This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Disease models			
Postsurgical resection model for metastatic breast cancer	<p>A mouse model for postsurgical resection metastatic breast cancer could be useful for evaluating therapeutic regimens to treat the disease. In mice with metastatic human breast cancer, Sutent sunitinib when given after surgical resection of the primary tumor did not significantly increase survival compared with vehicle. However, an antibody against rodent Vegf receptor 2 (Kdr/Flk-1; Vegfr-2) plus paclitaxel when given after resection of the primary tumor increased survival compared with either compound alone or vehicle. Next steps could include using the model to predict efficacy of therapeutic regimens. Pfizer Inc. markets the receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) inhibitor Sutent sunitinib to treat gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GISTs) and advanced renal cell carcinoma (RCC). The drug was discontinued in advanced breast cancer after missing the endpoints in Phase III trials. Paclitaxel is a generic platinum chemotherapy drug.</p> <p>SciBX 6(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.499 Published online May 23, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Guerin, E. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i>; published online April 22, 2013; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-12-4183 Contact: Robert S. Kerbel, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: robert.kerbel@sri.utoronto.ca</p>