This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Generation of structure-specific antibodies by immunization with engineered epitope-presenting proteins	Engineered proteins that elicit structure-specific antibodies could be used to develop vaccines against HIV and other infectious diseases. Scaffold proteins found in the Protein Data Bank were modified to present the binding epitope of HIV gp41 in the specific conformation recognized by an anti-gp41 antibody. Immunization of mice with the scaffold proteins elicited antibodies that bound the gp41 epitope <i>in vitro</i> . Ongoing work includes engineering proteins that elicit structure-specific antibodies against undisclosed respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) antigens. SciBX 3(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1193 Published online Oct. 7, 2010	Patent applications filed by the NIH and the University of Washington; licensing status undisclosed	Ofek, G. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Sept. 27, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1004728107 Contact: Peter D. Kwong, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: pdkwong@nih.gov