This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Adenovirus-based prime and virus-like particle (VLP)-based boost vaccine regimen for HCV	<p>An adenovirus-based prime and VLP-based boost vaccine regimen that produces broadly neutralizing antibodies could help prevent HCV infection. Adenovirus-based vectors expressed HCV envelope protein E1 (E1) and E2 (Ad-E1E2), and VLPs incorporated E1 and E2 (VLP-E1E2) or a recombinant E1 variant (VLP-E1G). In neutralization assays, sera from macaques primed with Ad-E1E2 and boosted with VLP-E1E2 plus VLP-E1G neutralized HCV particles of genotypes 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 4 and 5 compared with control particles. Next steps at Epixis S.A. include toxicology studies.</p> <p>Nine companies have HCV vaccines in stages from discovery to Phase II trials.</p> <p>SciBX 4(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.918 Published online Aug. 18, 2011</p>	Patented; licensed to Epixis	<p>Garrone, P. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Aug. 3, 2011; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3002330</p> <p>Contact: David Klatzmann, Pierre and Marie Curie University, Paris, France e-mail: david.klatzmann@upmc.fr</p> <p>Contact: Charlotte Dalba, Epixis S.A., Lyon, France e-mail: cd@epixis.com</p>