This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Fusion of IL-15 and a domain of the IL-15 receptor α -chain (IL15RA) to boost T cell immune responses	A fusion of IL-15 and a domain of IL15RA could help boost T cell immune responses to improve vaccine efficacy. In transgenic mice with human immune systems, the IL-15/IL15RA fusion construct increased proliferation and survival of naïve and memory T cells compared with vehicle control. In mice immunized with HBV or the tetanus toxoid, IL-15/IL15RA increased the frequency of antigen-specific responses compared with vehicle. Next steps could include testing the fusion construct in additional vaccine models. SciBX 4(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.439 Published online April 14, 2011	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Huntington, N.D. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online March 28, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1019167108 Contact: Nicholas D. Huntington, Pasteur Institute, Paris, France e-mail: nhunting@pasteur.fr