This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Oncolytic virus to enhance efficacy of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-specific T cells	<p>Mouse studies suggest oncolytic viruses could be used to enhance the anticancer efficacy of CAR-specific T cells. An oncolytic adenovirus that replicates in and lyses malignant but not normal cells was engineered to express chemokine CC motif ligand 5 (RANTES; CCL5) and IL-15, which attract and promote the survival of CAR-specific T cells. In a mouse xenograft model of neuroblastoma, combination of transferred GD2-targeting, CAR-specific T cells plus intratumoral injection of the RANTES- and IL-15-expressing adenovirus resulted in significantly greater tumor control and increased mouse survival compared with either treatment alone ($p < 0.05$). Next steps include designing an oncolytic RANTES- and IL-15-expressing vaccinia virus that could be systemically delivered.</p> <p>SciBX 7(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.997 Published online Aug. 28, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Nishio, N. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online July 24, 2014; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-14-0697 Contact: Gianpietro Dotti, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas e-mail: gdotti@bcm.edu</p>