

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Improving aptamer screening using nucleic acid libraries containing high degrees of secondary structures	A screening library of nucleic acid aptamers that contain a higher degree of secondary structure than do random sequence libraries could be useful for identifying aptamer therapeutics. In competitive binding assays against streptavidin and IgE, the library yielded more hits with low-nanomolar binding affinities than did a random sequence aptamer library. Ongoing work includes designing and screening more aptamer libraries that contain aptamers with a high degree of secondary structure. <i>SciBX</i> 3(26); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.800 Published online July 1, 2010	Patent application filed by Harvard University; available for licensing	Ruff, K.M. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> ; published online June 21, 2010; doi:10.1021/ja103023m Contact: David R. Liu, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. e-mail: drliu@fas.harvard.edu