This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Target identification using drug affinity responsive target stability (DARTS)	DARTS analysis could help characterize interactions between small molecules and proteins and guide the development of therapies for multiple diseases. In a proof-of-concept study, DARTS analysis showed that Rapamune and Prograf bound FK506 binding protein 1A (FKBP1A). DARTS analysis of resveratrol suggests that the compound binds to the eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4A (eIF4A) protein and/or ribosomal proteins. Next steps could include developing methods to improve the sensitivity of DARTS analysis. Rapamune rapamycin, a mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR; FRAP; RAFT1) inhibitor from Pfizer Inc., is approved to prevent organ rejection in renal transplantation. Prograf tacrolimus, a small molecule immunosuppressant from Astellas Pharma Inc., is marketed to prevent organ transplant rejection and treat autoimmune diseases. SciBX 3(2); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.71 Published online Jan. 14, 2010	Patent application filed; available for licensing from the University of California, Los Angeles Office of Intellectual Property and Industry Sponsored Research Contact: Claire Wake, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: cwake@research.ucla.edu	Lomenick, B. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Dec. 7, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0910040106 Contact: Jing Huang, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: jinghuang@mednet.ucla.edu