

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
PD-1 receptor (PDCD1; PD-1; CD279) antagonists to increase vaccine efficacy	<p><i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest antagonizing PD-1 could help improve vaccine efficacy. In mice, injection of a T cell-independent antigen caused expansion of a subset of B cells that expressed PD-1. In the same mice, an anti-PD-1 antibody increased proliferation of the B cells, antigen-specific IgG production and long-term antigen-specific immunoglobulin response compared with a control antibody. Next steps include testing PD-1 blockade for enhanced responses to clinically relevant polysaccharide antigens.</p> <p>At least five companies have anti-PD-1 antibodies in clinical testing to treat cancer and infectious diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 4(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1221 Published online Nov. 3, 2011</p>	Findings unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Haas, K.M. <i>J. Immunol.</i>; published online Oct. 14, 2011; doi:10.4049/jimmunol.1101990</p> <p>Contact: Karen M. Haas, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, N.C. e-mail: kmhaas@wfubmc.edu</p>