

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Chemically defined medium for generation of human cardiomyocytes from induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells	A chemically defined medium for differentiating human iPS cells into cardiomyocytes could be useful for generating cell-replacement therapies for cardiac repair. The culture medium consists of RPMI 1640, L-ascorbic acid 2-phosphate and rice-derived recombinant human albumin. The medium was able to generate sheets of cardiomyocytes with a yield of up to 100 cardiomyocytes per human iPS cell. The resulting human cardiomyocytes were not fully differentiated but still showed cardiomyocyte-like electrophysiological behaviors and expressed multiple cardiomyocyte markers. Next steps could include optimizing the culture medium and associated protocols to further mature the cardiomyocytes.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Burridge, P.W. <i>et al. Nat. Methods</i> ; published online June 15, 2014; doi:10.1038/nmeth.2999 Contact: Joseph C. Wu, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: joewu@stanford.edu Contact: Paul W. Burridge, same affiliation as above e-mail: burridge@stanford.edu
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