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THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Dissolving microneedle arrays for delivery of live adenovirus vaccines	A dissolvable microneedle array could be used for transdermal delivery of adenovirus vaccines. Recombinant human adenovirus type 5 vectors expressing chicken ovalbumin or HIV gag polyprotein antigens were formulated as a dry powder and incorporated into the matrix of a dissolvable microneedle array. In mice, skin immunization using the microneedle array led to antigen-specific $CD8^+$ T cell responses that were comparable to those induced by conventional injection routes for vaccine delivery. Next steps include testing the microneedle arrays on cadaver skin and then in clinical trials. TheraJect Inc. was involved in the study and has the dissolving microneedle arrays in preclinical development to deliver therapeutics and vaccines. *SciBX* 6(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.153 Published online Feb. 14, 2013	Microneedle array covered by multiple issued and pending patents; available for licensing from TheraJect	Bachy, V. *et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*; published online Feb. 5, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1214449110 **Contact:** Linda S. Klavinskis, King's College London School of Medicine, London, U.K. e-mail: linda.klavinskis@kcl.ac.uk