This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Nonembryonic stem cells for cardiac repair	<p>Nonembryonic stem cells could be used to generate cardiomyocytes for cardiac repair. Nontransgenic blastocysts from mice were used to generate 12 stem cell lines that had properties comparable to those of embryonic, induced pluripotent and germline-derived pluripotent stem cells. A cell differentiation protocol generated cardiomyocytes from one of those stem cell lines. In a mouse model of myocardial infarction, a graft of engineered heart muscle produced from the cardiomyocytes led to greater anterior wall thickness in diastole and a greater anterior wall thickening fraction than no graft. Next steps include creating engineered heart muscle from similar stem cells taken from nonhuman primates and humans.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 6(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.227 Published online March 7, 2013</p>	<p>Covered by issued and pending patents; some patents licensed to Myriamed GmbH; additional licensing details available from Tissue Science Holding GmbH</p>	<p>Didié, M. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Feb. 22, 2013; doi:10.1172/JCI66854 Contact: Wolfram-Hubertus Zimmermann, University Medical Center Goettingen, Goettingen, Germany e-mail: w.zimmermann@med.uni-goettingen.de</p>