This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Mice with conditional B cell-specific knockout of <i>TANK-binding kinase 1</i> (<i>Tbk1</i>)	Mice with conditional B cell-specific knockout of <i>Tbk1</i> could be useful for identifying new targets and treatments for autoimmune diseases. The <i>Tbk1</i> knockout mice showed aberrant production of IgA and autoantibodies and deposition of antibodies in kidney glomeruli, which is a marker of nephropathy. A series of cell culture studies showed that TBK1 controlled IgA production via negative regulation of noncanonical NF- κ B signaling. Next steps include further evaluating the role of TBK1 in regulating mucosal immunity and identifying associations between TBK1 deficiency and autoimmune diseases.	Model unpatented; licensing details available from Lexicon Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Jin, J. <i>et al. Nat. Immunol.</i> ; published online Sept. 30, 2012; doi:10.1038/ni.2423 Contact: Shao-Cong Sun, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas e-mail: ssun@mdanderson.org
	SciBX 5(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1040 Published online Oct. 4, 2012		