This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
X-ray crystal structures of thiol-reactive agents in complex with <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> secreted antigen 85-C (fbpC; ag85C)	<p>The crystal structures of thiol-reactive agents in complex with fbpC could aid the rational design of new therapeutic candidates to treat tuberculosis. The crystal structures of fbpC in complex with ebselen, iodoacetamide or p-chloromercuribenzoic acid were solved to 1.40, 1.50 and 1.90 Å resolution, respectively. The structures revealed differences in how each of the thiol-reactive agents interacted with the fbpC active site. An additional four crystal structures of fbpC with various point mutations in the enzyme's catalytic residues were generated. Next steps could include using the new crystal structures to rationally design new fbpC-targeted compounds.</p> <p>SciBX 7(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.998 Published online Aug. 28, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Favrot, L. <i>et al. J. Biol. Chem.</i>; published online July 14, 2014; doi:10.1074/jbc.M114.582445 Contact: Donald R. Ronning, The University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio e-mail: donald.ronning@utoledo.edu</p>