This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Cartilage oligomeric matrix protein (COMP) epitopes as markers of pathological joint degeneration	Newly identified COMP epitopes could be useful as markers for monitoring pathological cartilage degeneration in various joint diseases. Analysis of human synovial fluid samples identified two new COMP epitopes that were associated with acute joint trauma, six that were associated with osteoarthritis and five that were associated with rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Next steps include developing immunoassays to investigate the identified COMP epitopes as biomarkers in various joint diseases. <i>SciBX</i> 7(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.847 Published online July 24, 2014	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Åhrman, E. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Biol. Chem.</i> ; published online June 10, 2014; doi:10.1074/jbc.M114.554683 Contact: Emma Åhrman, Lund University, Lund, Sweden e-mail: emma.ahrman@med.lu.se