This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
<i>Fibroblast growth factor receptor 1 (FGFR1; CD331), FGFR2 and fibroblast growth factor 19 (FGF19) amplification may help predict sensitivity to FGFR inhibitors in cancer</i>	<p><i>FGFR1</i>, <i>FGFR2</i> and <i>FGF19</i> amplification may help predict sensitivity to FGFR inhibitors. In breast, lung and osteosarcoma cell lines and primary human osteosarcoma samples, <i>FGFR1</i> amplification was associated with sensitivity to the pan-FGFR inhibitor NVP-BGJ398. In breast, gastric and esophageal cancer cells and in gastric cancer xenografts in rats, <i>FGFR2</i> amplification was associated with sensitivity to the compound. In liver cancer cell lines, <i>FGF19</i> amplification was associated with NVP-BGJ398 sensitivity when <i>klotho-β</i> (<i>KLB</i>) was expressed. Ongoing work includes clinical trials with NVP-BGJ398 to treat patients with cancer bearing genetic alterations in FGFRs. NVP-BGJ398 is currently in Phase I trials to treat cancer.</p> <p>At least seven different companies have FGFR inhibitors in development, ranging from preclinical to Phase III trials, to treat various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 5(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1067 Published online Oct. 11, 2012</p>	Patent application filed for compound; unlicensed	<p>Guagnano, V. <i>et al. Cancer Discov.</i>; published online Sept. 20, 2012; doi:10.1158/2159-8290.CD-12-0210</p> <p>Contact: Diana Graus Porta, Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Basel, Switzerland e-mail: diana.graus_porta@novartis.com</p>