

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Engineered influenza A virus with ferret-specific replication	<p>An engineered influenza A virus that replicates only in ferrets could help study transmission of highly pathogenic influenza A virus. Influenza A viruses were engineered to have target sites for microRNA-192 (miR-192), which is expressed in the respiratory tracts of humans and mice but not ferrets. In human lung cells, replication of influenza A virus with the miR-192 target site was blocked. In ferrets, the miR-192 target site-containing virus was infectious. Next steps include engineering influenza A to have one to four miRNA-target sites.</p> <p>SciBX 6(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.974 Published online Sept. 12, 2013</p>	Patented; available for partnering	<p>Langlois, R.A. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Aug. 11, 2013; doi:10.1038/nbt.2666</p> <p>Contact: Benjamin R. tenOever, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, N.Y. e-mail: benjamin.tenoever@mssm.edu</p> <p>Contact: Adolfo Garcia-Sastre, same affiliation as above e-mail: adolfo.garcia-sastre@mssm.edu</p> <p>Contact: Daniel Perez, University of Maryland, College Park, Md. e-mail: dperez1@umd.edu</p>