

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
A peptide fragment based on CD47 to prolong circulation time and improve nanoparticle delivery	<p>Mouse studies identified a CD47-derived peptide that could improve the bioavailability of nanoparticle drug delivery vehicles. In mice, nanobeads linked to human CD47 or a synthetic peptide that mimics the binding region of CD47 showed better circulation than a scrambled peptide or nanobeads alone. In mice with human lung cancer xenografts, nanobeads that were loaded with paclitaxel and expressed the minimal CD47 peptide showed greater accumulation in the tumor tissues than paclitaxel alone. Next steps include testing the peptide as an aid to delivering other therapeutics.</p> <p>SciBX 6(10); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.247 Published online March 14, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	Rodriguez, P.L. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online Feb. 22, 2013; doi:10.1126/science.1229568 Contact: Dennis E. Discher, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: discher@seas.upenn.edu