

This week in techniques

| Approach | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|---|--|---|---|
| Assays & screens | | | |
| Combined genotype-metabolite profile analysis for disease diagnosis and prognosis | Genome-wide identification of associations between common genetic polymorphisms and metabolite profiles could potentially be used to predict disease risks or drug responses. In 363 cellular and body fluid metabolites from 284 genotyped patients, differences in four lipid metabolism-related genes, as determined by SNP analysis, were reflected in specific metabolite profile variations. Further studies are necessary to identify therapeutic applications for which genetically determined metabolite profiles could function as diagnostic or prognostic tools. | Patent application filed; available for licensing | Geiger, C. <i>et al.</i> <i>PLoS Genet.</i> ; published online Nov. 27, 2008; doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1000282 Contact: Karsten Suhre, Helmholtz Center Munich, Neuherberg, Germany e-mail: karsten.suhre@helmholtz-muenchen.de |
| | SciBX 1(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1116 Published online Dec. 18, 2008 | | |