

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
BCL2-like 11 apoptosis facilitator (BCL2L11; BIM) expression as a predictor of cancer response to kinase inhibitor therapy	Cell culture and patient sample studies suggest BIM levels could help predict cancer response to kinase inhibitors. In a panel of <i>epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR)</i> mutant lung cancer cell lines, greater apoptosis in response to treatment with the EGFR inhibitor Iressa gefitinib was correlated with greater <i>BIM</i> expression. In patients with <i>EGFR</i> mutant lung cancer receiving Iressa, those with high <i>BIM</i> expression had increased progression free survival compared with those with low <i>BIM</i> expression. Next steps include studying additional patients with <i>EGFR</i> mutant cancers and expanding the analyses to other cancers. AstraZeneca plc markets Iressa for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Faber, A.C. <i>et al. Cancer Discov.</i> ; published online July 22, 2011; doi:10.1158/2159-8290.CD-11-0106 Contact: Jeffrey A. Engelman, Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, Boston, Mass. e-mail: jengelman@partners.org
	<i>SciBX</i> 4(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1003 Published online Sept. 8, 2011		