This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Transgenic, humanized mouse model of HCV infection	<p>Partially immunocompromised, humanized mice could be used as a model of HCV infection to help evaluate antiviral drug candidates. Transgenic mice with stable expression of human CD81 and occludin (OCLN) in the liver supported HCV entry, but infection was limited to a single cycle. In these transgenic mice, deletion of <i>signal transducer and activator of transcription 1</i> (<i>Stat1</i>) rendered the animals partially immunocompromised and susceptible to HCV entry, infection and replication. Next steps include selecting viral variants that replicate more robustly in a series of mouse strains with progressively compromised immune systems to establish a fully competent mouse model of HCV infection.</p> <p>Apath LLC is in discussion with The Jackson Laboratory to make the mouse model available to the research community.</p> <p>SciBX 6(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.941 Published online Sept. 5, 2013</p>	<p>Use of OCLN in the mouse model of HCV patented by Apath; available for licensing from Apath</p> <p>Contact: Robert Roth, Apath LLC, St. Louis, Mo. e-mail: aproth@apath.com</p>	<p>Dorner, M. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online July 31, 2013; doi:10.1038/nature12427</p> <p>Contact: Alexander Ploss, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J. e-mail: aploss@princeton.edu</p> <p>Contact: Charles M. Rice, The Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: ricec@rockefeller.edu</p>