This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Transcription factor 4 (TCF4) as a marker for Fuchs' corneal dystrophy	A genome study suggests that mutations in TCF4 are associated with Fuchs' corneal dystrophy. In a genomewide association study of Fuchs' corneal dystrophy patients and healthy controls, specific alleles of TCF4 were associated with disease ($p=2.3\times 10^{-26}$). A risk model based on 4 SNPs across the TCF4 locus distinguished between patients and healthy controls with 76% accuracy. Next steps include determining how mutations in TCF4 contribute to disease.	Patent filed for genetic testing; available for licensing through the Mayo Clinic	Baratz, K.H. <i>et al.</i> <i>N. Engl. J. Med.</i> ; published online Sept. 9, 2010; doi:10.1056/NEJMoa1007064 Contact: Albert O. Edwards, University of Oregon, Eugene, Ore. e-mail: edwardsa@uoregon.edu
	SciBX 3(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1166 Published online Sept. 30, 2010		