This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
A mouse model of Gleevec-resistant gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GISTs) could aid the identification of new therapies	<p>A mouse model of Gleevec-resistant GIST could help identify new GIST therapies. The mouse was engineered to express a <i>stem cell factor receptor tyrosine kinase</i> (<i>c-Kit</i>; <i>Kit</i>; <i>Cd117</i>) mutation that promoted oncogenesis as well as a second <i>Kit</i> mutation that mediated Gleevec resistance. In the double mutant mice, Gleevec did not decrease Kit activity compared with vehicle or inhibit GIST proliferation, whereas Sutent sunitinib did. Next steps include conducting mechanistic studies of oncogenic signaling in this model and evaluating targets downstream of the double-mutant KIT receptor.</p> <p>Novartis AG markets Gleevec imatinib for gastrointestinal cancer and other cancers.</p> <p>Pfizer Inc. markets Sutent for gastrointestinal, pancreatic and renal cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 5(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2012.664 Published online June 21, 2012</p>	Unpatented; available for licensing	<p>Bosbach, B. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online May 31, 2012; doi:10.1073/pnas.1115240109 Contact: Peter Besmer, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y. e-mail: p-besmer@ski.mskcc.org</p>