

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Biomarkers for renal transplant tolerance	<p>A study in renal transplant patients suggests that gene expression markers could help identify patients who can tolerate withdrawal of immunosuppressive therapy. Gene expression profiling of 24 subjects who had stopped taking immunosuppressants but had not lost their grafts identified 31 genes that were differentially expressed compared with those in subjects on immunosuppressants. The 24 who had ceased immunosuppression had higher expression of immature B cell-specific genes, including CD20 and IL-10, than controls. Next steps include a large-scale prospective study of transplant patients to identify candidates for a reduced regimen of immunosuppressants. Pangaea Biotech S.A. is developing a diagnostic to identify transplant patients who can tolerate withdrawal of immunosuppressants.</p> <p>SciBX 3(23); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.719 Published online June 10, 2010</p>	<p>Patent pending; Pangaea Biotech has exclusive option to license patent, which is co-owned by the University of California, Emory University and the University of Pennsylvania</p>	<p>Newell, K.A. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online May 24, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI39933 Contact: Kenneth A. Newell, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga. e-mail: kanewell@emory.edu Contact: Laurence A. Turka, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, Mass. e-mail: lturka@bidmc.harvard.edu Contact: Vicki L. Seyfert-Margolis, Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, Md. e-mail: vicki.seyfert-margolis@fda.hhs.gov</p>