This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Chemical genetic screen for identifying compounds targeting proteins of unknown function	<p>An antiviral screen could help identify therapeutic compounds that treat infectious diseases. A screen of over one million compounds identified BMS-790052 as an HCV non-structural protein 5A (NS5A)-specific inhibitor. A single 100 mg dose of the compound reduced viral loads by over three orders of magnitude in chronically infected HCV individuals compared with no treatment. Next steps include ongoing Phase II studies of BMS-790052 in combination with pegylated interferon and ribavirin.</p> <p>SciBX 3(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.536 Published online April 29, 2010</p>	Patent applications filed for BMS-790052 and pending with claims for the treatment of HCV; unavailable for licensing	<p>Gao, M. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online April 21, 2010; doi:10.1038/nature08960</p> <p>Contact: Nicholas Meanwell, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., New York, N.Y. e-mail: Nicholas.Meanwell@bms.com</p>