This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Chemically modified bispecific antibodies	Chemically modified bispecific antibodies could be more effective than monovalent antibodies for treating cancer. The 50 kDa bispecific antibodies bound T cells and cancer cells and were chemically modified with a selenocysteine amino acid residue to improve their cancer cell specificity. In human cancer cell lines and primary tumor cells from a patient with mantle cell lymphoma (MCL), the bispecific antibodies showed greater cytotoxicity than monovalent antibodies. Next steps could include testing the bispecific antibodies in models of other cancer types. <i>SciBX</i> 5(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.796 Published online Aug. 2, 2012	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Cui, H. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online July 3, 2012; doi:10.1074/jbc.M112.384594 Contact: Christoph Rader, Scripps Florida, Jupiter, Fla. e-mail: crader@scripps.edu