This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
<i>SH3 and multiple ankyrin repeat domains 3</i> (<i>Shank3</i> ; <i>Prosap2</i> ; <i>Spank-2</i>)-overexpressing mice as a model of hyperkinetic neuropsychiatric disorders	Mice overexpressing <i>Shank3</i> could provide a model of hyperkinetic neuropsychiatric disorders such as mania. <i>Shank3</i> -overexpressing, transgenic mice displayed 50% higher levels of total Shank3 protein than wild-type mice, and the protein was expressed in the same brain regions as endogenous Shank3. In open field tests, <i>Shank3</i> -overexpressing mice showed increased locomotor activity and speed compared with wild-type mice. The <i>Shank3</i> transgenic mice also displayed signs of manic behavior, including increased amphetamine-induced hyperactivity, shorter duration of immobility in tail-suspension tests, increased acoustic response and decreased prepulse inhibition. Next steps could involve testing mood-stabilizing therapies in the transgenic mice.	Unpatented; Shank3 mice available for licensing from the Baylor College of Medicine licensing group	Han, K. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online Oct. 23, 2013; doi:10.1038/nature12630 Contact: Huda Y. Zoghbi, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas e-mail: hzoghbi@bcm.edu
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