This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Cellular thermal shift assay (CETSA) to identify drug targets	<p>A CETSA that detects ligand binding could help check for off-target binding and identify biomarkers during drug development. In chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) cells or cell extracts, CETSA detected a shift in the thermal melting curve of the known photosensitivity-associated enzyme ferrochelatase (FECH) when drugs that cause photosensitivity were present. In CML cells with a BCR-ABL fusion protein, the assay detected shifts in thermal melting curves of proteins that interact with or act downstream of the fusion protein during treatment with the BCR-ABL tyrosine kinase inhibitor Sprycel dasatinib. Next steps could include improving the protocol to decrease cost and complexity.</p> <p>Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. market Sprycel dasatinib to treat CML and acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL).</p> <p>SciBX 7(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1248 Published online Oct. 30, 2014</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Savitski, M.M. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Oct. 3, 2014; doi:10.1126/science.1255784 Contact: Gerard Drewes, GlaxoSmithKline plc, Heidelberg, Germany e-mail: gerard.c.drewes@gsk.com Contact: Marcus Bantscheff, same affiliation as above e-mail: marcus.x.bantscheff@gsk.com Contact: Mikhail M. Savitski, same affiliation as above e-mail: mikhail.m.savitski@gsk.com</p>