



This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Cell-capturing platform for detecting tumor cells circulating in blood	A cell-capturing platform could be useful for improving the detection of circulating tumor cells in patient blood samples. A silicon substrate was coated with an antibody that targets an undisclosed cancer cell-surface molecule. In whole blood containing human breast cancer cells, the technology had a 40% greater capture yield than standard technology. Next steps include evaluating the platform for capturing tumor cells in blood specimens collected from metastatic prostate cancer patients. **SciBX 2(43)*; doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1614* Published online Nov. 5, 2009	Patent application filed; licensed to an undisclosed party	Wang, S. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.; published online Oct. 21, 2009 doi:10.1002/anie.200901668 Contact: Hsian-Rong Tseng, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: hrtseng@mednet.ucla.edu Contact: Shutao Wang, same affiliation as above e-mail: shutaowang@mednet.ucla.edu