

This week in techniques

| Approach | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|---|--|---|--|
| Assays & screens | | | |
| Highly specific, recombinant antibodies to detect histone H3 trimethylation | Antibodies highly specific for H3K4me3 and H3K9me3 could be used to aid epigenetic drug development. A problem with the analysis of histone modifications is that many antibodies lack lot-to-lot consistency and may be nonspecific. Phage display and <i>in vitro</i> mutagenesis were used to generate recombinant antibodies with greater specificity for H3K4me3 or H3K9me3 than commercially available antibodies. <i>In vitro</i> , the H3K9me3 antibody was used in a histone methyltransferase assay to generate a stronger detection signal than was seen when using a commercially available antibody. Next steps include establishing drug screening and diagnostic assays using the antibodies. | Patent application filed; available for licensing | Hattori, T. <i>et al. Nat. Methods</i> ; published online Aug.18, 2013; doi:10.1038/nmeth.2605 Contact: Shohei Koide, The University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: skoide@uchicago.edu |
| | SciBX 6(37); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1038 Published online Sept. 26, 2013 | | |