This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Bcl2 homology domain 3 (BH3)-derived peptides to predict patient outcome in acute myelogenous leukemia (AML)	<p>A BH3 peptide-based assay could be used to predict outcomes for patients with AML in response to chemotherapy. The assay isolates and exposes tumor cells to proapoptotic BH3 peptides. Change in mitochondrial membrane polarization is measured as a readout of apoptosis. In blinded studies with samples from patients with AML, cellular response to BH3 peptide priming correlated with sustained response to chemotherapy and cure rate. Next steps include testing whether the technique can be used as a biomarker in AML using funding from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Translational Research Program.</p> <p>SciBX 5(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1196 Published online Nov. 15, 2012</p>	Patented by the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Vo, T.-T. <i>et al. Cell</i>; published online Oct. 12, 2012; doi:10.1016/j.cell.2012.08.038 Contact: Anthony Letai, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: anthony_letai@dfci.harvard.edu</p>