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This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Retroviral vector for hemophilia A gene therapy	A new retroviral vector could be useful for increasing the safety of gene therapy for hemophilia A. The vector was used to transduce cells with an engineered factor VIII variant that has better secretion and lower immunogenicity than an earlier variant. In a mouse model of hemophilia, injection of hematopoietic stem cells containing the vector improved the hemophilic disease phenotype without eliciting a significant immune response. Next steps include confirming the safety and efficacy of the approach in a canine model of hemophilia A. *SciBX* 2(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.961 Published online June 11, 2009	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Remezani, A. & Hawley, R.A. *Blood*; published online May 21, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-01-199653 **Contact:** Robert G. Hawley, The George Washington University Medical Center, Washington, D.C. e-mail: rghawley@gwu.edu