

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Markers			
Biomarkers for colon cancer invasiveness	<p>Mouse studies suggest that casein kinase 1α (CSNK1A; CKI-α) and p53 could be biomarkers of colon cancer invasiveness. In mice, gut-specific <i>Csnk1a</i> knockout activated the p53 pathway to induce DNA damage compared with that in wild-type mice. Also in mice, gut-specific double knockout of <i>Csnk1a</i> and <i>p53</i> induced high-grade intestinal dysplasia and tumorigenesis compared with either knockout alone. Next steps include testing whether the biomarkers can be useful in diagnosis.</p> <p>Aprea AB's APR-246, a p53 activator, is in Phase I/II testing to treat prostate cancer and hematological malignancies.</p> <p>SciBX 4(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.266 Published online March 3, 2011</p>	U.S. provisional patent application filed; molecular biomarkers for cancer invasiveness available for licensing	<p>Elyada, E. <i>et al. Nature</i>; published online Feb. 16, 2011; doi:10.1038/nature09673</p> <p>Contact: Yinon Ben-Neriah, Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, Jerusalem, Israel e-mail: yinon@cc.huji.ac.il</p> <p>Contact: Eli Pikarsky, same affiliation as above e-mail: peh@hadaash.org.il</p>