This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Engineered antibodies for increased activity against tumors	<p>A study in mice suggests that antibodies with enhanced affinity for the Fc γ-receptor IIb (CD32B; FCGR2B) could be useful as cancer immunotherapies. In a mouse model of tumor immunotherapy, CD40 antibodies with increased FCGR2B binding led to higher CD8⁺ T cell activation, lower tumor growth and longer survival than conventional CD40 antibodies. Next steps include testing the effect of greater FCGR2B binding in antibodies against other tumor necrosis factor receptor family members beyond CD40 and characterizing signaling pathways affected by FCGR2B binding.</p> <p>Seven companies have mAbs against CD40 in preclinical through Phase II testing for various cancer indications.</p> <p>SciBX 4(36); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1027 Published online Sept. 15, 2011</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Li, F. & Ravetch, J.V. <i>Science</i>; published online Aug. 19, 2011; doi:10.1126/science.1206954</p> <p>Contact: Jeffrey V. Ravetch, The Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: ravetch@rockefeller.edu</p>