This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Optimizing antigen affinity in T cell tumor vaccines	<p>Cell culture and mouse studies suggest strong T cell receptor (TCR) binding by antigens may not improve the efficacy of tumor vaccines. In cell culture and in mouse models for melanoma, fragments of the melanoma antigen silver homolog (SILV; PMEL17; GP100) with affinity below 10 μM for TCRs <i>in vitro</i> were no more potent at eliciting an immune response <i>in vivo</i> than fragments with about 10 μM affinity. Next steps include prescreening tumor antigens for optimal affinity in preparation for clinical trials.</p> <p>SciBX 6(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.376 Published online April 18, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status not applicable	<p>Zhong, S. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 1, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1221609110</p> <p>Contact: Michelle Krogsgaard, New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y. e-mail: michelle.krogsgaard@nyumc.org</p>