

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Adrenomedullin (ADM; AM) and calcitonin receptor-like (CRLR; CALCRL) levels to diagnose pre-eclampsia	<p>Mouse studies suggest monitoring levels of ADM or its receptor, CRLR, could enable early diagnosis of pre-eclampsia in pregnant women. In mice, placentas of <i>Adm</i>- or <i>Crlr</i>-deficient mouse fetuses showed less remodeling of vasculature and greater recruitment of maternal uterine NK cells, which are features of pre-eclampsia, than placentas of wild-type mouse fetuses. In maternal uterine NK cells from normal mice, <i>Adm</i> increased the secretion of cytokines, chemokines and metalloproteases involved in remodeling of placental vasculature compared with no treatment. Planned studies include investigating serum ADM as a marker of pre-eclampsia in pregnant women.</p> <p>SciBX 6(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.505 Published online May 23, 2013</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed; <i>Adm</i> -deficient mouse models available for partnering	<p>Li, M. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 1, 2013; doi:10.1172/JCI67039</p> <p>Contact: Kathleen M. Caron, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: kathleen_caron@med.unc.edu</p>