This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Engineered bacterial outer membrane vesicles (OMVs) as vaccines and vaccine adjuvants	Engineered bacterial OMVs could serve as vaccines and adjuvants for poorly immunogenic antigens. <i>Escherichia coli</i> were engineered to produce OMVs that contained a fusion of a vesicle-localizing bacterial protein and a poorly immunogenic test antigen. Mice inoculated with fusion protein-loaded OMVs had better immunogenic responses than mice inoculated with fusion protein alone, antigen alone or empty OMVs. Ongoing work includes testing cellular responses to engineered OMV vaccines derived from other bacterial species. SciBX 3(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.134 Published online Jan. 28, 2010	Patent application filed by Cornell University; available for licensing or partnering	Chen, D. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Jan. 18, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.0805532107 Contact: David Putnam, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. e-mail: dap43@cornell.edu