This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Mouse model of atopic dermatitis-like inflammation	<p>A transgenic mouse model of atopic dermatitis could be useful for studying disease pathogenesis and identifying new treatments for the condition. In the model, mice were engineered to overexpress Il-33 (Nf-hev) in the skin and developed spontaneous itchy dermatitis at 6–8 weeks of age. The mice developed skin lesions that recapitulated the markers of atopic dermatitis in humans, including increased mast cell, histamine and IgE levels, whereas skin from wild-type controls did not. In the mouse model, a histamine receptor antagonist decreased scratching behaviors compared with no treatment. Next steps could include using the model to evaluate therapeutic candidates for atopic dermatitis.</p> <p>SciBX 6(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.939 Published online Sept. 5, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Imai, Y. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 5, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1307321110 Contact: Kiyofumi Yamanishi, Hyogo College of Medicine, Nishinomiya, Japan e-mail: kyamanis@hyo-med.ac.jp Contact: Kenji Nakanishi, same affiliation as above e-mail: nakaken@hyo-med.ac.jp</p>