This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Nontoxic and biocompatible hydrophobic light-activated adhesive (HLAA) as a hemostatic seal	<p>A nontoxic and biocompatible HLAA could help reconnect tissue in the presence of blood during reconstructive cardiovascular surgery. A prepolymer was mixed with a photoinitiator composed of UV cross-linkable HLAA to form a flexible film. In rat hearts, poly(glycerol sebacate urethane) patches coated with HLAA under wet conditions attached to the epicardial surface and remained attached after seven days. In multiple animal models, HLAA-coated patches were used to close defects in the left ventricle wall of 17 of 19 rats, in the ventricular septum of 4 of 4 pigs and in the carotid arteries of 4 of 4 pigs. Next steps include safety and efficacy evaluations of vascular reconstruction in large animals.</p> <p>SciBX 7(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.126 Published online Jan. 30, 2014</p>	Patented; licensed to Gecko Biomedical S.A.S.	<p>Lang, N. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Jan. 8, 2014; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3006557 Contact: Pedro J. del Nido, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: pedro.delnido@cardio.chboston.org Contact: Jeffrey M. Karp, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: jmkarp@partners.org</p>