This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Combinatorial libraries for unbiased identification of CD8 ⁺ T cell target antigens	Combinatorial libraries of short peptides could help identify CD8 ⁺ T cell antigens and guide development of vaccines and immunotherapies. The platform consisted of antigen-presenting cells (APCs) co-transfected with plasmid-encoded peptides and major histocompatibility complex class I (MHC) cDNA. The APCs then interacted with T cell receptor (TCR)-expressing T hybridoma cells that fluoresced when bound to an APC peptide antigen. In a study using hybridomas expressing TCRs specific for an influenza antigen, the platform identified nine antigenic peptides expressed by the APCs. Next steps include using the method to identify the antigens that lead to T cell infiltration into various tissues in patients with autoimmune diseases.	Patent applications filed; available for licensing from Bayerische Patentallianz GmbH, which manages technology transfer for various Bavarian universities Contact: Cécile Henrich-Burkhardt, Bayerische Patentallianz GmbH, Munich, Germany e-mail: chenrich-burkhardt@baypat.de	Siewert, K. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online April 8, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.2720 Contact: Klaus Dornmair, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Munich, Germany e-mail: klaus.dornmair@med.uni-muenchen.de
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