This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
ELISA-based polo-like kinase 1 (PLK1; STPK13) assay	<p>An ELISA-based PLK1 assay may be useful as a cancer diagnostic and for monitoring tumor response to therapy. PLK1 levels correlated with the aggressiveness of tumor progression. The ELISA-based assay measured PLK1 levels in less time, used smaller samples and had higher accuracy and sensitivity than marketed PLK1 assays. Next steps include using the assay to measure PLK1 levels in human tumor samples and validating PLK1's role as a biomarker in large patient cohorts.</p> <p>SciBX 2(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.158 Published online Jan. 29, 2009</p>	<p>Patent application filed covering ELISA-based PLK1 assay; available for licensing from the NIH Office of Technology Transfer</p> <p>Contact: Jennifer Wong, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. phone: 301-435-4633 e-mail: wongje@mail.nih.gov</p>	<p>Park, J.-E. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Jan. 26, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0812135106</p> <p>Contact: Kyung S. Lee, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: kyunglee@mail.nih.gov</p>