This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
MicroRNA-155 (miR-155) as a predictive marker of breast cancer response to radiation therapy	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest miR-155 levels could help predict breast cancer response to radiation therapy. In two independent cohorts of patients with triple-negative breast cancer that received chemotherapy and radiation therapy, elevated miR-155 expression was associated with increased overall survival. In a human triple-negative breast cancer cell line, expression of miR-155 decreased levels of RAD51 homolog (RAD51), a factor involved in DNA repair, and increased sensitivity to ionizing radiation compared with expression of a scrambled oligonucleotide. Next steps include validating the results in larger cohorts.	Findings unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Gasparini, P. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> ; published online March 10, 2014; doi:10.1073/pnas.1402604111 Contact: Carlo M. Croce, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio e-mail: carlo.croce@osumc.edu
	SciBX 7(15); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.445 Published online April 17, 2014		