This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Bicyclic peptides conjugated to an albumin-binding peptide to extend serum half-life	A study in mice suggests conjugating bicyclic peptides to an albumin-binding peptide could increase therapeutic duration. In mice, a bicyclic peptide targeting urokinase-type plasminogen activator (PLAU; uPA) conjugated to an albumin-binding peptide had an elimination half-life of about 24 hours, which was 50-fold longer than that of the parent molecule. The conjugated compound and parent molecule had similar levels of activity. Next steps include testing the conjugated bicyclic peptide in a mouse model of cancer and applying the conjugation strategy to additional bicyclic peptides.	Bicyclic peptide technology is patented; licensed to Bicycle Therapeutics Ltd.	Angelini, A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Oct. 22, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm301276e Contact: Christian Heinis, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland e-mail: christian.heinis@epfl.ch
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