This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assay & screens			
Tissue-specific T cell receptor (TCR) sequencing to evaluate immune response to therapeutic HPV vaccines	<p>Tissue-specific TCR sequencing could be used to evaluate immune responses to therapeutic HPV vaccines. In cervical samples, patients with HPV receiving a therapeutic HPV16 vaccine had about a threefold increase of CD8⁺ T cell infiltration into lesions compared with unvaccinated individuals. The vaccinated patients had activated effector memory T cells and tertiary lymphoid structures, which correlated with favorable prognosis. High throughput sequencing showed that TCRs in cervical tissue were not very prevalent in peripheral blood, suggesting monitoring lesion-specific T cell responses might give a better indication of vaccine immunogenicity. Next steps could include using the method to monitor vaccinated patients with HPV in order to determine if therapeutic resection is needed.</p> <p>SciBX 7(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.234 Published online Feb. 27, 2014</p>	Patent application pending; available for licensing	<p>Maldonado, L. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Jan. 29, 2014; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3007323 Contact: Cornelia L. Trimble, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Md. e-mail: ctrimbl@jhmi.edu</p>