This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
Ultra-small rigid platform (USRP) contrast agents for MRI detection of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)	<p>Mouse studies suggest orotracheal delivery of USRP contrast agents for MRI could help noninvasively diagnose NSCLC. In an orthotopic mouse model of bioluminescent NSCLC, USRP contrast agents delivered via orotracheal or i.v. routes accumulated in tumors and colocalized with the bioluminescent signal. In the mice, orotracheal delivery of the USRP contrast agent resulted in a higher MRI signal-to-noise ratio and contrast-to-noise ratio than i.v. delivery of a marketed contrast agent. Next steps could include evaluating the contrast agents in additional animal tumor models.</p> <p>SciBX 7(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.813 Published online July 17, 2014</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Bianchi, A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online June 9, 2014; doi:10.1073/pnas.1402196111</p> <p>Contact: Yannick Crémillieux, University of Bordeaux Segalen, Bordeaux, France e-mail: yannick.cremillieux@ubordeaux2.fr</p>