This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
<i>In vivo</i> shRNA screen to identify immunosuppressive tumor targets	<p><i>In vivo</i> shRNA screens could be used to identify immunosuppressive tumor targets to enhance T cell immunotherapy. In melanoma-bearing mice injected with T cells expressing an shRNA library, deep sequencing determined that shRNA targeting <i>protein phosphatase 2 regulatory subunit Bδ</i> (<i>Ppp2r2d</i>) increased T cell accumulation in tumors compared with in spleens. In the mice, T cells expressing <i>Ppp2r2d</i>-targeting shRNA showed greater tumor infiltration, proliferation and survival, and also greater mouse survival, than T cells expressing a control shRNA. Next steps could include testing T cells that express a chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) plus <i>PPP2R2D</i>-targeting shRNA in animal models of cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 7(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.180 Published online Feb. 13, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Zhou, P. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Jan. 29, 2014; doi:10.1038/nature12988 Contact: Kai W. Wucherpfennig, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Mass. e-mail: kai_wucherpfennig@dfci.harvard.edu</p>