This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Correction of ring chromosomes in patient-derived induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells	<p>Reprogramming patient fibroblasts into iPS cells could help correct ring chromosome abnormalities for gene therapy applications.</p> <p>In fibroblasts from a patient with Miller-Dieker syndrome with a heterozygous ring chromosome 17, 4 of 6 iPS cell clones generated from the fibroblasts lost the ring chromosome and gained a second, identical copy of the other chromosome 17 because of a compensatory uniparental disomy mechanism. Clones that retained the ring chromosome were not viable through multiple passages. The findings were replicated in cells from two additional patients with chromosome 13 rings. Next steps include testing whether the strategy can be applied to other types of chromosomal abnormalities.</p> <p>SciBX 7(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.155 Published online Feb. 6, 2014</p>	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	<p>Bershteyn, M. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Jan. 12, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature12923</p> <p>Contact: Anthony Wynshaw-Boris, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio e-mail: ajw168@case.edu</p> <p>Contact: Shinya Yamanaka, Gladstone Institute of Cardiovascular Disease, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: syamanaka@gladstone.ucsf.edu</p>