This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Mutations in Wilms tumor 1 (WT1) as a biomarker for patient outcome in pediatric acute myelogenous leukemia (AML)	<p>A study in patients suggests that mutations in WT1 may be a prognostic marker for poor patient outcome in pediatric AML. In a cohort of 298 pediatric patients, the five-year overall survival rate was 35% in patients with WT1 mutations compared with 66% for those without mutations ($p=0.002$). Patients with WT1 mutations also had 22% probability of event-free survival and 70% cumulative incidence rate compared with 46% and 44%, respectively, for patients with normal WT1 ($p<0.001$ for both). Next steps include identifying types of WT1 mutations associated with a poor AML prognosis and validating mutations in WT1 as AML biomarkers in additional patient cohorts.</p> <p>SciBX 2(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.255 Published online Feb. 12, 2009</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Hollink, I.H.I.M. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Jan. 26, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-09-177949</p> <p>Contact: C. Michel Zwaan, Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam, the Netherlands</p> <p>e-mail: c.m.zwaan@erasmusmc.nl</p>