This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Chemical proteomic assay for profiling the specificity of histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors	<p>A chemical proteomic assay for profiling the specificity of HDAC inhibitors may help identify more selective inhibitors to treat cancer and other diseases. In cell lysates, addition of an HDAC inhibitor led to selective loss of target HDACs from beads compared with addition of a vehicle control. The method showed that an aminobenzamide-based analog of vorinostat bound more selectively to HDAC3 over HDAC1 and HDAC2 in leukemia cell lysates compared with the marketed vorinostat. Next steps include using the proteomic method to screen for more selective HDAC inhibitors implicated in inflammation and cancer.</p> <p>Merck & Co. Inc.'s HDAC inhibitor vorinostat (suberoylanilide hydroxamic acid) is marketed for cutaneous T cell lymphoma (CTCL) and is in clinical testing for additional cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 4(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.115 Published online Jan. 27, 2011</p>	Patent application filed; available for partnering	<p>Bantscheff, M. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online Jan. 23, 2011; doi:10.1038/nbt.1759</p> <p>Contact: Gerard Drewes, Cellzome AG, Heidelberg, Germany e-mail: gerard.drewes@cellzome.com</p> <p>Contact: Marcus Bantscheff, same affiliation as above e-mail: marcus.bantscheff@cellzome.com</p>