

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Mouse model of inducible narcolepsy	<p>Mice with inducible ablation of hypothalamic orexin (hypocretin; Hcr) neurons could be useful models for evaluating narcolepsy therapeutics. Previous mouse models have been unable to replicate patient-specific onset of narcolepsy in adolescence or early adulthood and rarely showed narcolepsy-associated cataplexy. In the new model, induced ablation of the hypothalamic orexin neurons resulted in progressive onset of narcolepsy-associated symptoms, including fragmented sleep-wake cycles, weight gain without increased food intake and frequent episodes of cataplexy. Next steps could include using the model to study disease biology and evaluate therapeutic candidates.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 7(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.655 Published online June 5, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Tabuchi, S. <i>et al. J. Neurosci.</i>; published online May 7, 2014; doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0073-14.2014 Contact: Akihiro Yamanaka, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan e-mail: yamank@riem.nagoya-u.ac.jp Contact: Thomas S. Kilduff, SRI International, Menlo Park, Calif. e-mail: thomas.kilduff@sri.com</p>