This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
Spectral confocal reflectance microscopy for label-free myelin imaging	<p>Studies in mice and human samples suggest spectral confocal reflectance microscopy could be a label-free method to image myelinated axons. In normal mice, repeated use of spectral confocal reflectance microscopy with multiple wavelengths was able to image myelinated axons at depths of up to 400 μM and track changes in myelination during development. In mice with myelin mutations or treated with a demyelinating agent, the imaging method captured decreases in myelination that matched those captured using fluorescent label-based imaging. In postmortem human brains, the imaging method captured myelinated axons in a manner comparable to fluorescence microscopy. Next steps could include validating the imaging technique in additional models.</p> <p>SciBX 7(17); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.507 Published online May 1, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Schain, A.J. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online March 30, 2014; doi:10.1038/nm.3495 Contact: Jaime Grutzendler, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Conn. e-mail: jaime.grutzendler@yale.edu</p>