

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Phenotype-based screen for compounds that target signaling pathways	An RNAi- and small molecule-based phenotypic screen could help identify compounds that modulate signaling cascades and target biological pathways. In cell culture, RNAi was used to partially impair signaling through the Rho pathway, which is needed for proper cell division. The partially impaired cells were then used to identify nine small molecules that further increased the effects of the Rho-targeting RNAi. Next steps include using biochemical and cellular assays to identify the targets of the small molecules.	Patent application filed; licensing status undisclosed	Castoreno, A.B. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online May 2, 2010; doi:10.1038/nchembio.363 Contact: Ulrike S. Eggert, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: ulrike_eggert@dfci.harvard.edu
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