

## This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Assays &amp; screens</b>			
Nanoparticles for <i>in vivo</i> detection of drug-induced hepatotoxicity	Mouse studies suggest semiconducting polymer nanoparticles (SPNs) could be used for real-time <i>in vivo</i> monitoring of drug-induced hepatotoxicity. SPNs were generated containing a liver-targeting galactose residue, a chemiluminescent substrate and a fluorescent sensor that produces signals when detecting reactive oxygen species (ROS) and reactive nitrogen species (RNS) simultaneously. In mice, the SPNs detected ROS and RNS induced by toxic doses—but not by subtoxic doses—of acetaminophen or isoniazid earlier than histopathological changes occurred. Next steps include testing toxicity of other small molecules and virus particles.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Shuhendler, A.J. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i> ; published online March 23, 2014; doi:10.1038/nbt.2838 <b>Contact:</b> Jianghong Rao, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: <a href="mailto:jrao@stanford.edu">jrao@stanford.edu</a>
	<b>SciBX 7(14); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.408</b> Published online April 10, 2014		