

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Using sonic hedgehog homolog (SHH)-treated engineered blood vessels to improve bone formation	<p>Mouse and <i>in vitro</i> studies suggest treating engineered blood vessels with SHH could help improve bone graft outcomes. In engineered blood vessels, addition of exogenous SHH increased formation of vascular lumen and total lumen area compared with no SHH addition. In mice, bone graft implants with SHH-treated vasculature led to better perfusion and formation of mature bone tissue than implants without SHH-treated vasculature. Next steps include testing the implant in large animal models.</p> <p>SciBX 5(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.296 Published online March 15, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Rivron, N.C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 2, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1117627109</p> <p>Contact: Nicolas C. Rivron, University of Twente, Enschede, the Netherlands e-mail: nicolasrivron@gmail.com</p>