This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
<i>Excision repair cross-complementation group 2 (ERCC2) mutations as a predictive marker of cisplatin sensitivity in urothelial carcinomas</i>	Studies in patient samples and cell culture suggest loss-of-function mutations in <i>ERCC2</i> could help predict urothelial carcinoma sensitivity to cisplatin. Exome sequencing of DNA from patient tumor samples identified nonsynonymous <i>ERCC2</i> mutations associated with cisplatin sensitivity. In a patient-derived, <i>ERCC2</i> -deficient cell line, overexpression of <i>ERCC2</i> decreased cisplatin sensitivity compared with overexpression of mutant <i>ERCC2</i> or <i>GFP</i> . Next steps include profiling additional patients who have urothelial carcinoma or other cancers that have shown an exceptional response to cisplatin to determine whether <i>ERCC2</i> mutations could drive such responses.	Patent pending; licensing details available from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center	Van Allen, E.M. <i>et al. Cancer Discov</i> ; published online Aug. 5, 2014; doi:10.1158/2159-8290.CD-14-0623 Contact: Levi A. Garraway, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: levi_garraway@dfci.harvard.edu
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