This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Laser-induced, localized vascular permeability for tissue-specific drug delivery	<p>Mouse studies suggest pulsed laser treatment could increase drug delivery across the blood brain or blood retinal barrier. In a murine thinned-skull window model of brain imaging, femtosecond pulsed laser treatment of the brain vasculature allowed macromolecules such as an astrocyte dye, an adenovirus vector and a calcium indicator to cross the blood brain barrier compared with no treatment. Next steps include determining the maximal safe and minimal therapeutic laser irradiation in an ophthalmologic setting.</p> <p>SciBX 4(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.608 Published online May 26, 2011</p>	Patent pending covering technology; available for licensing	<p>Choi, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 16, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1018790108 Contact: Chulhee Choi, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Daejeon, South Korea e-mail: cchoi@kaist.ac.kr</p>