This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Phage display system for rapid mammalian expression of library hits	<p>A phage display system designed to facilitate expression in mammalian cells could be used to rapidly screen libraries against therapeutic targets. A time-consuming step in phage display is the cloning of library candidates into a mammalian expression system. An expression vector was designed to take advantage of splicing machinery unique to mammalian cells. One version of a candidate fusion protein is produced in bacterial cells, and another, distinct version of the fusion protein is produced in mammalian cells. The system was used to discover a CD4-mimetic peptide that binds to HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein and neutralizes the virus. Next steps include modifying the expression vector to enable rapid antibody selection and expression.</p> <p>SciBX 6(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.587 Published online June 13, 2013</p>	Provisional patent application filed; available for licensing from Harvard University Office of Technology Development	<p>Quinlan, B.D. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online May 10, 2013; doi:10.1074/jbc.M113.452839 Contact: Michael Farzan, The Scripps Research Institute, Jupiter, Fla. e-mail: mfarzan@scripps.edu Contact: Brian Quinlan, same affiliation as above e-mail: bquinlan@scripps.edu</p>