This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Therapeutic suitability of induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells versus nuclear transfer embryonic stem cells (NT-ESCs)	<p>A comparative analysis of established human ESC lines generated via <i>in vitro</i> fertilization (IVF) with iPS cells or NT-ESCs suggests the latter could be preferable to the former for developing regenerative therapies. <i>In vitro</i> assays to assess genomewide DNA methylation profiles suggested that NT-ESCs are more similar than iPS cells to IVF ESCs. The assays also showed that NT-ESCs have fewer markers of epigenetic memory and aberrant methylation than iPS cells, suggesting that somatic cell nuclear transfer generates stem cells that more closely resemble IVF ESCs than iPS cell reprogramming. Next steps could include validating the findings by comparing additional pluripotent cell lines generated via iPS cell reprogramming and nuclear transfer.</p> <p>SciBX 7(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.908 Published online Aug. 7, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Ma, H. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online July 2, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature13551 Contact: Shoukhrat Mitalipov, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, Ore. e-mail: mitalipo@ohsu.edu</p>