This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Lentiviral vectors targeting endoglin (CD105; ENG) for endothelial cell-targeted therapy	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest lentiviral vectors targeting CD105 could be used for endothelium-targeted gene delivery. In mice, lentiviruses that encoded GFP and targeted the endothelial cell surface protein CD105 accumulated in the liver and specifically transduced liver sinusoidal endothelial cells over other liver cells. In the mice, CD105-targeting lentiviruses encoding erythropoietin increased erythropoietin and hematocrit levels compared with vehicle. In mice transplanted with human liver endothelial cells or in a human artery section, lentiviruses targeting human CD105 specifically transduced the human endothelial cells. Next steps could include testing the vectors in disease models.</p> <p>SciBX 6(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.910 Published online Aug. 29, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Abel, T. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online July 24, 2013; doi:10.1182/blood-2012-11-468579 Contact: Christian J. Buchholz, Paul Ehrlich Institute, Langen, Germany e-mail: christian.buchholz@pei.de</p>