This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Metabolomic signature for metastatic colon cancer prognosis	<p>A patient study identified an NMR signature that could help determine metastatic colon cancer prognosis. In 45 patients with metastatic colon cancer and 96 healthy controls, proton NMR identified a metabolomic signature that classified patients based on overall survival. In a validation study in 108 patients with metastatic colon cancer, the signature predicted overall survival more accurately than <i>K-Ras</i> mutational status. Next steps include using proton NMR to identify prognostic signatures in additional diseases.</p> <p>The researchers have founded Giotto Biotech s.r.l., which provides proton NMR metabolomic analysis on a fee-for-service basis.</p> <p>SciBX 4(48); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1368 Published online Dec. 15, 2011</p>	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Bertini, I. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online Nov. 11, 2011; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-11-1543 Contact: Ivano Bertini, University of Florence, Florence, Italy e-mail: ivanobertini@cerm.unifi.it</p>