

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
<i>SH3 and multiple ankyrin repeat domains 2 (SHANK2)</i> -deficient mouse model of autism spectrum disorder (ASD)	Mice lacking <i>Shank2</i> could be used as models to study ASD and develop new treatments for the condition. Mutations in <i>SHANK2</i> have previously been associated with ASD in humans. Mice lacking <i>Shank2</i> developed symptoms of ASD including hyperactivity and impaired social interactions and had decreased glutamatergic synaptic transmission compared with wild-type mice. Next steps include using the model to evaluate drugs to treat ASD.	Unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Schmeisser, M.J. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online April 29, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature11015 Contact: Tobias M. Boeckers, University of Ulm, Ulm, Germany e-mail: tobias.boeckers@uni-ulm.de
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