This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
<i>Additional sex combs like 1 (Asxl1)</i> -mutant mouse model of myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS)	Mice transplanted with bone marrow expressing a mutant form of <i>Asxl1</i> could model MDS and be used to identify and evaluate new treatments for the condition. Mutations in <i>ASXL1</i> are found in patients who have MDS, myeloproliferative neoplasms and various types of leukemia. In the model, mice received a bone marrow transplant of cells obtained from mice treated with 5-fluorouracil and transduced with a vector expressing a C-terminal-truncated mutant form of <i>Asxl1</i> . The transplanted mice recapitulated the hallmarks of MDS seen in patients, including multilineage myelodysplasia, pancytopenia and occasional progression to leukemia. Next steps include using the model to evaluate therapies to treat <i>ASXL1</i> -mutant MDS.	Unpatented; model available for licensing	Inoue, D. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online Oct. 8, 2013; doi:10.1172/JCI70739 Contact: Toshio Kitamura, Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: kitamura@ims.u-tokyo.ac.jp
	SciBX 6(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1199 Published online Oct. 31, 2013		