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THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Imaging			
Tumor-penetrant heat shock protein 70 (Hsp70)-targeting peptide for near-infrared fluorescent (NIR) tumor imaging	An Hsp70-targeting peptide could be useful for imaging a broad range of tumor types. Hsp70 is highly expressed in multiple human tumor types but absent in normal tissues. In multiple mouse xenograft tumor models, a 14-mer peptide targeting an extracellular Hsp70 epitope conjugated to an NIR fluorophore was selectively internalized by tumor cells but not by tumor-associated fibroblasts, tumor-infiltrating macrophages or normal tissues and enabled high-contrast NIR tumor images. In the models, the peptide-fluorophore conjugates enabled generation of higher contrast images than IntegriSense 750, a fluorescent probe that binds integrin β_3 (GPIIIa; CD61). Next steps could include testing the safety of the peptide in animals. PerkinElmer Inc. markets IntegriSense as an imaging agent. *SciBX* 7(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2014.1335 Published online Nov. 20, 2014	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Stangl, S. *et al. Cancer Res.*; published online Oct. 9, 2014; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-14-0413 **Contact:** Gabriele Multhoff, Technical University Munich, Munich, Germany e-mail: gabriele.multhoff@lrz.tu-muenchen.de