This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Autoantigen discovery using a phage-expressed peptide library	<p>A phage-encoded peptide library could be used to identify new therapeutic targets or biomarkers for autoimmune diseases. A library of about 400,000 peptides covering all candidate protein-coding regions in the human genome was expressed using phage display. In cerebrospinal fluid samples from patients with the CNS autoimmune disease paraneoplastic neurological disorders (PNDs), immunoprecipitation of this peptide library allowed the identification of known and previously unknown autoantigen candidates based on the sequence of peptides that were significantly enriched by autoantibodies in the patient samples. Next steps include using the platform to identify autoantigens associated with multiple sclerosis (MS) and other autoimmune diseases.</p> <p>SciBX 4(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.636 Published online June 2, 2011</p>	Patent status undisclosed; available for licensing	<p>Larman, H.B. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online May 22, 2011; doi:10.1038/nbt.1856</p> <p>Contact: Stephen J. Elledge, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: selledge@genetics.med.harvard.edu</p>