

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Transient cold shock to increase gene knockout efficacy by zinc finger nucleases (ZFNs)	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest that transient hypothermia might increase the efficacy of ZFN-mediated gene deletion. ZFNs are used to generate gene knockouts in different organisms. In cell lines transfected with ZFNs, incubation at 30° C caused an increase in ZFN activity compared with incubation at 37° C. Next steps include incorporating the cold-shocking technique into existing therapeutic applications, including stem cell therapies.</p> <p>Sangamo BioSciences Inc. has ZFN-based compounds in clinical and preclinical testing for multiple indications.</p> <p>SciBX 3(19); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.604 Published online May 13, 2010</p>	Patents filed covering the new method; exclusively out-licensed to Sigma-Aldrich Corp. for distribution of reagents; unavailable for licensing	<p>Doyon, Y. <i>et al. Nat. Methods</i>; published online May 2, 2010; doi:10.1038/nmeth.1456</p> <p>Contact: Yannick Doyon, Sangamo BioSciences Inc., Richmond, Calif. e-mail: ydoyon@sangamo.com</p>