This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Targeted, pH-labile polymer nanocapsules for intracellular drug delivery	Nanocapsules consisting of a pH-labile, disulfide bond-containing polymer could be used for intracellular drug delivery. The nanocapsules were functionalized with cancer-targeting ligands and loaded with fluorescent dye. Upon entry into human carcinoma cells, the disulfide bonds of the nanocapsules were cleaved by the reducing intracellular environment, and the nanocapsules collapsed to release their cargo. Nanocapsules lacking disulfide bonds entered the cells but did not release their cargo. Ongoing work includes testing the safety of the nanocapsules in mice and testing the delivery efficiency of paclitaxel-loaded nanocapsules <i>in vitro</i> and in mice.	Patented by Pohang University of Science and Technology; available for licensing	Kim, E. <i>et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</i> ; published online May 12, 2010; doi:10.1002/anie.201000818 Contact: Kimoon Kim, Pohang University of Science and Technology, Pohang, South Korea e-mail: kkim@postech.ac.kr
	SciBX 3(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.687 Published online June 3, 2010		