

THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

| Approach | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|--|---|---|--|
| Assays & screens | | | |
| Serum factor protein microarrays to identify autoreactive antibodies in patients with autoimmune disease | Serum factor microarrays that identify autoreactive antibodies could help identify therapeutic targets in autoimmune diseases. Microarrays were designed and coated with human cytokines, chemokines and autoimmune tissue antigens that could bind to specific autoreactive antibodies. In sera from patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), autoreactive antibodies for known and new targets, including BLyS (BAFF), were detected by the assay. Next steps include using the microarray technology to screen for new targets for autoimmune diseases and to stratify patients for clinical trials. GlaxoSmithKline plc markets the anti-BLyS antibody Benlysta belimumab to treat lupus. At least five other companies have BLyS inhibitors or antibodies in Phase III or earlier testing. | Unpatented; unavailable for licensing | Price, J.V. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online Nov. 25, 2013; doi:10.1172/JCI70231 Contact: Paul J. Utz, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: pjutz@stanford.edu Contact: Jordan V. Price, same affiliation as above e-mail: jvp2099@gmail.com |

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