This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cell-derived neurons from patients with familial Parkinson's disease (PD)	iPS cell-derived neurons from patients with PD may help characterize disease phenotypes and aid in the identification of therapeutics that correct the phenotypes. iPS cell-derived neurons from patients with <i>leucine-rich repeat kinase 2 (LRRK2)</i> and <i>PTEN induced putative kinase 1 (PINK1)</i> mutations were more sensitive to PD-associated chemical toxins and stressors than neurons derived from healthy controls. Neurons from patients with <i>LRRK2</i> mutations had greater mitochondrial mobility than neurons from patients with <i>PINK1</i> mutations or healthy controls. Next steps include generating iPS cell-derived neurons from other patients with familial PD.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Cooper, O. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online July 4, 2012; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3003985 Contact: Ole Isacson, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: isacson@hms.harvard.edu
	SciBX 5(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.851 Published online Aug. 16, 2012		