This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Adeno-associated virus (AAV) vector-mediated gene transfer to induce long-lived antibodies against simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV)	<p>Studies in monkeys suggest that AAV vectors carrying HIV-specific antibody genes could be a new strategy that bypasses adaptive immunity for long-term treatment of the virus. Six of nine monkeys that received intramuscular injection of AAV vectors packed with SIV-specific antibody genes were protected from SIV infection after challenge, whereas all monkeys that did not receive immunization became infected. In the protected monkeys, SIV-specific antibodies were identified in the serum. The next steps include submitting an IND.</p> <p>Targeted Genetics Corp's tgAAC09, an AAV-based HIV vaccine, has completed a Phase II trial.</p> <p>SciBX 2(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.853 Published online May 21, 2009</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing worldwide	<p>Johnson, P. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online May 17, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.1967</p> <p>Contact: Philip Johnson, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: johnsonphi@chop.edu</p>