This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Crystal structure of dihydropteroate synthase bound to sulfonamide antibiotics	<p>The crystal structure of dihydropteroate synthase bound to sulfonamide antibiotics could aid the discovery of new antibiotics that overcome known resistance mutations. The cocrystal structure suggests that the thiazole and methoxazole rings of sulfonamide antibiotics are positioned where known resistance mutations at Phe33 and Pro69 could impede drug binding. Next steps include using the crystal structure to discover and rationally design small molecules that bind to other sites on the target.</p> <p>SciBX 5(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.295 Published online March 15, 2012</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Yun, M.-K. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online March 2, 2012; doi:10.1126/science.1214641 Contact: Stephen W. White, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. e-mail: stephen.white@stjude.org</p>