This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
Toll-like receptor 2 (TLR2) agonist-based fluorescent imaging of pancreatic tumors	<p>A TLR2 agonist-based imaging agent could aid surgical resection of pancreatic tumors. Chemical synthesis and <i>in vitro</i> testing of a series of 14-mer peptides identified a lead compound as a low nanomolar TLR2 agonist. In mice bearing human pancreatic tumors, the lead compound conjugated to a near-infrared fluorescent dye specifically labeled the tumors but not surrounding tissues. Ongoing work includes using the dye-conjugated compound to guide surgical removal of xenograft pancreatic tumors from mice.</p> <p>SciBX 5(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.1195 Published online Nov. 15, 2012</p>	Patented by the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute; available for licensing	<p>Shanks Huynh, A. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i>; published online Oct. 25, 2012; doi:10.1021/jm301002f</p> <p>Contact: Josef Vagner, The University of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz. e-mail: vagner@email.arizona.edu</p> <p>Contact: David L. Morse, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, Tampa, Fla. e-mail: david.morse@moffitt.org</p>