This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Knockout chickens created by homologous recombination in primordial germ cells (PGCs)	Homologous recombination in PGCs could be used to make genetic knockout chickens and aid the production of engineered antibodies. Homologous recombination in chicken embryo-derived PGCs enabled deletion of the joining gene segment in the IgG heavy chain and led to the production of chickens unable to develop mature B cells and natural antibodies following immunization. The recombination frequency in PGCs indicated that 1×10^7 cells need to be targeted per clone. Next steps could include using the platform to make additional modifications that permit human antibody production in chickens.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Schusser, B. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Nov. 26, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1317106110 Contact: Philip A. Leighton, Crystal Bioscience Inc., Emeryville, Calif. e-mail: pal@crystalbioscience.com
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