This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
Topically applied, tumor-activated fluorescence probe for ovarian cancer biopsy and resection	<p>A topically applied, tumor-activated fluorescence probe may help improve biopsy and resection of ovarian tumors. The imaging probe g-glutamyl hydroxymethyl rhodamine green (gGlu-HMRG) becomes fluorescent when activated by γ-glutamyltransferase, which is overexpressed on the cell surface of ovarian and other cancers. In xenograft mouse models of disseminated human ovarian cancer, gGlu-HMRG sprayed onto the peritoneal surface permitted visualization of tumors as small as 1 mm in diameter within minutes. Next steps include evaluating the probe using fresh surgical ovarian cancer specimens.</p> <p>SciBX 4(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1367 Published online Dec. 15, 2011</p>	Patent applications filed; available for licensing through The University of Tokyo	<p>Urano, Y. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 23, 2011; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3002823 Contact: Hisataka Kobayashi, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. e-mail: kobayash@mail.nih.gov Contact: Yasuteru Urano, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: uranokun@m.u-tokyo.ac.jp</p>