This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Markers of squamous cell lung cancer	<p>Genomic studies have identified recurrent mutations in squamous cell lung cancer samples that could be useful markers or therapeutic targets. Genetic analysis of 178 lung squamous cell carcinoma samples identified recurrent mutations in 11 genes, including previously unreported loss-of-function mutations in <i>major histocompatibility complex class I A (HLA-A)</i>. The analysis showed that 96% of the tumors had mutations in potentially druggable targets such as tyrosine kinases, serine/threonine kinases and <i>phosphoinositide 3-kinase (PI3K)</i> subunits. Next steps could include using the data to define specific markers or gene signatures that could help identify squamous cell lung cancers that respond to existing targeted therapies.</p> <p>SciBX 5(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1018 Published online Sept. 27, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network. <i>Nature</i>; published online Sept. 9, 2012; doi:10.1038/nature11404 Contact: Matthew Meyerson, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: matthew_meyerson@dfci.harvard.edu</p>