This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Palmitoyl-proteomic analysis for neurological disease characterization	<p>Proteomic analysis of neural proteins that are post-translationally modified by the fatty acid palmitate suggests that palmitoylated proteins could have diagnostic value for schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease (AD) and other neurological disorders. Proteomic analysis of rat brains identified 68 palmitoylated proteins. In mice, comparative proteomic analysis revealed broad changes in palmitoylation before and after treatment with the neuroexcitatory compound kainic acid. Next steps include developing the approach into a quantitative method for detecting palmitoylated proteins.</p> <p>SciBX 2(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.30 Published online Jan. 8, 2009</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Kang, R. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Dec. 17, 2008; doi:10.1038/nature07605</p> <p>Contact: Nicholas G. Davis, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, Mich. e-mail: ndavis@med.wayne.edu</p> <p>Contact: Rujun Kang, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada e-mail: rkang@interchange.ubc.ca</p>