This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Seven-antibody composite biomarker panel to predict recurrent focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (rFSGS) after kidney transplantation	<p>Studies in human samples suggest a signature of seven pathogenic antibodies could help predict rFSGS after kidney transplantation, which can lead to graft rejection. In patient serum samples taken before kidney transplantation, an ELISA for a panel of seven antibodies predicted rFSGS with 92% accuracy, with anti-CD40 antibodies having the strongest predictive power. In mice, CD40-blocking antibodies prevented proteinuria and rFSGS-associated symptoms induced by injection of an autoantibody isolated from patients. Next steps include validating the biomarker panel in a prospective clinical trial in kidney transplant recipients.</p> <p>SciBX 7(41); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1221 Published online Oct. 23, 2014</p>	Patent application filed covering use of the antibody panel and new targets for drug design and therapy for rFSGS; available for licensing	<p>Delville, M. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Oct. 1, 2014; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3008538 Contact: Minnie M. Sarwal, University of California, San Francisco, Calif. e-mail: minnie.sarwal@ucsf.edu Contact: Jochen Reiser, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: jochen_reiser@rush.edu</p>