SciBX
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THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Mouse model of achromatopsia	Mice carrying a mutation in *phosphodiesterase 6C* (*Pde6c*) could serve as a model of human achromatopsia, a congenital retinal dystrophy characterized by low visual acuity, photophobia, involuntary eye movements and lack of color discrimination. Analysis of 24 achromatopsia patients showed that all of them carried mutations in *PDE6C*, which were not found in healthy controls. Mice bearing a *Pde6c*-inactivating mutation exhibited achromatopsia-like symptoms. Next steps could include using this model to study the role of PDE6C mutations in achromatopsia and to identify possible therapeutic approaches. *SciBX* **2**(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1616 Published online Nov. 5, 2009	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Chang, B. *et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*; published online Oct. 26, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0907720106 **Contact:** Bernd Wissinger, University Clinics Tubingen, Tubingen, Germany e-mail: wissinger@uni-tuebingen.de