

This week in techniques

| Approach | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
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| Drug platforms | | | |
| Combinatorial antibody libraries for preventing and treating influenza | <p>Combinatorial antibody libraries derived from the sera of influenza survivors could serve as the basis for designing new influenza immunotherapies. Antibody libraries were generated from the bone marrow of five survivors of a recent H5N1 avian influenza outbreak in Turkey. The libraries have yielded more than 300 distinct antibodies against H5N1 antigens. Three of these antibodies neutralized both H1 and H5 influenza subtypes. Next steps include further analysis of the combinatorial antibody library of H5N1 antibodies, animal studies using library antibodies, immunogenesis studies to determine where the antibodies bind to hemagglutinin and investigation of the crystal structure of the antibody binding.</p> <p>Sea Lane Biotechnologies LLC has neutralizing antibodies against influenza viruses in preclinical development.</p> <p>At least eight companies market or are developing vaccines targeting the H5N1 virus.</p> | Patented and licensed to Sea Lane Biotechnologies | <p>Kashyap, A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online April 14, 2008; doi:10.1073/pnas.0801367105</p> <p>Contact: Richard A. Lerner, Department of Chemistry, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: rlerner@scripps.edu</p> |