

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV)-based lentiviral gene transfer to produce transgenic rhesus monkeys	Primate studies suggest that SIV-based lentiviral vectors could be used to produce disease models. In early-stage rhesus monkey embryos, gene transfer of SIV-based vectors encoding GFP transduced 70 of 81 embryos without altering embryo development. In eight surrogate mothers, two of four surviving embryos expressed GFP throughout their bodies and showed no differences in body weight compared with the nontransgenic monkeys. Next steps include using a human disease gene rather than GFP in the vector to make a disease model. SciBX 3(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1162 Published online Sept. 30, 2010	Findings unpatented; available for licensing	Niu, Y. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Sept. 20, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1006563107 Contact: Weizhi Ji, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Kunming, China e-mail: wji@mail.kiz.ac.cn Contact: Qi Zhou, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China e-mail: qzhou@ioz.ac.cn Contact: Kang Zhang, Kunming University of Science and Technology, Kunming, China e-mail: kangzhang@gmail.com Contact: Pierre Savatier, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale, Bron, France e-mail: pierre.savatier@inserm.fr