This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Assay for profiling kinase inhibitor–target interaction in cells	<p><i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies suggest an assay for monitoring kinase inhibitor–sensitive chaperone-kinase interactions could help identify targets of kinase inhibitors in cells. <i>In vitro</i>, luciferase-tagged heat shock protein 90 (Hsp90) directly bound to BCR-ABL tyrosine kinase, producing a luminescent signal in the assay. In this assay, the nonselective BCR-ABL inhibitor Gleevec imatinib decreased both Hsp90 binding to BCR-ABL and luminescent signal compared with no treatment. The assay showed that a panel of inhibitors selectively blocked kinase-chaperone interactions in a manner consistent with known specificities and identified neurotrophic tyrosine kinase receptor 3 (NTRK3; TrkC) as an additional target of Xalkori crizotinib. Next steps include testing Xalkori in models for tumors caused by NTRK3 mutations, including fibrosarcomas.</p> <p>Novartis AG markets Gleevec to treat chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) and gastrointestinal stromal tumors.</p> <p>Pfizer Inc. markets Xalkori, a dual inhibitor of c-Met receptor tyrosine kinase and anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK), to treat non–small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).</p> <p>SciBX 6(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.803 Published online Aug. 8, 2013</p>	Patent pending; available for licensing	<p>Taipale, M. <i>et al. Nat. Biotechnol.</i>; published online June 30, 2013; doi:10.1038/nbt.2620</p> <p>Contact: Susan Lindquist, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: lindquist_admin@wi.mit.edu</p>