This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Mouse model of glioblastoma multiforme (GBM)	<p>A new mouse model of GBM could be useful for identifying compounds to treat the disease. The model was developed by removing two key tumor suppressors in epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR)-expressing mice, resulting in GBM-like brain tumors. Mice expressing EGFR variant III (EGFRvIII), which is found in aggressive GBM in humans, had tumors with more human-like pathology than tumors caused by wild-type EGFR expression. Next steps include using RNAi to identify the genes necessary for GBM development in the mouse model and characterizing the post-translational modifications associated with various forms of GBM.</p> <p>Exosome Diagnostics Inc. is developing serum-based GBM detection and profiling methods.</p> <p>SciBX 2(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.247 Published online Feb. 12, 2009</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Zhu, H. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Feb. 22, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0813314106</p> <p>Contact: Al Charest, Tufts Medical Center, North Grafton, Mass. e-mail: alain.charest@tufts.edu</p> <p>Contact: David E. Housman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: dhousman@mit.edu</p>