This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Bispecific CovX-Bodies to treat cancer	<p>Antibodies modified to bind two different protein targets (bispecific CovX-Bodies) could help treat cancer. The bispecific CovX-Bodies contain a humanized IgG1 antibody scaffold and two different target-specific peptides, each linked to one of the antibody's binding regions. <i>In vitro</i>, a bispecific CovX-Body dubbed CVX-241 had low nanomolar binding affinity for its two targets: VEGF and angiopoietin 2 (ANG2; ANGPT2). In three tumor xenograft mouse models of cancer, CVX-241 decreased tumor growth compared with monospecific CovX-Bodies targeting only VEGF or ANG2.</p> <p>CVX-241 (PF-05057459) from Pfizer Inc.'s CovX Research LLC unit, is in Phase I testing to treat advanced solid tumors and in preclinical testing to treat undisclosed cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 4(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.27 Published online Jan. 6, 2011</p>	Patented by Pfizer; available for licensing or partnering	<p>Doppalapudi, V.R. <i>et al.</i> <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 13, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1016478108</p> <p>Contact: Richard A. Lerner, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: rlerner@scripps.edu</p> <p>Contact: Venkata R. Doppalapudi, CovX Research LLC unit of Pfizer Inc., San Diego, Calif. e-mail: venkata.doppalapudi@pfizer.com</p>