(19) Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) EP 2 014 772 A8

(12) **CORRECTED EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(15) Correction information:
Corrected version no 1 (W1 A2)
Corrections, see Bibliography
Remarks

(48) Corrigendum issued on:
29.04.2009 Bulletin 2009/18

(43) Date of publication:
14.01.2009 Bulletin 2009/03

(21) Application number: **08009585.4**

(22) Date of filing: **03.04.1997**

(51) Int Cl.:
C12Q 1/00 *(2006.01)* ***G01N 33/53*** *(2006.01)*
C07K 1/00 *(2006.01)*

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE

(30) Priority: **03.03.1997 US 39532 P**
21.06.1996 US 20196 P
05.06.1996 US 19372 P
05.04.1996 US 14943 P

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
97920115.9 / 0 906 448

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Remarks:
This application was filed on 27-05-2008 as a divisional application to the application mentioned under INID code 62.

(54) **Method for the diagnosis and prognosis of cancer**

(57) The invention provides diagnostic and prognostic methods which comprise determining the level of expression of the tumor suppressor gene pRb2/p130, because the relative level of pRb2/p130 expression correlates with the presence of cancer, tumor grade and patient prognosis. These methods may be used to detect cancer, to make treatment decisions, to predict patient outcome, and to predict the risk of cancer in disease-free individuals. The invention further provides methods for the detection of mutations and polymorphisms in the pRb2/p130 gene, which may be used to characterize genetic events associated with tumor formation, to trace the parental origin of mutations, to identify carriers of germline mutations and to identify individuals with a predisposition to cancer.

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