This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Gene expression signature to predict outcome in patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF)	<p>Studies in patient samples identified a gene expression signature that could help predict outcomes in patients with IPF. In peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) from 45 patients with IPF, microarray analysis identified 7 genes whose high expression was associated with shorter transplant-free survival and 45 genes whose low expression was associated with shorter transplant-free survival. In a replication cohort of 75 patients, cluster analysis based on the 52-gene signature showed that a high-risk group had median transplant-free survival of 1.62 years, whereas a low-risk group had a median of 3.44 years. In the patient cohorts, quantitative RT-PCR analysis of 4 genes from the 52-gene panel was sufficient to predict poor outcomes as measured by decreased transplant-free survival. Next steps include validating the gene signature in a larger patient cohort.</p> <p>SciBX 6(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1209 Published online Oct. 31, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; licensing details available from The University of Chicago and the University of Pittsburgh	<p>Herazo-Maya, J.D. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Oct. 2, 2013; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3005964</p> <p>Contact: Naftali Kaminski, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: naftali.kaminski@yale.edu</p>