This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Asymmetric triplex metallohelices for treating cancer	Asymmetric triplex metallohelices could be useful for treating cancer. The metallohelices were created via a stereoselective self-assembly process that arranged individual strands in an antiparallel triplex structure. In a human colon carcinoma cell line, the most potent metallohelix inhibited proliferation with an IC_{50} value of 500 nM. The metallohelices were shown to induce structure-dependent toxicity against the colon cancer cells without inducing DNA damage. Next steps include synthesizing additional metallohelices and elucidating their mechanism of action.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed; available for collaboration	Faulkner, A.D. <i>et al. Nat. Chem.</i> ; published online Aug. 3, 2014; doi:10.1038/nchem.2024 Contact: Peter Scott, The University of Warwick, Coventry, U.K. e-mail: peter.scott@warwick.ac.uk
	SciBX 7(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1025 Published online Sept. 4, 2014		