This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Local drug eluter (LODER) for the prolonged delivery of siRNA	<p>Delivery of siRNA targeting mutant K-Ras (KRAS) using LODER could help treat pancreatic cancers. LODER is a miniature biodegradable polymeric matrix that contains drug or siRNA. In human pancreatic cancer cells expressing mutant KRAS G12D, LODER delivery of G12D-targeting siRNA inhibited cell growth. In mice with mutant KRAS-expressing human pancreatic cancer xenografts, intratumoral implantation of LODER containing siRNA targeting mutant KRAS decreased tumor volume compared with implantation of empty LODER or with no treatment. In mice with orthotopic pancreatic tumors, intratumoral implantation of LODER carrying siRNA targeting mutant KRAS decreased tumor growth compared with implantation of empty LODER and extended overall survival. Next steps include a Phase II/III clinical trial in G12D-mutant pancreatic cancer by Silenseed Ltd.</p> <p>SciBX 7(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.35 Published online Jan. 9, 2014</p>	Patent applications filed by Silenseed; available for licensing for non-oncology indications and on a per-case basis for oncology indications	<p>Khvalevsky, E.Z. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 2, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1314307110</p> <p>Contact: Eithan Galun, Hadassah Medical Center, Jerusalem, Israel e-mail: eithang@hadassah.org.il</p>