This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Detection method for blood-based variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD)	<p>A solid-state binding matrix could be useful for detecting vCJD. A solid-state immunoassay distinguished between vCJD-infected brain homogenates and control brain homogenates with a sensitivity of more than four orders of magnitude higher than that of previous vCJD immunoassays. Next steps could include studying the test in a larger vCJD patient population.</p> <p>SciBX 4(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.233 Published online Feb. 24, 2011</p>	Patent application filed by Medical Research Council and University College London; licensing status unavailable	<p>Edgeworth, J.A. <i>et al. Lancet</i>; published online Feb. 10, 2011; doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(10)62308-2</p> <p>Contact: John Collinge, University College London Institute of Neurology, London, U.K. e-mail: j.collinge@prion.ucl.ac.uk</p> <p>Contact: Graham S. Jackson, same affiliation as above e-mail: g.s.jackson@prion.ucl.ac.uk</p>