This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
<i>In vivo</i> , NMR-based screening of protein-protein interaction modulators	A method to screen a small molecule library with in-cell NMR spectroscopy (SMILI-NMR) could help identify compounds that disrupt or increase protein-protein or other molecular interactions <i>in vivo</i> . A screen of a small dipeptide library against a complex of FK506 binding protein (FKBP1A; macrophilin-12) and mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR; FRAP; RAFT1) yielded a compound with biological activity comparable to rapamycin, a marketed mTOR inhibitor. Next steps include applying the method to an intractable therapeutic target. <i>SciBX</i> 2(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.847 Published online May 21, 2009	Unpatented; unlicensed	Xie, J. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online May 7, 2009; doi:10.1021/jm9000743 Contact: Alexander Shekhtman, University at Albany, Albany, N.Y. e-mail: ashekhta@albany.edu