This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Skin-delivered vaccines	<p>Mouse studies suggest that vaccines designed to generate virus-specific memory T cells in the skin might provide better viral protection than vaccines that generate memory T cells in circulation. Most marketed vaccines are delivered intramuscularly and do not generate memory T cells in the skin. Mice immunized with a vaccinia virus by local skin infection generated virus-specific memory T cells in the skin and had lower levels of viral replication and more rapid viral clearance after challenge than mice immunized by intraperitoneal injection, which induced virus-specific circulating memory T cells. Next steps include extending the vaccine strategy to test protection against other viruses, intracellular bacteria and cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 5(12); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.319 Published online March 22, 2012</p>	<p>Patented; Trem Rx Inc. has licensed the vaccine-relevant IP, which may be available for licensing for some indications</p>	<p>Jiang, X. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Feb. 29, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature10851 Contact: Thomas S. Kupper, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass. e-mail: tkupper@partners.org</p>