This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Glycoprotein 2 (GP2)-targeted antigens as mucosal vaccines	GP2-targeted antigen delivery could be useful for developing mucosal vaccines against a variety of pathogens. GP2, a receptor on mucosal M cells, is a key component of the mucosal immune response. In cultured murine M cells, GP2 knockout resulted in lower uptake of bacteria expressing a GP2-binding antigen than occurred in wild-type M cells. Next steps include identifying GP2-binding small molecules or aptamers that could be conjugated to antigens to trigger a GP2-mediated mucosal immune response. SciBX 2(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1680 Published online Nov. 19, 2009	Patent applications filed covering GP2 as a marker for M cells, anti-GP2 antibodies as a research tool and GP2 as a target for vaccination; mAb targeting GP2 licensed to Medical & Biological Laboratories Co. Ltd.	Hase, K. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Nov. 12, 2009; doi:10.1038/nature08529 Contact: Hiroshi Ohno, RIKEN, Kanagawa, Japan e-mail: ohno@rcai.riken.jp