SciBX
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THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Assays & screens			
Assay to evaluate gene-drug interactions and predict chemotherapeutic resistance	An assay to evaluate gene-drug interactions could help guide treatment choices. A library of 87 small molecules was screened against 89 human breast epithelial cell lines that expressed or lacked a cancer-associated gene. As proof of principle, the screen identified cell lines expressing an activated form of notch 1 (NOTCH1) that were sensitive to two aurora kinase inhibitors but resistant to a dual phosphoinositide 3-kinase (PI3K) and mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR; FRAP; RAFT1) inhibitor. Ongoing work includes working with clinical oncologists to obtain samples from patients treated with PI3K and mTOR inhibitors to determine whether the proposed mechanism of resistance is valid in patients. *SciBX* 4(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1125 Published online Oct. 13, 2011	Patent application filed for cancer; available for licensing through Austria Wirtschaftsservice **Contact:** Angela Siegling, Austria Wirtschaftsservice, Vienna, Austria e-mail: A.Siegling@awsg.at	Muellner, M.K. *et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.*; published online Sept. 25, 2011; doi:10.1038/nchembio.695 **Contact:** Sebastian M.B. Nijman, Austrian Academy of Science, Vienna, Austria e-mail: snijman@cemm.oeaw.ac.at