This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
Fluorescent PET imaging probe for hypochlorus acid (HClO)	*In vitro* studies identified a fluorescent probe for HClO that could be useful as a PET imaging agent to detect cancer. A difluoroboron-dipyrromethene (BODIPY)-based probe detected the reactive oxygen species (ROS) HClO with a detection limit of 0.56 nM and response time under 1 second. In culture, the probe detected higher basal levels of HClO in cancer cells than normal cells. In cancer cells, the probe detected increases in HClO following treatment with the ROS-generating therapeutic candidate elesclomol. Next steps include evaluating the safety and pharmacokinetic properties of the probe under more complicated biological conditions. Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp. and Ergomed Clinical Research Ltd. have elesclomol in Phase II testing to treat ovarian cancer.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Zhu, H. *et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc.*; published online Aug. 29, 2014; doi:10.1021/ja505988g **Contact:** Xiaojun Peng, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian, China e-mail: pengxj@dlut.edu.cn **Contact:** Jiangli Fan, same affiliation as above e-mail: fanjl@dlut.edu.cn

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