This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Mouse model of human resistin expression	<p>A mouse model expressing macrophage-derived human resistin may help guide the development of compounds to prevent insulin resistance and treat type 2 diabetes. In humans, resistin is expressed by macrophages. In mice, it is expressed in adipocytes. The mouse models were engineered to express only macrophage-specific humanized resistin. When put on a high-fat diet, the mice showed faster development of inflammation in white adipose tissue and lower insulin sensitivity than controls that did not express any resistin. Next steps include using the model to screen for potential resistin antagonists.</p> <p>SciBX 2(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.248 Published online Feb. 12, 2009</p>	<p>Patent pending for use in metabolic diseases, including type 2 diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases; available for licensing from the University of Pennsylvania Center for Technology Transfer</p> <p>Contact: University of Pennsylvania Center for Technology Transfer, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: CTTinfo@CTT.upenn.edu</p>	<p>Qatanani, M. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Feb. 2, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI37273</p> <p>Contact: Mitchell A. Lazar, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: lazar@mail.med.upenn.edu</p>