This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Mouse model for Parkinson's disease (PD)	<p>Nontransgenic mice receiving α-synuclein (SNCA) could be useful for studying pathogenesis of PD and evaluating therapeutic candidates. Aggregation of SNCA leads to degeneration of dopaminergic cells in the substantia nigra. In mice, striatal injection of aggregated recombinant SNCA promoted the conversion of endogenous soluble SNCA into an aggregated form throughout the brain and led to histological and clinical signs of PD. Next steps include identifying cellular factors involved in the spreading of SNCA aggregates and raising antibodies against those targets.</p> <p>SciBX 5(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1243 Published online Dec. 6, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Luk, K.C. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Nov. 16, 2012; doi:10.1126/science.1227157 Contact: Virginia M.-Y. Lee, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: vmylee@upenn.edu</p>