

This week in techniques

| Approach | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|--|---|--|--|
| Drug platforms | | | |
| Hexamer-forming mAbs that activate the complement system | <p>mAbs engineered with mutations that promote hexamer formation could help treat infections and cancer by activating the complement system. The complement system is a part of the innate immune system that helps to eliminate pathogens and tumor cells. In cell culture, multiple IgGs engineered with an E345R mutation had greater complement-dependent cytotoxicity than unmodified variants. <i>In vitro</i>, IgGs with the E345R mutation were better than control IgGs at forming hexameric structures that activated complement component 1 q subcomponent (C1q) after binding to their target antigen. Next steps include selecting complement activation-enhancing mutations and specific mAb variants to use in Genmab A/S' HexaBody platform for generating therapeutic antibodies.</p> <p>Genmab uses its HexaBody platform to design mAbs that have an improved ability to eliminate pathogens and tumor cells while retaining their regular structure and specificity.</p> <p>SciBX 7(13); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.385 Published online April 3, 2014</p> | Patent application filed; available for licensing and partnering | <p>Diebold, C.A. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online March 14, 2014; doi:10.1126/science.1248943 Contact: Paul W.H.I. Parren, Genmab A/S, Utrecht, the Netherlands e-mail: p.parren@genmab.com Contact: Piet Gros, Utrecht University, Utrecht, the Netherlands e-mail: p.gros@uu.nl</p> |