

## This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Drug platforms</b>			
mAb-producing, immortalized memory B cells	<p>A method to isolate and immortalize antibody-producing memory B cells could provide a way to rapidly generate therapeutic mAbs. Immortalized clonal cultures derived from activated memory B cells in human tonsils were screened for production of antibodies against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). <i>In vitro</i>, three of four RSV-specific antibodies triggered a higher level of virus neutralization than Synagis palivizumab, an anti-RSV mAb marketed by AstraZeneca plc's MedImmune LLC unit to prevent RSV infection. AIMM Therapeutics B.V.'s next steps include increasing antibody yield and screening for neutralizing antibodies against other pathogens.</p> <p>Calmune Corp. and Humabs LLC are developing screening technologies to isolate B cell clones that produce antibodies against infectious agents.</p> <p><b>SciBX 3(3); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.104</b>  <b>Published online Jan. 21, 2010</b></p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Kwakkenbos, M.J. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Dec. 20, 2009; doi:10.1038/nm.2071</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Tim Beaumont, AIMM Therapeutics B.V., Amsterdam, the Netherlands            e-mail: <a href="mailto:beaumont@aimmtherapeutics.com">beaumont@aimmtherapeutics.com</a></p>