

**This week in techniques**

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Chemistry</b>			
Antiamyloid compounds that inhibit biofilm formation	<i>In vitro</i> studies suggest compounds that disrupt amyloid fibers could be useful for preventing biofilm formation. In a cell culture assay of biofilm formation by the commensal bacterium <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> , the benzoquinone AA-861 and the lactone parthenolide prevented biofilm formation. <i>In vitro</i> , the two compounds blocked amyloid formation by a variety of amyloid-forming proteins. Next steps could include optimizing and testing hit compounds for inhibition of biofilms formed by pathogenic bacteria.  <b>SciBX 6(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.149</b> <b>Published online Feb. 14, 2013</b>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Romero, D. <i>et al. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online Jan. 24, 2013; doi:10.1016/j.chembiol.2012.10.021 <b>Contact:</b> Roberto Kolter, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: <a href="mailto:rkolter@hms.harvard.edu">rkolter@hms.harvard.edu</a>