This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Guinea pig models for assessing safety of human embryonic stem cell (hESC)-derived cardiomyocyte transplants	Guinea pigs could help assess the safety and efficacy of hESC-derived cardiomyocyte transplants. In guinea pig models of cardiac injury, hESC-derived cardiomyocyte grafts integrated with host cardiac tissue and beat synchronously with host cardiomyocytes. The cardiomyocyte grafts also decreased left ventricular dilation and deterioration and the incidence of ventricular tachycardia compared with noncardiomyocyte grafts. Ongoing work includes testing methods for improving the performance of hESC-derived cardiomyocyte transplants in the guinea pig models. SciBX 5(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.850 Published online Aug. 16, 2012	Unpatented; available for partnering	Shiba, Y. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Aug. 5, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature11317 Contact: Michael A. Laflamme, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: laflamme@u.washington.edu Contact: Charles E. Murry, same affiliation as above e-mail: murry@uw.edu