This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Intracellular therapeutic delivery using naturally supercharged protein carriers	Positively charged protein carriers could be useful for delivering therapeutics into cells. An <i>in silico</i> screen identified human proteins with a high net charge-to-molecular weight ratio. In mice carrying a Cre-activated reporter gene, injection of three of the proteins fused to a reporter molecule increased reporter gene expression in mouse organs compared with injection of the reporter alone. Next steps include delivering therapeutic proteins and nucleic acids to mammalian cells <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> .	Patent application filed; exclusively licensed to Permeon Biologics Inc.; available for partnering and licensing from Permeon Biologics	Cronican, J.J. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online July 29, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2011.07.003 Contact: David R. Liu, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: drliu@fas.harvard.edu
	SciBX 4(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.888 Published online Aug. 11, 2011		