

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Protein mass spectrometry using Lys-N metalloendopeptidase	A variant of protein mass spectrometry that uses Lys-N metalloendopeptidase for proteolysis rather than the standard enzyme trypsin could be useful for analyzing post-translational modifications associated with cancer and other diseases. In combination with cation exchange chromatography and electron transfer dissociation mass spectrometry, the technique identified nearly 1,900 peptides in human kidney cell lysate. Further research includes <i>de novo</i> sequencing and post-translational analysis of the proteome of avocado and ostrich.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Taouatas, N. <i>et al. Nat. Meth.</i> ; published online April 20, 2008; doi:10.1038/nmeth.1204 Contact: Albert J.R. Heck, Bijvoet Center for Biomolecular Research and Utrecht Institute for Pharmaceutical Sciences, Utrecht University, Utrecht, the Netherlands e-mail: a.j.r.heck@uu.nl Contact: Shabaz Mohammed, same affiliation as above e-mail: s.mohammed@uu.nl