

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
<i>In vitro</i> 3D biomimetic model for angiogenic sprouting	<p>An <i>in vitro</i> biomimetic model for angiogenic sprouting could be useful for identifying and evaluating compounds for their ability to modulate angiogenesis. The <i>in vitro</i> model consists of a pair of parallel cylindrical channels in a 3D collagen matrix, in which one channel is lined with endothelium and perfused with plain medium and the other channel is unlined and perfused with medium enriched in angiogenic factors. The model recapitulated several hallmarks of <i>in vivo</i> angiogenesis, including sprouting, formation of filopodia-like protrusions and development of lumens. In the model, a VEGFR-2 (KDR/Flk-1) inhibitor showed that the vessels can switch between VEGF-dependent and VEGF-independent angiogenesis. Researchers did not disclose next steps, which could include using the model to screen for new antiangiogenic compounds.</p> <p>SciBX 6(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.374 Published online April 18, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; licensed to an undisclosed company	<p>Nguyen, D.-H.T. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 8, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1221526110 Contact: Christopher S. Chen, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: chrischen@seas.upenn.edu</p>