This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Plasma protein signatures for lung cancer	<p>Plasma protein profiles could help detect, diagnose and monitor treatment response of lung cancers. Mass spectrometry generated plasma protein profiles from four mouse models of lung cancer and several other mouse models of cancer and inflammation. Analysis of these profiles revealed distinct signatures in subtypes of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and small cell lung cancer (SCLC). In mice with lung tumors that regressed in response to the small molecule Tarceva erlotinib, serum levels of 91 proteins that had increased or decreased during tumor progression shifted toward baseline levels. Next steps include conducting additional validation studies and developing assays for additional markers.</p> <p>Tarceva, a small molecule epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) inhibitor from Astellas Pharma Inc., Chugai Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. and Roche, is marketed to treat NSCLC and pancreatic cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1103 Published online Oct. 6, 2011</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Taguchi, A. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i>; published online Sept. 12, 2011; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2011.08.007</p> <p>Contact: Samir M. Hanash, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Wash. e-mail: shanash@fhcrc.org</p>