This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Crystal structure of Fc γ -receptor III (CD16; FCGR3) in complex with antibody Fc fragments	<p>The crystal structure of a glycosylated FCGR3 complexed with antibody Fc fragments suggests that removing antibody fucose groups could help increase mAb target affinity. The crystal structure revealed carbohydrate-carbohydrate interactions between FCGR3 and nonfucosylated Fc fragments. <i>In vitro</i> equilibrium and kinetic analysis showed that FCGR3 had higher affinity for nonfucosylated Fc fragments than for fucosylated counterparts. Roche said it will continue with both clinical and preclinical development of the engineered antibodies and apply the approach to additional antibodies against new targets.</p> <p>SciBX 4(34); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.976 Published online Sept. 1, 2011</p>	Patented; available for licensing from Roche	<p>Ferrara, C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online July 18, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1108455108</p> <p>Contact: Jörg Benz, Roche, Basel, Switzerland e-mail: joerg.benz@roche.com</p> <p>Contact: Pablo Umaña, Roche Glycart AG, Schlieren, Switzerland e-mail: pablo.umana@roche.com</p>