This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
3D microfluidic paper analytical devices (3D μ PAD) for analysis of patient samples	3D μ PADs may be useful for low-cost simultaneous measurement of multiple analytes in patient samples. The μ PADs are manufactured using alternating layers of photopatterned paper and water-impermeable double-sided tape. In a proof-of-concept experiment, urine samples could be evenly distributed into multiple detection zones on the μ PADs, thus allowing for simultaneous colorimetric analysis of glucose and protein. Next steps include testing and validating the utility of the μ PADs for high-volume analysis of patient samples. <i>SciBX</i> 2(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.72 Published online Jan. 15, 2009	Patent application filed covering 3D μ PAD; licensing status undisclosed	Whitesides, G.M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Dec. 8, 2008; doi:10.1073/pnas.0810903105 Contact: George Whitesides, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: gwhitesides@gmwgroup.harvard.edu