

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Humanized mouse model for graft-versus-host disease (GvHD) prevention by T _{reg} cells	<p>A humanized mouse model for GvHD could be useful for testing the therapeutic potential of cultured human T_{reg} cells. Previous studies in mice have suggested that adoptive transfer of allogeneic T_{reg} cells could prevent GvHD. In the new study, human T_{reg} cells were cultured <i>ex vivo</i> and transferred into mice with a humanized immune system. Mice receiving an immune cell fraction enriched with T_{reg} cells had lower levels of proinflammatory cytokines and better survival than controls receiving nonspecific immune cells. Next steps could include scaling up production of T_{reg} cells in preparation for clinical trials.</p> <p>SciBX 6(5); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.124 Published online Feb. 7, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Zheng, J. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Jan. 16, 2013; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3004943 Contact: Wenwei Tu, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China e-mail: wwtu@hku.hk Contact: Yu-Lung Lau, same affiliation as above e-mail: laulylung@hkucc.hku.hk</p>