This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
LIM domains containing 1 (LIMD1) as a biomarker of lung cancer	<p>Studies in mice and in human lung tissue samples suggest that LIMD1 may be a useful diagnostic and prognostic biomarker of lung cancer. In human lung tissue samples, LIMD1 expression in the majority of tumors was downregulated compared with that seen in normal tissue. In <i>Limd1</i>^{-/-} mice, carcinogen injection resulted in more tumors and higher tumor volumes in the lung compared with what was seen in wild-type controls. <i>Limd1</i>^{-/-} mice expressing the oncogene K-ras had greater mortality than wild-type mice expressing K-ras. Next steps include validating LIMD1 as a biomarker in a cohort of early-stage lung cancer patients and studying the mechanism by which LIMD1 functions as a tumor suppressor.</p> <p>SciBX 1(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1120 Published online Dec. 18, 2008</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Sharp, T.V. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 1, 2008; doi:10.1073/pnas.0805003105</p> <p>Contact: Gregory D. Longmore, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. e-mail: glongmor@dom.wustl.edu</p>