This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Monitoring early response to vaccination to predict vaccine immunogenicity	Genetic analysis studies showed that distinct gene expression signatures generated early after vaccination could be useful for predicting vaccine immunogenicity and developing vaccines. Using data from two separate clinical trials of YF-17D, a yellow fever vaccine, computational analysis of gene expression profiles of peripheral blood mononuclear cells identified gene signatures predictive of vaccine immunogenicity. The magnitude of vaccine-specific T cell response correlated with the expression of a 839-gene signature, of which 48 were sufficient to predict low or high T cell response with 80% accuracy. A second gene signature, which included <i>tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily, member 17</i> (<i>TNFRSF17</i> ; <i>BCMA</i> ; <i>CD269</i>), predicted neutralizing antibody responses with up to 100% accuracy. Next steps could include monitoring responses to other vaccines.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Querec, T. <i>et al. Nat. Immunol.</i> ; published online Nov. 23, 2008; doi:10.1038/ni.1688 Contact: Bali Pulendran, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga. e-mail: bpulend@emory.edu
	SciBX 1(44); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1087 Published online Dec. 11, 2008		