This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
T cell migration across the blood brain barrier (BBB)	<p>The mechanism of T cell migration across the BBB could help identify new therapeutic targets for multiple sclerosis (MS) and other CNS-related autoimmune diseases. In a rat model of experimental autoimmune encephalitis (EAE), cell tracing studies showed that reactive T cells were unable to efficiently cross the BBB unless they first migrated to the lung, where their gene expression profiles were reprogrammed. The reprogramming downregulated expression of genes related to T cell activation and upregulated expression of genes related to cellular locomotion, adhesion and chemokine signaling. Next steps include determining whether T cells in patients with MS show a similar migratory pattern and identifying new therapeutic targets based on the changes in gene expression from reprogramming.</p> <p>SciBX 5(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.940 Published online Sept. 6, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Odoardi, F. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Aug. 22, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature11337 Contact: Alexander Flügel, Hertie Foundation and University Medical Center Goettingen, Goettingen, Germany e-mail: fluegel@med.uni-goettingen.de</p>