

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Olfactory ensheathing cells (OECs) to increase myelination	Cell culture studies suggest OECs might make better transplant cells for spinal injury repair than Schwann cells. In cocultures of an astrocyte monolayer and a mixed embryonic spinal cord cell suspension, OECs increased levels of myelination compared with Schwann cells, which decreased levels of myelination. In the cocultures, media conditioned by Schwann cells also decreased levels of myelination compared with no treatment, which could be reversed with an antibody targeting connective tissue growth factor (CTGF). Next steps include identifying mechanisms that could confer OEC properties on Schwann cells.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Lamond, R. & Barnett, S.C. <i>J. Neurosci.</i> ; published online Nov. 20, 2013; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.3233-13.2013 Contact: Susan C. Barnett, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, U.K. e-mail: susan.barnett@glasgow.ac.uk
	SciBX 6(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1408 Published online Dec. 19, 2013		