This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Conditional gene shutoff to identify genes required for <i>in vivo</i> fungal infection	<p>A mouse model of <i>Candida albicans</i> infection could help identify new antifungal targets. To identify progrowth genes that also contributed to virulence, 177 strains of the human fungal pathogen <i>C. albicans</i> were engineered to carry repressible copies of genes involved in growth and metabolism. In mice infected with the engineered strains, 102 genes that contributed to virulence also were essential for growth. Next steps include studying antifungal compounds to see if the molecules target gene products identified by the study.</p> <p>SciBX 4(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.56 Published online Jan. 13, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Becker, J.M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 6, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1009845107 Contact: Terry Roemer, Merck Frosst Canada Ltd., Montreal, Quebec, Canada e-mail: terry_roemer@merck.com</p>