This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug platforms			
Genetic sequencing using nanochannel arrays	<p>Sequencing studies suggest nanochannel arrays could be used for <i>de novo</i> genome sequencing. Sequencing using the nanochannel arrays involves electric field-driven movement of long, uncoiled, fluorescently labeled DNA molecules into a microfluidic chip in which they are held in individual nanochannels and automatically imaged to generate genome sequence maps. The approach generated sequence motif maps of 95 bacterial artificial chromosome clones covering the structurally diverse major histocompatibility complex and identified structural variants, haplotype differences and errors in assembly in the available reference sequences. Next steps could include using the technique to sequence structurally diverse diploid genomic regions.</p> <p>SciBX 5(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.800 Published online Aug. 2, 2012</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Lam, E.T. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online July 15, 2012; doi:10.1038/nbt.2303 Contact: Pui-Yan Kwok, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: pui.kwok@ucsf.edu Contact: Ming Xiao, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: ming.xiao@drexel.edu</p>