

THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Gut microbe–associated phenotypes in mice receiving human fecal microbiota	A systems biology approach to studying mouse recipients of human gut microbes could aid the development of microbiota-associated disease models. Cultured fecal microbiota from a healthy human donor contained 17 different bacterial species. In gnotobiotic mice receiving 1 of 94 distinct combinations of up to 11 of the 17 species, systems-level analyses identified individual or groups of bacterial species that contributed to host phenotypes including colonic T_{reg} populations, adiposity and gut levels of short-chain fatty acids. Future studies could include examining phenotypes in mice receiving cultured microbiota from patients with metabolic or intestinal diseases.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Faith, J.J. et al. Sci. Transl. Med.; published online Jan. 22, 2014; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3008051 Contact: Jeffrey I. Gordon, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo. e-mail: jgordon@wustl.edu

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