This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Reversible cysteine-modifying kinase inhibitors	<p><i>In vitro</i> studies suggest reversible cysteine-modifying kinase inhibitors could have better specificity and safety than irreversible kinase inhibitors. Pyrrolopyrimidine compounds modified with thiol-reactive olefin groups formed reversible cross-links to a cysteine residue near the active site of a model kinase and led to lower kinase activity than an irreversible cross-linked inhibitor. In cell culture, cysteine-modifying compounds caused longer-lasting inhibition than the irreversible cross-linked compound. Next steps include testing the reversible cysteine-modifying inhibitors against undisclosed disease targets in <i>in vivo</i> cancer and metabolic disease models. Principia Biopharma Inc. has preclinical programs in undisclosed indications based on the technology.</p> <p>SciBX 5(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.403 Published online April 12, 2012</p>	Patent pending; licensed to Principia BioPharma	<p>Serafimova, I.M. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i>; published online April 1, 2012; doi:10.1038/nchembio.925 Contact: Jack Taunton, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: taunton@cmp.ucsf.edu</p>