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This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Self-mineralizing viruses for improved efficacy and storage stability	Cell culture and mouse studies suggest self-mineralizing vaccines could have better efficacy and stability than conventional vaccines. Human enterovirus type 71 engineered to express genes that encode calcium- and phosphate-chelating agents formed a self-mineralized calcium phosphate shell when cultured in calcium-enriched medium. In mice, the engineered virus induced almost twofold higher titers of neutralizing antibodies than the native virus. The mineralized virus was stored for 7 days at 37 °C and for 9 days at 26 °C. Next steps include further improving the vaccine's thermal stability. *SciBX* 6(18); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.449 Published online May 9, 2013	Patent application filed; unavailable for licensing	Wang, G. *et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*; published online April 15, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1300233110 **Contact:** Cheng-Feng Qin, Beijing Institute of Microbiology and Epidemiology, Beijing, China e-mail: qincf@bmi.ac.cn **Contact:** Ruikang Tang, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China e-mail: rtang@zju.edu.cn