This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
NK cell marker of drug-resistant gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GISTs)	<p>A study in patients suggests an NK cell receptor variant could predict poor response to GIST therapies. In a panel of 80 GIST patients, an immunosuppressive <i>c</i> variant of NK p30 receptor (NKp30; NCR3; CD337), as compared with other variants, correlated with poor survival after treatment with the broad-spectrum kinase inhibitor Gleevec imatinib. Next steps include testing whether a combination of Gleevec and immunostimulatory agents could improve outcomes in cultured GIST cells.</p> <p>Novartis AG markets Gleevec to treat GISTs and a range of hematological malignancies.</p> <p>SciBX 4(21); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.615 Published online May 26, 2011</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Delahaye, N.F. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online May 8, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2366</p> <p>Contact: Guido Kroemer, Gustave Roussy Institute, Villejuif, France e-mail: kroemer@orange.fr</p> <p>Contact: Laurence Zitvogel, same affiliation as above e-mail: zitvogel@igr.fr</p>