This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Hepatocyte growth factor/scatter factor (HGF/SF) fragments as c-met proto-oncogene (MET; HGFR) agonists and antagonists	<p>HGF/SF fragment-based MET agonists and antagonists could be useful for treating wounds or various cancers. Directed evolution and site-directed mutagenesis were used to engineer heat-stable HGF/SF fragments that targeted MET. In cellular assays, the engineered HGF/SF fragments were more stable, had higher expression yields and showed better agonistic or antagonistic activity against MET than wild-type HGF/SF fragments. Next steps include evaluating the HGF/SF fragments in models of wound healing and cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.864 Published online Aug. 4, 2011</p>	<p>Patent application filed covering regenerative medicine, cancer and cancer diagnostics; available for licensing from the Stanford University Office of Technology Licensing</p>	<p>Jones, D.S. II <i>et al.</i> <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online July 25, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1102561108 Contact: Jennifer R. Cochran, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: jennifer.cochran@stanford.edu</p>