

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Ultrasound-aided biomarker detection	<p>The use of ultrasound to trigger the release of biomarkers from cancer cells could help improve both the sensitivity of serum biomarker assays and the detection and localization of tumors. In a human colon cancer cell line, samples given an ultrasound had threefold to fourfold higher levels of the tumor marker carcinoembryonic antigen than samples that were not given an ultrasound ($p=0.036$). In tumor-bearing mice, ultrasound in the tumor region significantly increased levels of the same marker compared with those in a nontumor region ($p<0.031$). Next steps include applying the approach to other biomarkers and tumor types.</p> <p>SciBX 2(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1458 Published online Oct. 1, 2009</p>	<p>Patent pending covering method to spatially localize and amplify biomarker levels in blood or other biological fluids by applying external energy sources like ultrasound; available for licensing from the Stanford University Office of Technology Licensing Contact: Irit Gal, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. phone: 650-723-1586 e-mail: irit.gal@stanford.edu</p>	<p>D'Souza, A.L. <i>et al. Proc Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Sept. 21, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0903437106 Contact: Gary M. Glazer, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. e-mail: glazer@stanford.edu Contact: Sanjiv S. Gambhir, same affiliation as above e-mail: sgambhir@stanford.edu</p>