This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
⁸⁹ Zr-transferrin agent for <i>in vivo</i> PET imaging of transferrin receptor protein 1 (TFRC; TFR; CD71)-expressing cancers	<p>A ⁸⁹Zr-transferrin PET imaging agent could help detect prostate and other cancers. The TFRC-binding agent consisted of ⁸⁹Zr-labeled desferrioxamine (DFO) conjugated to human transferrin. In mice with TFRC-expressing xenografts or spontaneous prostate tumors, PET imaging of tumors with the ⁸⁹Zr-transferrin agent provided higher signal-to-noise ratios than ¹⁸F-labeled fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG)-PET. In the spontaneous tumor model, PET imaging with ⁸⁹Zr-transferrin detected high-grade prostate intraepithelial neoplasia (PIN), whereas ¹⁸F-FDG PET did not. Ongoing work includes IND-enabling studies of the agent to image undisclosed cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 5(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1044 Published online Oct. 4, 2012</p>	Unpatented; unlicensed	<p>Holland, J.P. <i>et al. Nat Med.</i>; published online Sept. 23, 2012; doi:10.1038/nm.2935 Contact: Jason S. Lewis, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: lewisj2@mskcc.org Contact: Charles L. Sawyers, same affiliation as above e-mail: sawyersc@mskcc.org</p>