This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
High throughput screening strategy to identify vaccine epitopes for intracellular pathogens	High throughput screening of bacterial proteins could help identify new vaccine epitopes that induce immunity against intracellular pathogens. A <i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> protein array identified 23 antibody-inducing antigens in sera from <i>C. trachomatis</i>-infected patients. A second assay in mouse liver splenocytes identified 24 interferon-γ (Ifng; Ifn-γ)-stimulating antigens. In a mouse model of <i>Chlamydia</i> infection, a combination of four antigens identified by the assays lowered bacterial load in the lungs compared with vehicle control. Next steps could include applying the strategy to identify <i>Salmonella</i> or malaria vaccine candidates. SciBX 4(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.693 Published online June 16, 2011	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Finco, O. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 31, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1101756108 Contact: Guido Grandi, Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics, Siena, Italy e-mail: guido.grandi@novartis.com