takeuchi@iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp</p>