This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Removal of teratoma-forming cells with pluripotency marker-targeting mAbs	<p>Mouse and cell culture studies suggest mAbs targeting pluripotency markers like stage-specific embryonic antigen-5 (SSEA-5) could help lower the risk of tumor formation by stem cell-based therapies. In mice transplanted with a population of differentiated cells mixed with undifferentiated human embryonic stem cells, mAb-mediated depletion of SSEA-5-expressing cells resulted in fewer and smaller teratomas than no depletion. Next steps include determining whether the approach could be applied to current differentiation protocols for generating therapeutic-grade pancreatic cells and neural progenitors.</p> <p><i>SciBX</i> 4(33); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.950 Published online Aug. 25, 2011</p>	<p>Patent pending; available for licensing from the Stanford University Office of Technology Licensing Contact: Gregg Kyle, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. phone: 650-725-3476 e-mail: gregg.kyle@stanford.edu</p>	<p>Tang, C. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Aug. 14, 2011; doi:10.1038/nbt.1947 Contact: Micha Drukker, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: dmicha@stanford.edu Contact: Irving L. Weissman, same affiliation as above e-mail: irv@stanford.edu</p>