

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Human neutralizing mAbs against Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV)	Human neutralizing mAbs against MERS-CoV could aid the development of new therapeutics to treat or prevent infection. A screen of a single-chain variable domain fragment (scFv) phage library yielded seven unique fragments that bind to the MERS-CoV spike protein. In a nonhuman primate cell line, the most potent human mAbs generated from the identified scFvs neutralized the MERS-CoV with IC ₅₀ values ranging from 1.25 to 2 µg/mL. Next steps could include optimizing the lead neutralizing mAb and evaluating it in models of MERS-CoV infection.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Tang, X.-C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online April 28, 2014; doi:10.1073/pnas.1402074111 Contact: Wayne A. Marasco, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: wayne_marasco@dfci.harvard.edu
	<i>SciBX</i> 7(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.629 Published online May 29, 2014		