

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms	<p>A protocol for differentiating hESCs into chondrocytes may lead to new therapies for cartilage repair and osteoarthritis. In cultured hESCs, the sequential addition of matrix proteins and growth factors resulted in the differentiation of the cells into chondrocytes. After the differentiation procedure, 74%–94% of cells expressed a chondrocyte-associated transcription factor. Next steps include testing the ability of the differentiated cells to generate cartilage in animal models.</p>	<p>Patented; available for licensing through The University of Manchester's Intellectual Property Commercialisation Co.</p>	<p>Oldershaw, R.A. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Oct. 22, 2010; doi:10.1038/nbt.1683 Contact: Susan J. Kimber, The University of Manchester, Manchester, U.K. e-mail: sue.kimber@manchester.ac.uk</p>
	<p>SciBX 3(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1307 Published online Nov. 4, 2010</p>		