This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Modified glycolipids to improve cell-based cancer therapy	<p>Naphthylurea-containing analogs of α-galactosylceramide (α-GalCer) could increase the efficacy of cell-based cancer immunotherapy. In a mouse model of metastatic melanoma, naphthylurea-modified analogs of the NK T cell ligand α-GalCer decreased tumor load compared with unmodified α-GalCer. Next steps include testing additional modifications of α-GalCer and examining the effect on human NK T cells.</p> <p>SciBX 4(22); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.642 Published online June 2, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status not applicable	<p>Aspeslagh, S. <i>et al.</i> <i>EMBO J.</i>; published online May 6, 2011; doi:10.1038/emboj.2011.145 Contact: Dirk Elewaut, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium e-mail: Dirk.Elewaut@ugent.be Contact: Dirk M. Zajonc, La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: dzajonc@liai.org</p>