This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
High throughput sequencing platform for small molecule cancer drug discovery	<p>A high throughput sequencing platform could help discover small molecule cancer therapeutics. The platform quantifies gene expression using an RNA annealing, selection, ligation and sequencing strategy that was designed to profile mRNA isoforms. As proof of concept, the method was used to identify a series of small molecules that blocked androgen-induced gene expression in a human prostate cancer cell line. One of the top hits, the cardiac glycoside peruvoside, inhibited growth with an IC_{50} value of 50 nM. Next steps include working with industry partners to test the platform.</p> <p>SciBX 5(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.290 Published online March 15, 2012</p>	Patented; licensed to 255xpress Inc.	<p>Li, H. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 6, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1200305109 Contact: Xiang-Dong Fu, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: xdfu@ucsd.edu Contact: Sheng Ding, Gladstone Institute of Cardiovascular Disease, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: sheng.ding@gladstone.ucsf.edu Contact: Michael G. Rosenfeld, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: mrosenfeld@ucsd.edu</p>