This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Sixteen-gene signature for prognosis of pediatric liver cancers	<p>Gene expression profiling of human liver tumor samples identified a 16-gene signature that could be useful for predicting outcome in pediatric liver cancer. The signature discriminated between two different tumor subclasses that reflected differences in developmental stage, proliferation rate and favorability of disease outcome. Ongoing studies are confirming that the 16-gene signature can also predict tumor aggressiveness and patient survival in adult hepatocellular carcinoma.</p> <p>AVI Biopharma Inc. has Resten-NG and Oncomyc-NG, which inhibit c-Myc RNA, in Phase II for cancer and Phase I/II testing for solid tumors, respectively.</p> <p>SciBX 1(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1121 Published online Dec. 18, 2008</p>	<p>European patent application filed covering the molecular signature of liver tumor grade for prognosis and therapeutic use; discussions for collaboration with an undisclosed diagnostics company underway; available for licensing discussions</p>	<p>Cairo, S. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i>; published online Dec. 8, 2008; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2008.11.002 Contact: Marie-Annick Buendia, Pasteur Institute, Paris, France e-mail: mbuendia@pasteur.fr</p>