SciBX
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This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Embryonic stem cell (ESC)-based generation of gene knockout models in rats	An ESC-based gene targeting technology for creating gene knockouts may generate new rat models of human disease. Microinjection of *tumor protein p53* (*Tp53*; *p53*)-deficient rat ESCs into rat blastocysts produced one germline chimera. Of the 76 offspring, 3 were heterozygous p53 germline pups, which were subsequently crossed to produce 2 homozygous *p53*-deficient rats. Next steps include improving the efficiency of the gene knockout technology and investigating *p53* gene knockout rats as models of *p53*-deficient cancers. *SciBX* 3(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1049 Published online Sept. 2, 2010	Patent application filed; licensed to StemCells Inc.	Tong, C. *et al. Nature*; published online Aug. 11, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature09368 **Contact:** Qi-Long Ying, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: qying@usc.edu