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THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
In vitro schizophrenia model	A cell culture–based model of schizophrenia could help identify new therapies and genes associated with the disease. Fibroblasts from four schizophrenia patients were reprogrammed into induced pluripotent stem cells, which then were differentiated into neurons that had less neuronal connectivity and lower neurite numbers, two cellular phenotypes of schizophrenia, than neurons derived from healthy fibroblasts. In those neurons, the generic antipsychotic loxapine increased neuronal connectivity compared with vehicle control. Next steps could include testing atypical antipsychotics in the model. *SciBX* 4(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.498 Published online April 28, 2011	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Brennand, K.J. *et al. Nature*; published online April 13, 2011; doi:10.1038/nature09915 **Contact:** Fred H. Gage, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: gage@salk.edu