This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Mouse model for interstitial lung disease	<p>Mice with a deficiency in the <i>autoimmune regulator (Aire)</i> gene could be useful as models of interstitial lung disease and help identify new pulmonary therapeutics. Humans deficient in the <i>AIRE</i> gene develop autoimmune polyglandular syndrome type I (APS1), a disease that can involve the lung. <i>Aire</i>-deficient mice mounted an aberrant autoimmune T cell response against a lung antigen dubbed vomeromodulin and developed interstitial lung disease. Lung histopathology in the <i>Aire</i>-deficient mice was comparable to that in a patient with APS1. Next steps could include evaluating the applicability of this model to other interstitial lung disease patient populations.</p> <p>SciBX 2(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1778 Published online Dec. 17, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Shum, A.K. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Dec. 2, 2009; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3000284</p> <p>Contact: Mark S. Anderson, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: manderson@diabetes.ucsf.edu</p> <p>Contact: Anthony Shum, same affiliation as above e-mail: anthony.shum@ucsf.edu</p>