This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Expansion of T _{reg} cells using IL-2-mAb complexes to treat multiple sclerosis (MS)	<p>Injections of IL-2-mAb complexes could be a useful approach for inducing rapid expansion of T_{reg} cells to treat MS. High numbers of T_{reg} cells can potentially help decrease the intensity of autoimmune responses. In mice, IL-2 mixed with an IL-2 mAb increased T_{reg} cells by up to 10-fold in the liver, gut, spleen and lymph nodes compared with what was seen in controls. Mice pretreated with the IL-2-mAb complexes were resistant to induced experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), a model of MS. Next steps include testing the IL-2-mAb complexes in a relapsing/remitting model of disease.</p> <p>SciBX 2(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.643 Published online April 16, 2009</p>	Worldwide patent application filed by Nascent Biologics Inc. for IL-2-mAb complexes; unlicensed	<p>Webster, K. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online March 30, 2009; doi:10.1084/jem.20082824</p> <p>Contact: Jonathan Sprent, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, Darlinghurst, Australia e-mail: j.sprent@garvan.org.au</p>