This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Inhibitors of euchromatic histone-lysine N-methyltransferase 1 (EHMT1; GLP) and EHMT2 (G9A) to help treat latent viral infections	<p>A cell-permeable inhibitor of EHMT1 and EHMT2 could aid in the development of drug leads to help treat latent viral infections. EHMT2 has previously been linked to viral latency, cancer and neurological disorders, but selective, cell-permeable inhibitors have not been available. In a panel of cultured cell lines, a series of three quinazoline-derived compounds selectively inhibited EHMT1 and EHMT2 with low nanomolar IC₅₀ values. In cultured mouse cells infected with a retroviral vector, the lead inhibitor reactivated viral gene expression compared with vehicle control. Next steps include optimizing compounds for use <i>in vivo</i> and studying the effect of these compounds on latent HIV infection.</p> <p>SciBX 4(31); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.890 Published online Aug. 11, 2011</p>	Unpatented; compounds available for collaboration	<p>Liu, F. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online July 22, 2011; doi:10.1021/jm200903z Contact: Jian Jin, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: jianjin@unc.edu</p> <p>Vedadi, M. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online July 10, 2011; doi:10.1038/nchembio.599 Contact: Jian Jin, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: jianjin@unc.edu Contact: Cheryl H. Arrowsmith, Structural Genomics Consortium, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: carrow@uhnres.utoronto.ca</p>