This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
<i>N</i> -Acetyltyramine- <i>O</i> , β -glucuronide (NATOG) as a biomarker for <i>Onchocerca volvulus</i> infection	Studies in human samples suggest NATOG could be a biomarker of onchocerciasis infection. In urine samples from African patients infected with the <i>O. volvulus</i> parasite that causes river blindness, liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LCMS)-based analysis of the urine metabolome showed that levels of NATOG, a neurotransmitter-derived metabolite from <i>O. volvulus</i> , were six times higher than levels in samples from healthy controls. Next steps include designing antibodies against the biomarker.	Unpatented; available for licensing	Globisch, D. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online Feb. 25, 2013; doi:10.1073/pnas.1221969110 Contact: Kim D. Janda, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: kdjanda@scripps.edu
	SciBX 6(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.228 Published online March 7, 2013		