

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Enzymatic adjuvant to NK cell vaccination	<p><i>In vitro</i>, cell culture and mouse studies suggest that fatty acid amide hydrolase (FAAH) could be a useful vaccine adjuvant that increases NK cell activity during immunization. In FAAH knockout mice, NK cells had lower proliferation and cytokine production in response to αGalCer antigen than those in wild-type controls. In a cell culture assay of NK cell activation, recombinant FAAH increased αGalCer antigen presentation and cytokine production compared with control treatment. Next steps include identifying other serum proteins with NK cell-stimulating activity. Wittycell S.A.S., Cytheris S.A. and NKT Therapeutics Inc. have NK cell-activating vaccines in preclinical development for a variety of indications.</p> <p>SciBX 3(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.715 Published online June 10, 2010</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Freigang, S. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 17, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI40451</p> <p>Contact: Luc Teyton, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: lteyton@scripps.edu</p>