

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Disabled homolog 2 (DAB2) as a biomarker for squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) progression	DAB2 could be a useful biomarker for selecting SCC therapy. In primary tumor samples from head and neck SCC patients, as compared with tissue samples from healthy controls, decreased DAB2 expression correlated with metastatic disease, poor response to cisplatin-based chemotherapy and lower overall survival ($p \leq 0.0002$). Mice injected with transforming growth factor- β (TGFB; TGF β)-stimulated squamous carcinoma cells with low DAB2 levels developed larger tumors than animals that received cells with high DAB2 levels. That result suggests that DAB2 expression may be a useful biomarker for anti-TGF β therapies. Ongoing work includes investigating the correlation of DAB2 expression with disease progression and response to anti-TGF β therapeutics in preclinical cancer models.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Hannigan, A. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online July 1, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI36125 Contact: Gareth J. Inman, Biomedical Research Institute, University of Dundee, Dundee, U.K. e-mail: g.j.inman@dundee.ac.uk
	SciBX 3(27); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.845 Published online July 15, 2010		