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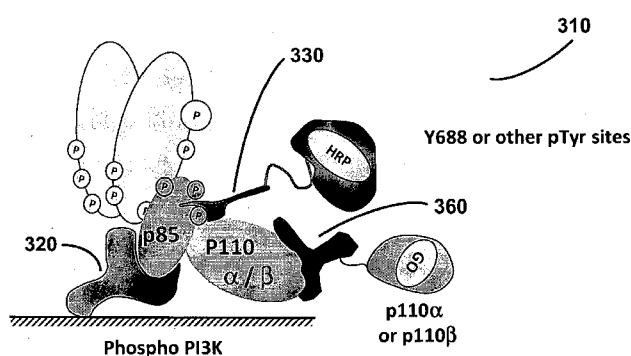
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(54) Title: PROFILING OF SIGNAL PATHWAY PROTEINS TO DETERMINE THERAPEUTIC EFFICACY



R: RTKs (HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET) and adaptor proteins
P: phosphorylated residues
GO: Glucose Oxidase
HRP: Horse Radish Peroxidase

FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides methods for detecting, measuring and quantitating the activation states of components of the PI3K signaling pathway in cells such as tumor cells and selecting an anticancer therapy therewith. The methods involve a collaborative enzyme enhanced reactive-immunoassay (CEER) in which first activation state-independent antibodies specific for one member of a dimerised receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) pair or a PI3K p110 subunit are labeled with a facilitating moiety (e.g. glucose oxidase) and second activation state-independent or dependent antibodies specific for the other member of the RTK pair or PI3K p85 or PI3K p110 subunit labeled with a signal amplification moiety (e.g. HRP).



PROFILING OF SIGNAL PATHWAY PROTEINS TO DETERMINE THERAPEUTIC EFFICACY

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Nos. 61/530,621,
5 filed September 2, 2011, 61/553,124, filed October 28, 2011, and 61/562,338, filed
November 21, 2011, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference in their
entireties for all purposes.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Signal transduction pathways that mediate cell growth and survival are targets for
10 cancer therapy, as tumorigenesis often involves dysfunctional signal transduction pathways.
Signaling abnormalities provide cancer cells increased growth potential, and the ability to
avert apoptosis induced by DNA damaging agents.

[0003] One well characterized signal transduction pathway is the phosphatidylinositol 3-
kinase (PI3K) pathway, which is implicated in a variety of cellular processes, e.g., malignant
15 transformation, growth factor signaling, inflammation, and immunity. The enzyme was
originally identified as an activity associated with viral oncoproteins and growth factor
receptor tyrosine kinases that phosphorylate phosphatidylinositol (PI) and its phosphorylated
derivatives at the 3'-hydroxyl of the inositol ring. Phosphoinositide 3-kinases (PI3K) are
lipid kinases that phosphorylate lipids at the 3-hydroxyl residue of an inositol ring. The 3-
20 phosphorylated phospholipids (PIP3s) generated by PI3-kinases act as second messengers
recruiting kinases with lipid binding domains, such as AKT and phosphoinositide-dependent
kinase-1 (PDK1).

[0004] The class I PI3 kinases are heterodimers composed of 2 subunits: a 110 kDa
catalytic subunit (p110) and an 85 kDa regulatory subunit (p85). The regulatory subunit
25 contains SH2 domains and binds to tyrosine residues phosphorylated by growth factor
receptors with a tyrosine kinase activity or oncogene products, thereby inducing the PI3K
activity of the p110 catalytic subunit, which in turn phosphorylates its lipid substrate.

[0005] Class I PI3 kinases are involved in important signal transduction events downstream
of cytokines, integrins, growth factors and immunoreceptors, which suggests that control of
30 this pathway may lead to important therapeutic effects such as modulating cell proliferation
and carcinogenesis. Activation of class I PI3 kinases is initiated when a growth factor or

ligand binds to its cognate receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK). These receptors include members of the human epidermal growth factor receptor family (HER, EGFR or ErbB), platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) receptor, insulin and insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1) receptors. Subsequent RTK dimerization and phosphorylation enable the PI3K heterodimer to bind directly to activated RTKs and/or adaptor proteins. Activated PI3K catalyzes the phosphorylation of phosphatidylinositol-4,5-biphosphate (PI(4,5)P2 or PIP2) to phosphatidylinositol-3,4,5-triphosphate (P(3,4,5)P3 or PIP3). PIP3 facilitates the phosphorylation of AKT which is the central effector of the PI3K pathway. AKT transmits signals to a host of downstream substrates, this controlling a variety of key cellular function, including growth, metabolis, proliferation and survival.

[0006] Inappropriate co-opting of the PI3K pathway commonly occurs in human cancer. The PI3K pathway is frequently hyperactivated in breast cancer, as well as other tumor types. It has been shown that 70% of breast cancers have a dysregulated PI3K pathway (Lopez-Knowles et al. *Int. J. Cancer*, 126,1121-1131 (2010)). It has been well established that mutations in the PIK3CA gene (encodes for the PI3K p110 subunit) are common in tumors, including breast, colon and endometrial cancers, and glioblastomas. Additionally, in many cancers, RTKs are often mutated, amplified, or overexpression, thereby causing aberrant PI3K activation. Taken together, these findings have made components of the PI3K pathway attractive targets for cancer therapeutics.

[0007] Currently several PI3K pathway inhibitors are under investigation in preclinical studies and the results appear promising (Markman et al., *Annls. Oncol.* 21(4), 683-691 (2010)). Inhibition of cancer cell proliferation was seen in some patients receiving PI3K inhibitors (Courtney et al. *J. Clin. Oncol.* 28(6), 1075-1083 (2010)). While these PI3K therapies have demonstrated success in the treatment of cancers (Baselga et al., *J. Clin. Oncol.*, 28:15s, abstract 3003, (2010); Burris et al., *J. Clin. Oncol.*, 28:15s, abstract 3005, (2010)), it is important to recognize that not all subjects treated respond, or respond well. There is a need for methods to predict those likely to respond well to targeted inhibitor. Unfortunately, the presence of PI3K somatic mutations can not adequately predict therapeutic response. Thus, there is a need for predictive biomarker assays that interrogate key signaling pathways that can be used to determine the clinical sensitivity to PI3K inhibitors and PI3K inhibitor-combination therapy. The present invention satisfies this and other needs.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0008] The PI3K pathway has been implicated in numerous cancers, such as breast, lung, gastric, colorectal and pancreatic cancers and is a useful therapeutic target for cancers, even those no longer responsive to existing anti-cancer therapy. PI3K inhibitors are under
5 development and have shown some promise in some patient studies. The present invention provides assay methods to monitor PI3K pathway in patients with cancer or solid tumors.

[0009] As such, the present invention provides methods to detect and quantitate activated PI3K pathway components and/or proteins of associated or nearby signaling pathways. The methods are also useful to evaluate tumor adaption, such as shunting activation and/or
10 expression to associated or nearby pathways not directly targeted by an existing therapy. The methods are used to predict a patient's clinical benefit from a PI3K inhibitor or a PI3K inhibitor combination therapy. Information derived from practice of the present invention can be used for cancer diagnosis, prognosis, and in the design of cancer treatments or regimens.

[0010] In one aspect, the present invention provides an assay for detecting and/or
15 quantitating homo- or heterodimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases (e.g., a dimer pair) including, but not limited to, HER1/HER2 dimers, HER1/HER3 dimers, HER2/HER3 dimers, HER2/HER2 dimers, HER2/HER4 dimers, p95HER2/HER3 dimers, p95HER2/HER2 dimers, and the like.

[0011] In certain aspects, the assay comprises 3 antibodies:

(1) a capture antibody specific for one member of the dimer pair;

(2) a first detection antibody specific for a first member of the dimer pair, wherein the first detection antibody is specific for a different domain than the capture antibody; and a

(3) a second detection antibody specific for a second member of the dimer pair.

[0012] In one particular embodiment, the proximity assay for detecting and/or quantitating
25 dimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases, comprises:

(i) incubating a cellular extract with one or a plurality of dilution series of capture antibodies to form a plurality of captured analytes;

(ii) incubating the plurality of captured analytes with detection antibodies

30 comprising a first or a plurality of first activation state-independent antibodies

and a second or a plurality of second activation state-independent antibodies specific for a first member and a second member, respectively, of a dimerized pair of analytes to form a plurality of detectable captured dimerized analytes, wherein the first detection antibodies are labeled with a facilitating moiety, the
5 second detection antibodies are labeled with a first member of a signal amplification pair, and the facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing agent which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal amplification pair;

(iii) incubating the plurality of detectable captured dimerized analytes with a

10 second member of the signal amplification pair to generate an amplified signal; and
(iv) detecting the amplified signal generated from the first and second members of the signal amplification pair.

[0013] In a preferred aspect, the amount of amplified signal is correlative to the amount of dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase.

15 **[0014]** The capture antibodies and detection antibodies are preferably selected to minimize competition between them with respect to analyte binding (*i.e.*, both capture and detection antibodies can simultaneously bind their corresponding signal transduction molecules).

[0015] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention are used to determine the RTK activation (*e.g.*, phosphorylation) status of one or more oncogenic RTKs (*e.g.*,
20 HER1, HER2, HER3, p95HER2, cMET and IGF-1R) in patients at risk of developing, suspected of having, or diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung or pancreatic cancer.

[0016] In one aspect, the present invention provides methods for selecting a treatment for a subject having or suspected of having cancer, wherein the method comprises:

25 (a) measuring the dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs), wherein measuring comprises: (i) incubating a cellular extract with one or a plurality of dilution series of capture antibodies to form a plurality of captured analytes; (ii) incubating the plurality of captured analytes with detection antibodies comprising a first or a plurality of first activation state-independent antibodies and a second or a plurality of second activation state-
30 independent antibodies specific for a first member and a second member, respectively, of a dimerized pair of analytes to form a plurality of detectable captured dimerized analytes, wherein the first activation state-independent antibodies are labeled with a facilitating moiety,

the second activation state-independent antibodies are labeled with a first member of a signal amplification pair, and the facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing agent which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal amplification pair; (iii) incubating the plurality of detectable captured dimerized analytes with a second member of the signal amplification pair to generate an amplified signal; and (iv) detecting the amplified signal generated from the first and second members of the signal amplification pair; and

(b) selecting an anticancer drug by comparing the dimerization of at least two RTKs to a reference dimerization profile of the same two RTK wherein the reference dimerization profile is generated in the absence of the anticancer drug.

10 [0017] In some embodiments, the method further comprises calibrating the level of dimerization of at least two RTKs against a standard curve generated for said at least two RTKs.

[0018] In some embodiments, the cellular extract is isolated from a subject having cancer after administration of an anticancer drug. In some embodiments, the cellular extract is contacted with an anticancer drug. In some embodiments, the anticancer drug is selected from the consisting of a PI3K modulating compound, a RTK modulating compound, or a combination thereof.

[0019] In some embodiments, the cellular extract is isolated from a subject having or suspected of having a cancer selected from the group consisting of breast, lung, pancreatic, colorectal, or gastric cancer.

[0020] In some embodiments, at least two RTKs is a member selected from the group consisting of a HER1/HER2 dimer, a HER1/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER2 dimer, a HER2/HER4 dimer, a p95HER2/HER3 dimer, and a p95HER2/HER2 dimer.

25 [0021] In some embodiments, the first activation state-independent antibodies are directly labeled with the facilitating moiety. In some embodiments, the facilitating moiety is glucose oxidase. In some embodiments, the glucose oxidase and the activation state-independent antibodies are conjugated to a sulfhydryl-activated dextran molecule. In some embodiments, the sulfhydryl-activated dextran molecule has a molecular weight of about 500kDa.

30 In some embodiments, the first member of the binding pair is biotin and/or the second member of the binding pair is streptavidin.

[0022] In some embodiments, the second activation state-independent antibodies are directly labeled with the first member of the signal amplification pair.

[0023] In some embodiments, the second activation state-independent antibodies are labeled with the first member of the signal amplification pair via binding between a first
5 member of a binding pair conjugated to the activation state-independent antibodies and a second member of the binding pair conjugated to the first member of the signal amplification pair.

[0024] In some embodiments, the capture antibodies are on a solid support, selected from the group consisting of glass, plastic, chips, pins, filters, beads, paper, membrane, fiber
10 bundles, and combinations thereof. In some embodiments, capture antibodies are restrained on the solid support in an addressable array.

[0025] In some embodiments, the first member of the signal amplification pair is a peroxidase. In some embodiments, the peroxidase is horseradish peroxidase (HRP). In some
15 embodiments, the second member of the signal amplification pair is a tyramide reagent. In some embodiments, the tyramide reagent is biotin-tyramide.

[0026] In some embodiments, the amplified signal is generated by peroxidase oxidization of the biotin-tyramide to produce an activated tyramide.

[0027] In some embodiments, the activated tyramide is directly detected. In some
20 embodiments, the activated tyramide is detected upon the addition of a signal-detecting reagent.

[0028] In some embodiments, the signal-detecting reagent is a streptavidin-labeled fluorophore. In some embodiments, the signal-detecting reagent is a combination of a streptavidin-labeled peroxidase and a chromogenic reagent. In some embodiments, the
25 chromogenic reagent is 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB).

[0029] In other embodiments, the methods of the present invention are performed on a
subject, already determined to express one or more oncogenic proteins, to optimize therapy, reduce toxicity, monitor the efficacy of therapeutic treatment, and /or detect adaptive non-responsiveness to therapy.

[0030] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention are used for measuring
30 RTK activation or phosphorylation status in the subject at risk of developing, suspected of

having, or diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung or pancreatic cancer.

[0031] In other embodiments, the methods of the present invention are used for measuring RTK dimerization status in the subject at risk of developing, suspected of having, or
5 diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung or pancreatic cancer.

[0032] In certain embodiments, the methods of the present invention are used measuring RTK dimerization and/or activation status in the subject who has relapsed on anti-cancer therapy, and to determine whether the tumor cells have adapted to the existing anti-cancer
10 therapy, or whether the subject should receive PI3K inhibitor or PI3K inhibitor combination therapy.

[0033] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention used for measuring RTK dimerization and/or activation status in the subject who has relapsed on anti-cancer therapy, and to determine whether the tumor cells have adapted to the existing anti-cancer
15 therapy, or whether the subject should receive RTK inhibitor or RTK inhibitor combination therapy.

[0034] In another aspect, the present invention provides methods for detecting and/or quantitating (e.g. measuring) the amount of PI3K complex and the amount of activation and/or phosphorylation of a PI3K complex. The PI3K complex comprises: i) a dimerized
20 receptor tyrosine kinase pair; ii) a PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 (e.g., α or β subunit).

[0035] In certain aspects, the assay comprises 3 antibodies:

- (1) a capture antibody specific for either the PI3K p85 or the PI3K p110 subunit;
- (2) a first detection antibody specific for a first member of the dimer pair, or PI3K subunit, wherein the first detection antibody is specific for a different domain than the
25 capture antibody and wherein the PI3K subunit may be activated; and a
- (3) a second detection antibody specific for a second member of the dimer pair or a PI3K subunit.

[0036] In one aspect, the present invention provides methods for selecting a treatment for a subject having or suspected of having cancer, the method comprising:

- (a) measuring the level of a PI3K complex activation, wherein said PI3K complex comprises i) dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs); ii) a PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 subunit, said measuring comprises: (i) incubating a cellular extract with one or a plurality of dilution series of capture antibodies to form a plurality of captured analytes; (ii) 5 incubating the plurality of captured analytes with first detection antibodies comprising either a) a first or a plurality of first activation state-independent antibodies specific for one member of a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair or b) a PI3K p110 subunit; and second detection antibodies comprising either a) second or a plurality of second activation state-independent antibodies specific for a) one member of a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair, a PI3K 10 p85 or a PI3K p110 subunit or b) activation state-dependent antibodies specific for a PI3K p85 subunit and/or a PI3K p110 subunit to form a plurality of detectable captured dimerized and complexed analytes, wherein the first detection antibodies are labeled with a facilitating moiety, the second detection antibodies are labeled with a first member of a signal amplification pair, and the facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing agent which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal amplification pair; incubating the plurality of 15 detectable captured dimerized analytes with a second member of the signal amplification pair to generate an amplified signal; and detecting the amplified signal generated from the first and second members of the signal amplification pair; and
- (b) selecting an anticancer drug by comparing the level of the PI3K complex activation to a 20 reference PI3K complex activation profile wherein the reference dimerization profile is generated in the absence of the anticancer drug.

[0037] In some embodiments, the level of PI3K complex is calibrated against a standard curve generated for said PI3K complex comprising i) dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs); ii) a PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 subunit.

- 25 **[0038]** In some embodiments, the cellular extract is isolated from a subject having cancer after administration of an anticancer drug. In some embodiments, the cellular extract is contacted with an anticancer drug. In some embodiments, the anticancer drug is selected from the consisting of a PI3K modulating compound, a RTK modulating compound, or a combination thereof.
- 30 **[0039]** In some embodiments, at least two RTKs is a member selected from the group consisting of a HER1/HER2 dimer, a HER1/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER3 dimer, a

HER2/HER2 dimer, a HER2/HER4 dimer, a p95HER2/HER3 dimer, and a p95HER2/HER2 dimer.

[0040] In some embodiments, the first activation state-independent antibodies are directly labeled with the facilitating moiety. In some embodiments, the facilitating moiety is glucose oxidase. In some embodiments, the glucose oxidase and the activation state-independent antibodies are conjugated to a sulfhydryl-activated dextran molecule. In some embodiments, the sulfhydryl-activated dextran molecule has a molecular weight of about 500kDa.

[0041] In some embodiments, the first member of the binding pair is biotin and/or the second member of the binding pair is streptavidin.

10 [0042] In some embodiments, the second activation state-independent antibodies are directly labeled with the first member of the signal amplification pair.

[0043] In some embodiments, the second activation state-independent antibodies are labeled with the first member of the signal amplification pair via binding between a first member of a binding pair conjugated to the activation state-independent antibodies and a second member of the binding pair conjugated to the first member of the signal amplification pair.

[0044] In some embodiments, the capture antibodies are on a solid support, selected from the group consisting of glass, plastic, chips, pins, filters, beads, paper, membrane, fiber bundles, and combinations thereof. In some embodiments, capture antibodies are restrained on the solid support in an addressable array.

[0045] In some embodiments, the first member of the signal amplification pair is a peroxidase. In some embodiments, the peroxidase is horseradish peroxidase (HRP). In some embodiments, the second member of the signal amplification pair is a tyramide reagent. In some embodiments, the tyramide reagent is biotin-tyramide.

25 [0046] In some embodiments, the amplified signal is generated by peroxidase oxidization of the biotin-tyramide to produce an activated tyramide.

[0047] In some embodiments, the activated tyramide is directly detected. In some embodiments, the activated tyramide is detected upon the addition of a signal-detecting reagent.

[0048] In some embodiments, the signal-detecting reagent is a streptavidin-labeled fluorophore. In some embodiments, the signal-detecting reagent is a combination of a streptavidin-labeled peroxidase and a chromogenic reagent. In some embodiments, the chromogenic reagent is 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB).

5 [0049] In one aspect, the present invention provides methods to be used to determine whether the subject should receive a PI3K inhibitor or PI3K inhibitor combination therapy.

[0050] In another aspect, the present invention provides methods used to determine whether the subject, who has relapsed on anticancer therapy, should receive a PI3K inhibitor or PI3K inhibitor combination therapy.

10 [0051] In another aspect, the present invention provides methods to be performed on the subject, already determined to express one or more oncogenic proteins, to optimize therapy, reduce toxicity, monitor the efficacy of therapeutic treatment, and/or detect adaptive non-responsiveness to therapy.

[0052] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention are used for measuring
15 PI3K activation or phosphorylation status in the subject at risk of developing, suspected of having, or diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung or pancreatic cancer.

[0053] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention are used for measuring
20 PI3K complexation status in the subject at risk of developing, suspected of having, or diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung or pancreatic cancer.

[0054] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention are used for measuring
25 PI3K complexation and/or activation status in the subject who has relapsed on anti-cancer therapy, and to determine whether the tumor cells have adapted to the existing anti-cancer therapy, or whether the subject should receive PI3K inhibitor or PI3K inhibitor combination therapy.

[0055] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention are used for measuring
30 PI3K complexation and/or activation status in the subject who has relapsed on anti-cancer therapy, and to determine whether the tumor cells have adapted to the existing anti-cancer therapy, or whether the subject should receive RTK inhibitor or RTK inhibitor combination therapy.

[0056] Other objects, features, and advantages of the present invention will be apparent to one of skill in the art from the following detailed description and figures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5 [0057] FIG. 1A-C show one embodiment of an assay for detection of dimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases.

[0058] FIG. 2 shows one embodiment of a PI3K complex 210 detectable by the methods and assays described herein

10 [0059] FIG. 3 shows another embodiment of a PI3K complex 310 detectable by the methods and assays described herein

[0060] FIG. 4A shows an embodiment of a PI3K complex detectable by the methods and assays described herein. FIG. 4B shows an embodiment of a PI3K complex detectable by the methods and assays described herein. FIG. 4C illustrates the detection of PI3K complexes using a method of the present invention. PI3K complexes were detected in T47D
15 cells (human ductal breast epithelial tumor cell line) treated with heregulin (HRG), compared to non-treated cells.

[0061] FIG. 5A shows another embodiment of a PI3K complex detectable by the methods and assays described herein. FIG. 5B shows an embodiment of a PI3K complex detectable by the methods and assays described herein.

20 [0062] FIG. 6 illustrates a comparison of phospho-AKT and phospho-PI3K in a pathway profiling analysis of patient with breast cancer.

[0063] FIG. 7 illustrates that the presence of phospho-PI3K correlates with phospho-AKT in 60 FNA samples from patients with breast cancer. Activated AKT was detected in patients without PI3KCA mutations.

25 [0064] FIG. 8 illustrates one embodiment of the correlation between AKT and PI3K. The graphs show that activated AKT (pAKT) does not correlate with the presence of PI3KCA somatic mutations.

[0065] FIG. 9 illustrates a high degree of correlation between the presence of phospho-HER3 and phospho-PI3K in 60 FNA samples from breast cancer patients. Regardless of the

cutoff value for PI3K used in the assay, there is a correlation between phospho-HER3 and phospho-PI3K in the samples.

[0066] FIG. 10 illustrates a correlation between the presence of phospho-HER3 and phospho-AKT in breast cancer patients.

5 [0067] FIG. 11 shows that activated PI3K is associated with activated AKT and phospho-HER3. FIG. 11 also shows that activated AKT correlates with phospho-HER3 in the absence of PI3K activation.

[0068] FIG. 12 shows that phospho-HER2 is associated with activated PI3K and activated AKT in FNA samples from breast cancer patients.

10 [0069] FIG. 13 shows concurrent activation of phospho-HER2, phospho-PI3K and phospho-AKT in breast cancer patient samples that do not HER2 genetic mutations or amplifications.

[0070] FIG. 14 shows activated HER1, HER2, HER3, p95, ERK, Shc, PI3K, AKT and ERK proteins in a sample from a breast cancer patient who relapsed on Herceptin
15 combination therapy.

[0071] FIG. 15 shows activated HER2, HER3, cMet, ERK, PI3K, and AKT proteins in a sample from a breast cancer patient with a H1047R PIK3CA somatic mutation who relapsed on Herceptin combination therapy.

[0072] FIG. 16 shows CEER-FNA analysis of PI3K pathway activation in NSCLC tumor
20 cell samples after treatment with an AKT inhibitor, a HER1 inhibitor or combination therapy.

[0073] FIG. 17 illustrates CEER-FNA analysis of biomarkers in pathway profiling of breast cancer cell samples after treatment with an AKT inhibitor, Lapatinib (a tyrosine kinase inhibitor) or combination therapy.

[0074] FIG. 18 shows raw data of HER1/2 and HER2/3 heterocomplexes on MCF7 cells
25 detected using a novel proximity based dimer assay.

[0075] FIG. 19 shows activation of HER3 heterodimer complexes and HER3/PI3K complexes in a pancreatic tumor sample and HPDE cells. The CEER dimer assay is performed at 10 μ g, 5 μ g and 2 μ g using a combination of capture and multiple detection antibodies. 5 μ g data is shown for all except for HER3/PI3K complex at 10 μ g.
30 HPDE cells and tumor sample 10-494 form 1:2 and 2:3 complexes, respectively. Relative to

the HPDE cells, the tumor sample has higher levels of phospho-HER3 and associates with PI3K to form a HER3/PI3K complex.

[0076] FIG. 20 shows activation of HER2 heterodimers and PI3K in response to HRG or EGF in MCF7 cells (a human breast adenocarcinoma cell line).

5 [0077] FIG. 21 illustrates raw data from CEER-FNA pathway analysis of breast cancer patients.

[0078] FIG. 22 illustrates CEER-FNA pathway analysis of more breast cancer patients.

[0079] FIG. 23 illustrates from CEER-FNA pathway analysis of yet more breast cancer patients.

10 [0080] FIG. 24 illustrates CEER-FNA pathway analysis of breast cancer patients.

[0081] FIG. 25 illustrates IGF-1R, PI3K, AKT and ERK activation in a breast cancer patient.

[0082] FIG. 26 illustrates IGF-1R and AKT activation in a breast cancer patient. Activated IGF-1R levels correlates with phospho-AKT levels. In addition, elevated levels of total IGF-1R also correlates with phospho-AKT.

[0083] FIG. 27 illustrates PI3K activation along with IGF-1R or cMET activation in a NSCLC patients. Tumor sample from patient 1 with G12C KRAS mutation has high levels of total and phosphorylated IGF-1R along with high levels of PI3K complex and phospho-PI3K. The pathway profiling analysis also shows that tumor sample from patient 2 also expresses high levels of total and phosphorylated IGF-1R, PI3K complex and phospho-PI3K.

[0084] FIG. 28 illustrates that PI3K activation along with HER3 and/or cMET activation are detected in a lung cancer patient.

[0085] FIG. 29 illustrates concurrent activation of HER3, cMET and PI3K in a NSCLC patient with a G12C KRAS mutation. Other activated downstream effector proteins (*e.g.* FAK, and CRKL) were detected. VEGFR2 expression was high and both FGFR1 and FGFR2 were activated in the sample. The pathway analysis profiling was performed on the tumor sample prior to treatment.

[0086] FIG. 30 shows a “heat map” of PI3K activation and HER heterodimers in NSCLC patients. ErbB dimerization and PI3K pathway activation were detected the tumor samples.

[0087] FIG. 31 illustrates concurrent activation of HER3 and PI3K in a tumor sample without KRAS and EGFR somatic mutations from a NSCLC patient. Levels of activated CRKL, FAK and Shc were also detected. Total VEGFR2 expression was high as well.

[0088] FIG. 32 illustrates the presence of phospho-HER3 in gastric cancer patient samples. In some samples, activated HER3 correlated with the presence of activated cMET. Activated ErbB receptors were detected in several gastric tumor samples.

[0089] FIG. 33 shows a MultiDimensional Scaling (MDS) graph that displays the concordance of phosphorylated pathway markers.

[0090] FIG. 34 illustrates a comparison of phospho-PI3K and phospho-AKT/ERK in pathway profiling analysis of patients with gastric cancer. Activation of the FGFR family including FGFR1, FGFR2, FGFR3, and FGFR4 were detected in some of the samples.

[0091] FIG. 35 illustrates PI3K pathway activation and HER pathway activation in a patient with colorectal cancer prior to therapy.

[0092] FIG. 36 illustrates PI3K pathway activation and HER pathway activation in a sample with a G13D KRAS mutation taken from colorectal cancer patient a prior to therapy. FIG. 36 shows that HER1 (EGFR), HER2, Shc, ERK and AKT proteins are highly activated.

[0093] FIG. 37 illustrates PI3K pathway activation and HER pathway activation in a colorectal cancer patient with a G12D KRAS mutation prior to therapy.

[0094] FIG. 38 illustrates FNA analysis of biomarkers in pathway profiling of samples from patients with colorectal cancer.

[0095] FIG. 39 illustrates FNA analysis of biomarkers in pathway profiling of pancreatic cancer patients with KRAS mutations.

[0096] FIG. 40 illustrates FNA analysis of biomarkers in pathway profiling of pancreatic patients with and without KRAS mutations.

[0097] FIG. 41 shows a schematic of an exemplary method of comprehensive disease profiling using a combination of nucleic acid and function protein analysis.

[0098] FIG. 42 shows the details of the clinical study described in Example 12.

[0099] FIG. 43 shows more details of the clinical study described Example 12.

[0100] FIG. 44 illustrates activated (phosphorylated) PI3K pathway profiling of breast cancer aspirate from samples (*e.g.*, A, B, C and D) exposed to HER1 inhibitor.

[0101] FIG. 45 illustrates activated (phosphorylated) PI3K pathway profiles from FNA of a breast tumor and FNA of a lymph node tumor.

5 [0102] FIG. 46A illustrates the level of protein expression of components of the PI3K pathway as determined by the CEER assay. FIG. 46B shows that protein levels of HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF1R and CK are similar in the patient's breast tumor and lymph node tumor.

10 [0103] FIG. 47 shows that in a cohort of breast cancer patients there are statistically significant correlations between activated PI3K pathway proteins, activated PI3K mutations, and combinations thereof. There is a correlation between the level of phospho-HER2 in patients with a primary IHC HER2 score of +1 and +2 and the level of phospho-AKT as measured by CEER. In 37% of the patient profiled, the presence of phospho-HER correlates with phospho-AKT.

15 [0104] FIG. 48 illustrates data obtained from comprehensive disease profiling of Patient 14003-3004 in the study. The patient overexpresses HER2 and has a tumor with high HER3 and PI3K activity. The disease profile indicates that the patient may benefit from PI3K inhibitor alone or combination therapy.

20 [0105] FIG. 49 illustrates comparative breast cancer profiling of FNA from a tumor and normal adjacent tissue. FIG. 49A shows an immunohistochemical image of a tissue section stained with an anti-pan CK antibody. The tumor cells highly express CK compared to the cells of the stroma. FIG. 49B illustrates the PI3K pathway profiles of breast cancer tumor samples and normal adjacent tissue samples. FIG. 49C depicts a graphical representation of results from CEER-FNA assays described herein.

25 [0106] FIG. 50 shows that pathway profiling of the HER2 pathway provides more detailed data regarding total p95HER2 and activated p95HER2 expression compared to IHC for HER2 and p95HER2. FIG. 50A shows a Western blot for HER2 protein and p95HER2 protein in breast cancer aspirate samples. FIG. 50B shows that tumor samples which highly express HER2 (*e.g.*, 3+) as measured by IHC are more likely to overexpress total p95HER2
30 protein and activated (phosphorylated) p95HER2 protein compared to those expressing

HER2 at 2+ or 1+/0 levels which . **FIG. 50C** represents a graph of total p95HER2 protein expression grouped by IHC measured HER2 expression.

[0107] **FIG. 51** shows that 6 FNA samples which tested positive for HER2 by CEER were from patients that expressed HER2 positive cells as determined by primary IHC.

5 [0108] **FIG. 52** illustrates a non-limiting example of a comprehensive pathway analysis of the present invention using a combination of functional pathway profiling and genotyping. In particular, FNA samples were analyzed to detect total and activated (*i.e.*, phosphorylated) signaling pathway components (*e.g.*, HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, CK, PI3K, SHC, AKT, and/or ERK) by CEER assay and to detect somatic mutations in genes
10 such as PIK3CA, KRAS, and/or BRAF.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

I. Introduction

[0109] The PI3K signal transduction pathway is known to mediate normal physiological cellular metabolic and survival functions, however, aberrant activation of the pathway can
15 lead to tumorigenesis or tumor metastasis. Signaling through the PI3K pathway is upregulated in many cancer cells, especially following chemotherapy. Furthermore, PI3K activation predicts therapeutic resistance to a broad range of anticancer therapy. It has also been shown that other key oncogenic pathways converge and interplay with the PI3K pathway.

20 [0110] One approach in developing tumor therapy is to block intracellular signaling through these pathways. Preclinical models have demonstrated that the use of PI3K pathway inhibitors can elicit dramatic anti-cancer responses in breast cancer patients with PI3K activation. Most interestingly, the presence of PIK3CA mutations failed to correlate with those patients who responded to PI3K therapy. The inventive methods are used for
25 measuring (*e.g.*, detecting and quantitating) PI3K pathway activation as well as other signaling pathways that converge with PI3K signaling. These methods are useful in selecting cancer patients who will be clinically sensitive to PI3K inhibitors and PI3K inhibitor-combination therapy. The continued monitoring of signal transduction pathways that are active in cancer cells as treatment progresses can provide the physician with additional
30 information on the efficacy of treatment, prompting the physician to either continue a particular course of treatment or to switch to another line of treatment, when, for example,

cancer cells have become resistant to treatment through further aberrations that activate either the same or another signal transduction pathway.

[0111] The methods herein have been used to ascertain that tumor cells can activate one or more compensatory signaling pathways in response to anticancer therapy. Without being
5 bound by any particular theory, it is believed that tumor cells adapt to specific pathway inhibitors by activating associated signaling pathways that are not direct targets of the inhibitor. Thus, combination therapy with PI3K inhibitor may be required to achieve optimal response to treatment in some cancers. Moreover, these findings highlight the need for methods to monitor activated signaling pathways in a clinical setting.

10 II. Definitions

[0112] As used herein, the following terms have the meanings ascribed to them unless specified otherwise.

[0113] The term “cancer” includes any member of a class of diseases characterized by the uncontrolled growth of aberrant cells. The term includes all known cancers and neoplastic
15 conditions, whether characterized as malignant, benign, soft tissue, or solid, and cancers of all stages and grades including pre- and post-metastatic cancers. Examples of different types of cancer include, but are not limited to, breast cancer; lung cancer (*e.g.*, non-small cell lung cancer); digestive and gastrointestinal cancers such as colorectal cancer, gastrointestinal stromal tumors, gastrointestinal carcinoid tumors, colon cancer, rectal cancer, anal cancer,
20 bile duct cancer, small intestine cancer, and stomach (gastric) cancer; esophageal cancer; gallbladder cancer; liver cancer; pancreatic cancer; appendix cancer; ovarian cancer; renal cancer (*e.g.*, renal cell carcinoma); cancer of the central nervous system; skin cancer; lymphomas; choriocarcinomas; head and neck cancers; osteogenic sarcomas; and blood cancers. As used herein, a “tumor” comprises one or more cancerous cells. In one
25 embodiment, the breast tumor is derived from a subject with an invasive or in situ form of ductal carcinoma or lobular carcinoma. In another embodiment, the breast tumor is derived from a subject with recurrent or metastatic breast cancer.

[0114] The term “analyte” includes any molecule of interest, typically a macromolecule such as a polypeptide, whose presence, amount (expression level), activation state, and/or
30 identity is determined. In certain instances, the analyte is a signal transduction molecule such as, *e.g.*, a component of a HER2 (ErbB2) signaling pathway.

- [0115] The term “signal transduction molecule” or “signal transducer” includes proteins and other molecules that carry out the process by which a cell converts an extracellular signal or stimulus into a response, typically involving ordered sequences of biochemical reactions inside the cell. Examples of signal transduction molecules include, but are not limited to,
- 5 receptor tyrosine kinases such as EGFR (*e.g.*, EGFR/HER1/ErbB1, HER2/Neu/ErbB2, HER3/ErbB3, HER4/ErbB4), VEGFR1/FLT1, VEGFR2/FLK1/KDR, VEGFR3/FLT4, FLT3/FLK2, PDGFR (*e.g.*, PDGFRA, PDGFRB), c-KIT/SCFR, INSR (insulin receptor), IGF-IR, IGF-IIR, IRR (insulin receptor-related receptor), CSF-1R, FGFR 1-4, HGFR 1-2, CCK4, TRK A-C, c-MET, RON, EPHA 1-8, EPHB 1-6, AXL, MER, TYRO3, TIE 1-2,
- 10 TEK, RYK, DDR 1-2, RET, c-ROS, V-cadherin, LTK (leukocyte tyrosine kinase), ALK (anaplastic lymphoma kinase), ROR 1-2, MUSK, AATYK 1-3, and RTK 106; truncated forms of receptor tyrosine kinases such as truncated HER2 receptors with missing amino-terminal extracellular domains (*e.g.*, p95ErbB2 (p95m), p110, p95c, p95n, *etc.*); receptor tyrosine kinase dimers (*e.g.*, p95HER2/HER3, p95HER2/HER2, HER2/HER2, HER2/HER3,
- 15 HER1/HER2, HER2/HER3, HER2/HER4, *etc.*); non-receptor tyrosine kinases such as BCR-ABL, Src, Frk, Btk, Csk, Abl, Zap70, Fes/Fps, Fak, Jak, Ack, and LIMK; tyrosine kinase signaling cascade components such as AKT (*e.g.*, AKT1, AKT2, AKT3), MEK (MAP2K1), ERK2 (MAPK1), ERK1 (MAPK3), PI3K (*e.g.*, PIK3CA (p110), PIK3R1 (p85)), PDK1, PDK2, phosphatase and tensin homolog (PTEN), SGK3, 4E-BP1, P70S6K (*e.g.*, p70 S6
- 20 kinase splice variant alpha I), protein tyrosine phosphatases (*e.g.*, PTP1B, PTPN13, BDP1, *etc.*), RAF, PLA2, MEKK, JNKK, JNK, p38, Shc (p66), Ras (*e.g.*, K-Ras, N-Ras, H-Ras), Rho, Rac1, Cdc42, PLC, PKC, p53, cyclin D1, STAT1, STAT3, phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate (PIP2), phosphatidylinositol 3,4,5-trisphosphate (PIP3), mTOR, BAD, p21, p27, ROCK, IP3, TSP-1, NOS, GSK-3 β , RSK 1-3, JNK, c-Jun, Rb, CREB, Ki67, and
- 25 paxillin; nuclear hormone receptors such as estrogen receptor (ER), progesterone receptor (PR), androgen receptor, glucocorticoid receptor, mineralocorticoid receptor, vitamin A receptor, vitamin D receptor, retinoid receptor, thyroid hormone receptor, and orphan receptors; nuclear receptor coactivators and repressors such as amplified in breast cancer-1 (AIB1) and nuclear receptor corepressor 1 (NCOR), respectively; and combinations thereof.
- 30 [0116] The term “PI3K pathway alteration” refers to aberrant dysregulation of the PI3K signaling pathway due to PI3K gene mutations, PI3K gene amplifications and/or PTEN loss.
- [0117] The terms “receptor-type tyrosine kinase” or “RTK” includes any member of family of receptors each characterized as having an extracellular, a transmembrane, and an

intracellular portion, while non-receptor type tyrosine kinases are wholly intracellular. The receptor family comprised of a large number of transmembrane receptors with diverse biological activity. In fact, about 20 different subfamilies of receptor-type tyrosine kinases have been identified. One tyrosine kinase subfamily, designated the HER (ErbB) subfamily, is comprised of EGFR (HER1), HER2, HER3, and HER4. Ligands of this subfamily of receptors identified so far include epithelial growth factor, TGF-alpha, amphiregulin, HB-EGF, betacellulin and heregulin. Another subfamily of these receptor-type tyrosine kinases is the insulin subfamily, which includes INS-R, IGF-IR, and IR-R. The PDGF subfamily includes the PDGF-alpha and beta receptors, CSFIR, c-kit and FLK-II.

10 **[0118]** The term “component of a HER2 signaling pathway” includes any one or more of an upstream ligand of HER2, binding partner of HER2, and/or downstream effector molecule that is modulated through HER2. Examples of HER2 signaling pathway components include, but are not limited to, heregulin, HER1/ErbB1, HER2/ ErbB2, HER3/ErbB3, HER4/ErbB4, AKT (*e.g.*, AKT1, AKT2, AKT3), MEK (MAP2K1), ERK2 (MAPK1), ERK1 (MAPK3),
15 PI3K (*e.g.*, PIK3CA (p110), PIK3R1 (p85)), PDK1, PDK2, PTEN, SGK3, 4E-BP1, P70S6K (*e.g.*, splice variant alpha I), protein tyrosine phosphatases (*e.g.*, PTP1B, PTPN13, BDP1, *etc.*), HER2 dimers (*e.g.*, p95HER2/HER3, p95HER2/HER2, HER2/HER2, HER2/HER3, HER1/HER2, HER2/HER3, HER2/HER4, *etc.*), GSK-3 β , PIP2, PIP3, p27, and combinations thereof.

20 **[0119]** The term “component of a HER3 signaling pathway” includes any one or more of an upstream ligand of HER3, binding partner of HER3, and/or downstream effector molecule that is modulated through HER3. Examples of HER3 signaling pathway components include, but are not limited to, heregulin, HER1/ErbB1, HER2/ ErbB2, HER3/ErbB3, HER4/ErbB4, AKT (*e.g.*, AKT1, AKT2, AKT3), MEK (MAP2K1), ERK2 (MAPK1), ERK1 (MAPK3),
25 PI3K (*e.g.*, PIK3CA (p110), PIK3R1 (p85)), PDK1, PDK2, PTEN, SGK3, 4E-BP1, P70S6K (*e.g.*, splice variant alpha I), protein tyrosine phosphatases (*e.g.*, PTP1B, PTPN13, BDP1, *etc.*), HER2 dimers (*e.g.*, p95HER2/HER3, p95HER2/HER2, HER2/HER2, HER2/HER3, HER1/HER2, HER2/HER3, HER2/HER4, *etc.*), GSK-3 β , PIP2, PIP3, p27, and combinations thereof.

30 **[0120]** The term “tumor adaptation” includes a process wherein cells of a tumor are exposed to anti-cancer therapy and activate signaling pathways associated with or nearby to the signaling pathway directly targeted by the therapeutic agent. Tumor cells activate

associated/nearby signaling pathways as a mechanism to compensate for the blockage or inhibition brought forth by the targeted therapy.

[0121] The term “activation state” includes a particular signal transduction molecule such as a HER2 signaling pathway component in its activated form. Similarly, the term “activation level” refers to what extent a particular signal transduction molecule such as a HER2 signaling pathway component is activated. The activation state typically corresponds to the phosphorylation, ubiquitination, and/or complexation status of one or more signal transduction molecules. Non-limiting examples of activation states (listed in parentheses) include: EGFR (EGFRvIII, phosphorylated (p-) EGFR, EGFR:Shc, ubiquitinated (u-) EGFR, p-EGFRvIII); ErbB2 (p-ErbB2, p95HER2 (truncated ErbB2), p-p95HER2, ErbB2:Shc, ErbB2:PI3K, ErbB2:EGFR, ErbB2:ErbB3, ErbB2:ErbB4); ErbB3 (p-ErbB3, ErbB3:PI3K, p-ErbB3:PI3K, ErbB3:Shc); ErbB4 (p-ErbB4, ErbB4:Shc); c-MET (p-c-MET); AKT1 (p-AKT1); AKT2 (p-AKT2); AKT3 (p-AKT3); PTEN (p-PTEN); P70S6K (p-P70S6K); MEK (p-MEK); ERK1 (p-ERK1); ERK2 (p-ERK2); PDK1 (p-PDK1); PDK2 (p-PDK2); SGK3 (p-SGK3); 4E-BP1 (p-4E-BP1); PIK3R1 (p-PIK3R1); c-KIT (p-c-KIT); ER (p-ER); IGF-1R (p-IGF-1R, IGF-1R:IRS, IRS:PI3K, p-IRS, IGF-1R:PI3K); INSR (p-INSR); FLT3 (p-FLT3); HGFR1 (p-HGFR1); HGFR2 (p-HGFR2); RET (p-RET); PDGFRA (p-PDGFRA); PDGFRB (p-PDGFRB); VEGFR1 (p-VEGFR1, VEGFR1:PLC γ , VEGFR1:Src); VEGFR2 (p-VEGFR2, VEGFR2:PLC γ , VEGFR2:Src, VEGFR2:heparin sulphate, VEGFR2:VE-cadherin); VEGFR3 (p-VEGFR3); FGFR1 (p-FGFR1); FGFR2 (p-FGFR2); FGFR3 (p-FGFR3); FGFR4 (p-FGFR4); TIE1 (p-TIE1); TIE2 (p-TIE2); EPHA (p-EPHA); EPHB (p-EPHB); GSK-3 β (p-GSK-3 β); NF κ B (p-NF κ B), I κ B (p-I κ B, p-P65:I κ B); BAD (p-BAD, BAD:14-3-3); mTOR (p-mTOR); Rsk-1 (p-Rsk-1); Jnk (p-Jnk); P38 (p-P38); STAT3 (p-STAT3); Fak (p-Fak); Rb (p-Rb); Ki67; p53 (p-p53); CREB (p-CREB); c-Jun (p-c-Jun); c-Src (p-c-Src); and paxillin (p-paxillin).

[0122] As used herein, the term “dilution series” is intended to include a series of descending concentrations of a particular sample (*e.g.*, cell lysate) or reagent (*e.g.*, antibody). A dilution series is typically produced by a process of mixing a measured amount of a starting concentration of a sample or reagent with a diluent (*e.g.*, dilution buffer) to create a lower concentration of the sample or reagent, and repeating the process enough times to obtain the desired number of serial dilutions. The sample or reagent can be serially diluted at least 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 100, 500, or 1000-fold to produce a dilution series comprising at least 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19,

20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, or 50 descending concentrations of the sample or reagent. For example, a dilution series comprising a 2-fold serial dilution of a capture antibody reagent at a 1 mg/ml starting concentration can be produced by mixing an amount of the starting concentration of capture antibody with an equal amount of a dilution buffer to create a 0.5
5 mg/ml concentration of the capture antibody, and repeating the process to obtain capture antibody concentrations of 0.25 mg/ml, 0.125 mg/ml, 0.0625 mg/ml, 0.0325 mg/ml, *etc.*

[0123] The term “superior dynamic range” as used herein includes the ability of an assay to detect a specific analyte in as few as one cell or in as many as thousands of cells. For example, the immunoassays described herein possess superior dynamic range because they
10 advantageously detect a particular signal transduction molecule of interest in about 1-10,000 cells (*e.g.*, about 1, 5, 10, 25, 50, 75, 100, 250, 500, 750, 1000, 2500, 5000, 7500, or 10,000 cells) using a dilution series of capture antibody concentrations.

[0124] As used herein, the term “circulating cells” comprises extratumoral cells that have either metastasized or micrometastasized from a solid tumor. Examples of circulating cells
15 include, but are not limited to, circulating tumor cells, cancer stem cells, and/or cells that are migrating to the tumor (*e.g.*, circulating endothelial progenitor cells, circulating endothelial cells, circulating pro-angiogenic myeloid cells, circulating dendritic cells, *etc.*). Patient samples containing circulating cells can be obtained from any accessible biological fluid (*e.g.*, whole blood, serum, plasma, sputum, bronchial lavage fluid, urine, nipple aspirate,
20 lymph, saliva, fine needle aspirate, *etc.*). In certain instances, the whole blood sample is separated into a plasma or serum fraction and a cellular fraction (*i.e.*, cell pellet). The cellular fraction typically contains red blood cells, white blood cells, and/or circulating cells of a solid tumor such as circulating tumor cells (CTCs), circulating endothelial cells (CECs), circulating endothelial progenitor cells (CEPCs), cancer stem cells (CSCs), disseminated
25 tumor cells of the lymph node, and combinations thereof. The plasma or serum fraction usually contains, *inter alia*, nucleic acids (*e.g.*, DNA, RNA) and proteins that are released by circulating cells of a solid tumor.

[0125] Circulating cells are typically isolated from a patient sample using one or more separation methods including, for example, immunomagnetic separation (*see, e.g.*, Racila *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 95:4589-4594 (1998); Bilkenroth *et al.*, *Int. J. Cancer*, 92:577-582 (2001)), the CellTracks[®] System by Immunicon (Huntingdon Valley, PA), microfluidic separation (*see, e.g.*, Mohamed *et al.*, *IEEE Trans. Nanobiosci.*, 3:251-256

(2004); Lin *et al.*, Abstract No. 5147, 97th AACR Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. (2006)), FACS (*see, e.g., Mancuso et al., Blood, 97:3658-3661 (2001)*), density gradient centrifugation (*see, e.g., Baker et al., Clin. Cancer Res., 13:4865-4871 (2003)*), and depletion methods (*see, e.g., Meye et al., Int. J. Oncol., 21:521-530 (2002)*).

5 [0126] The term “sample” as used herein includes any biological specimen obtained from a patient. Samples include, without limitation, whole blood, plasma, serum, red blood cells, white blood cells (*e.g., peripheral blood mononuclear cells*), ductal lavage fluid, nipple aspirate, lymph (*e.g., disseminated tumor cells of the lymph node*), bone marrow aspirate, saliva, urine, stool (*i.e., feces*), sputum, bronchial lavage fluid, tears, fine needle aspirate
10 (*e.g., harvested by random periareolar fine needle aspiration*), any other bodily fluid, a tissue sample (*e.g., tumor tissue*) such as a biopsy of a tumor (*e.g., needle biopsy*) or a lymph node (*e.g., sentinel lymph node biopsy*), and cellular extracts thereof. In some embodiments, the sample is whole blood or a fractional component thereof such as plasma, serum, or a cell pellet. In preferred embodiments, the sample is obtained by isolating circulating cells of a
15 solid tumor from whole blood or a cellular fraction thereof using any technique known in the art. In other embodiments, the sample is a formalin fixed paraffin embedded (FFPE) tumor tissue sample, *e.g., from a solid tumor of the breast.*

[0127] A “biopsy” refers to the process of removing a tissue sample for diagnostic or prognostic evaluation, and to the tissue specimen itself. Any biopsy technique known in the
20 art can be applied to the methods and compositions of the present invention. The biopsy technique applied will generally depend on the tissue type to be evaluated and the size and type of the tumor (*i.e., solid or suspended (i.e., blood or ascites)*), among other factors. Representative biopsy techniques include excisional biopsy, incisional biopsy, needle biopsy (*e.g., core needle biopsy, fine-needle aspiration biopsy, etc.*), surgical biopsy, and bone
25 marrow biopsy. Biopsy techniques are discussed, for example, in *Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine*, Kasper, *et al.*, eds., 16th ed., 2005, Chapter 70, and throughout Part V. One skilled in the art will appreciate that biopsy techniques can be performed to identify cancerous and/or precancerous cells in a given tissue sample.

[0128] The term “subject” or “patient” or “individual” typically includes humans, but can
30 also include other animals such as, *e.g., other primates, rodents, canines, felines, equines, ovines, porcines, and the like.*

[0129] An “array” or “microarray” comprises a distinct set and/or dilution series of capture antibodies immobilized or restrained on a solid support such as, for example, glass (*e.g.*, a glass slide), plastic, chips, pins, filters, beads (*e.g.*, magnetic beads, polystyrene beads, *etc.*), paper, membrane (*e.g.*, nylon, nitrocellulose, polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF), *etc.*), fiber
5 bundles, or any other suitable substrate. The capture antibodies are generally immobilized or restrained on the solid support via covalent or noncovalent interactions (*e.g.*, ionic bonds, hydrophobic interactions, hydrogen bonds, Van der Waals forces, dipole-dipole bonds). In certain instances, the capture antibodies comprise capture tags which interact with capture agents bound to the solid support. The arrays used in the assays described herein typically
10 comprise a plurality of different capture antibodies and/or capture antibody concentrations that are coupled to the surface of a solid support in different known/addressable locations.

[0130] The term “capture antibody” is intended to include an immobilized antibody which is specific for (*i.e.*, binds, is bound by, or forms a complex with) one or more analytes of interest in a sample such as a cellular extract. In particular embodiments, the capture
15 antibody is restrained on a solid support in an array. Suitable capture antibodies for immobilizing any of a variety of signal transduction molecules on a solid support are available from Upstate (Temecula, CA), Biosource (Camarillo, CA), Cell Signaling Technologies (Danvers, MA), R&D Systems (Minneapolis, MN), Lab Vision (Fremont, CA), Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Santa Cruz, CA), Sigma (St. Louis, MO), and BD Biosciences
20 (San Jose, CA).

[0131] The term “detection antibody” as used herein includes an antibody comprising a detectable label which is specific for (*i.e.*, binds, is bound by, or forms a complex with) one or more analytes of interest in a sample. The term also encompasses an antibody which is specific for one or more analytes of interest, wherein the antibody can be bound by another
25 species that comprises a detectable label. Examples of detectable labels include, but are not limited to, biotin/streptavidin labels, nucleic acid (*e.g.*, oligonucleotide) labels, chemically reactive labels, fluorescent labels, enzyme labels, radioactive labels, and combinations thereof. Suitable detection antibodies for detecting the activation state and/or total amount of any of a variety of signal transduction molecules are available from Upstate (Temecula, CA),
30 Biosource (Camarillo, CA), Cell Signaling Technologies (Danvers, MA), R&D Systems (Minneapolis, MN), Lab Vision (Fremont, CA), Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Santa Cruz, CA), Sigma (St. Louis, MO), and BD Biosciences (San Jose, CA). As a non-limiting example, phospho-specific antibodies against various phosphorylated forms of signal transduction

molecules such as EGFR, c-KIT, c-Src, FLK-1, PDGFRA, PDGFRB, AKT, MAPK, PTEN, Raf, and MEK are available from Santa Cruz Biotechnology.

[0132] The term “activation state-dependent antibody” includes a detection antibody which is specific for (*i.e.*, binds, is bound by, or forms a complex with) a particular activation state of one or more analytes of interest in a sample. In preferred embodiments, the activation state-dependent antibody detects the phosphorylation, ubiquitination, and/or complexation state of one or more analytes such as one or more signal transduction molecules. In some embodiments, the phosphorylation of members of the EGFR family of receptor tyrosine kinases and/or the formation of heterodimeric complexes between EGFR family members is detected using activation state-dependent antibodies. In particular embodiments, activation state-dependent antibodies are useful for detecting one or more sites of phosphorylation in one or more of the following signal transduction molecules (phosphorylation sites correspond to the position of the amino acid in the human protein sequence): EGFR/HER1/ErbB1 (*e.g.*, tyrosine (Y) 1068); ErbB2/HER2 (*e.g.*, Y1248); ErbB3/HER3 (*e.g.*, Y1289); ErbB4/HER4 (*e.g.*, Y1284); SGK3 (*e.g.*, threonine (T) 256 and/or serine (S) 422); 4E-BP1 (*e.g.*, T70); ERK1 (*e.g.*, T202 and/or Y204); ERK2 (*e.g.*, T202); MEK (*e.g.*, S217 and/or S221); PIK3R1 (*e.g.*, Y688); PDK1 (*e.g.*, S241); P70S6K (*e.g.*, T229, T389, and/or S421); c-MET (*e.g.*, Y1349); PTEN (*e.g.*, S380); AKT1 (*e.g.*, S473 and/or T308); AKT2 (*e.g.*, S474 and/or T309); AKT3 (*e.g.*, S472 and/or T305); GSK-3 β (*e.g.*, S9); NF κ B (*e.g.*, S536); I κ B (*e.g.*, S32); BAD (*e.g.*, S112 and/or S136); mTOR (*e.g.*, S2448); Rsk-1 (*e.g.*, T357 and/or S363); Jnk (*e.g.*, T183 and/or Y185); P38 (*e.g.*, T180 and/or Y182); STAT3 (*e.g.*, Y705 and/or S727); FAK (*e.g.*, Y576); Rb (*e.g.*, S249, T252, and/or S780); p53 (*e.g.*, S392 and/or S20); CREB (*e.g.*, S133); c-Jun (*e.g.*, S63); c-Src (*e.g.*, Y416); and paxillin (*e.g.*, Y118).

[0133] The term “activation state-independent antibody” includes a detection antibody which is specific for (*i.e.*, binds, is bound by, or forms a complex with) one or more analytes of interest in a sample irrespective of their activation state. For example, the activation state-independent antibody can detect both phosphorylated and unphosphorylated forms of one or more analytes such as one or more signal transduction molecules.

III. Description of the Embodiments

[0134] The present invention provides compositions and methods for detecting the status (*e.g.*, expression and/or activation levels) of components of signal transduction pathways in

tumor cells derived from tumor tissue or circulating cells of a solid tumor with a specific, multiplex, high-throughput proximity assay as described herein.

[0135] In one embodiment, the invention provides a method for detecting and/or quantitating dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs). In another
5 embodiment, the invention provides a method for measuring (e.g., detecting and or quantitating) the level of PI3K complex comprising a RTK dimer, a PI3K p85 regulatory subunit, and a PI3K p110 catalytic subunit.

[0136] The PI3K p85 regulatory subunit comprises any one of five variants, designated p85 α (SEQ ID NO:1), p85 β (SEQ ID NO:2), p55 γ (SEQ ID NO:3), p150 (SEQ ID NO:4),
10 and p101 (SEQ ID NO:5). The PI3K p110 subunit comprises any one of the variants designated p110 α (SEQ ID NO:6), 110 β (SEQ ID NO:7), p110 γ (SEQ ID NO:8), and p110 δ (SEQ ID NO:9).

[0137] In yet another embodiment, the invention provides a method for measuring (e.g., detecting and quantitating) the level of activated PI3K in tumor cells or circulating cell from
15 a solid tumor. In other embodiments, the invention provides methods of monitoring PI3K complexation, PI3K activation (e.g., phosphorylation), activation of downstream proteins (e.g., adaptor, effector, kinase proteins) of the PI3K pathway, and other signal transducers of pathways associated with the PI3K pathway.

[0138] The present invention provides compositions and methods for determining or
20 predicting response of a patient's tumor to specific anticancer therapy (e.g., RTK and PI3K modulating compounds, or combinations thereof). In some instances, the methods are used to predict the clinical benefit of PI3K inhibitor therapy or PI3K inhibitor combination therapy. For instance, the measurement of elevated levels of PI3K activation or activated components in the PI3K signaling pathway in a patient's tumor cells using methods described herein,
25 predicts that the patient can clinically benefit from PI3K inhibitor therapy or PI3K combination therapy. The present invention also provides compositions and methods for selecting appropriate therapies to downregulate or shut down one or more deregulated signal transduction pathways. Thus, certain embodiments of the invention are used to facilitate the design of personalized therapies based on the particular molecular signature provided by the
30 collection of total and activated signal transduction proteins in a given patient's tumor.

[0139] In one embodiment, the present invention provides methods for the measurement (e.g., detection and quantitation) of the level of expression and/or the degree of activation

(*e.g.*, phosphorylation) of PI3K and RTKs, substrates thereof, and/or other signal transduction molecules in tumor sample from a patient relapsed on anticancer therapy. As such, the present invention advantageously provides benefits to patients with solid tumors, such as breast cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, gastric cancer, pancreatic cancer and colorectal cancer who are receiving one or more targeted therapies by screening and monitoring them throughout the course of therapy and evaluating whether they should be switched to an alternative targeted therapy or combination therapy. In certain aspects, the present invention provides methods to determine whether a cancer or tumor has adapted to existing anticancer therapy. In certain instances, tumor adaptation to therapy results in activation of compensatory signaling pathways which can be detected using methods of the present invention. In other instances, determination of tumor adaption in a patient indicates that the patient's treatment should be switched to an alternative targeted therapy or a combination therapy.

[0140] In another embodiment, the present invention provides methods for selecting an anticancer drug treatment for a patient with solid tumor cancer by comparing the detection and/or quantitation of RTK dimerization and/or PI3K complexation in tumor samples either in the presence or absence of an anticancer drug. In yet another embodiment, the compositions and methods of the present invention advantageously identify patients who are resistant to anticancer therapy due to mutations in the target protein kinase, acquired resistance to therapeutic agent, adaptation by signal transduction molecules to therapy, non-compliance with the therapeutic regimen, and/or administration of a suboptimal drug dose.

[0141] In certain aspects, the methods described herein monitor and follow cancer or tumor adaptation to existing anticancer therapy. In certain instances, by following and monitoring the activation of pathway profiles using CEER techniques, it can be ascertained whether there is pathway compensation for existing therapy by for example, shunting activation and/or expression to an associated pathway. These techniques allow for evaluation of therapy efficacy. If the original pathway activation is shut down or diminished, it is important to interrogate the associated pathways to ascertain whether there is pathway compensation in another pathway. In these instances, a combination therapy regimen may be recommended, or switching therapies altogether may be recommended. For example, as illustrated in Examples 3, 4 and 6 described herein, methods of the present invention are used to monitor levels of activated PI3K, HER1, HER2, HER3, IGF-1R, AKT and/or ERK in tumor cells from patients who relapsed on anticancer therapy. In these patients' tumors, compensatory

signaling pathways not directly targeted by the therapy were activated (*see*, FIGS. 14-17 and 25). Advantageously, using the methods herein, the pathway profiling analysis indicates that the patients can clinically benefit from PI3K inhibitor therapy or PI3K inhibitor combination therapy.

5 [0142] Analysis of expression of target protein or genetic mutation alone has limitations for selecting the appropriate therapy regimen with maximal clinical efficacy for a subject with cancer or suspected of having cancer. Comprehensive profiling of RTK dimerization and PI3K complexation provides insightful information on the efficacy of specific anticancer agents on their intended target proteins. The methods of the present invention also provide
10 valuable information regarding potential drug resistance mechanisms such as activation of compensatory pathways and provides a guide to effective therapeutic treatments and regimens for patients with cancer.

IV. PI3K Signaling and Cancer

[0143] According to the present invention, the activation status of the PI3K pathway and/or
15 RTK pathways (*e.g.*, HER1, HER2, HER3, HER4, cMET, and IGF-1R pathways) can be quantitatively measured in tumor cells derived from a patient with solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung, or pancreatic cancer. The invention provides a method for simultaneous quantification of the activation level of numerous proteins of the PI3K pathway in a tumor sample.

20 [0144] Phosphoinositide 3-kinases (PI3Ks) have been found to play key roles in many cellular processes including cell survival, proliferation, differentiation, metabolism and motility. As major effectors downstream of receptor tyrosine kinases (RTK) and G protein coupled receptors, PI3Ks transduce signals from various growth factors and cytokines into intracellular messages by generating phospholipids, which in turn activate the
25 serine/threonine kinase AKT and other effector pathways. Examples of other downstream effectors include, but are not limited to, RAC1, SGK, PKC, Mdm2, FKHR, NF- κ B, BAD, MEK, PTEN, GSK3 β , mTOR, and S6K.

[0145] When PI3Ks are activated by growth factor stimulation through RTKs (*e.g.*, HER1, HER2, HER3 and HER4), the PI3K p85 subunit directly binds to the phosphotyrosine
30 residues on RTKs and /or adaptor proteins. This binding relieves the intermolecular inhibition of the PI3K p110 subunit by p85 and localizes PI3K to the plasma membrane of the cell. There, PI3K catalyzes the phosphorylation of PIP2 to PIP3 which then facilitates the

phosphorylation of AKT. Activated AKT phosphorylates many other proteins in associated/nearby pathways that initiate processes to enable cell survival, suppression of apoptosis and cell cycle control.

[0146] In addition to the complexity of the PI3K pathway, extensive crosstalk exists with other cellular signaling networks. These associated or nearby signaling networks include, but are not limited to, mTOR, p53, RAS and MAPK pathways. Aberrant expression and/or activation of components of the PI3K pathway, as well as the ErbB family pathways, have been reported in a number of human tumors, including breast, ovarian, gastric, lung, and colorectal cancer. In one embodiment, the methods of the present invention are used to detect the presence of dimerization, expression level and/or activation state of one or more of signal transduction molecules (*e.g.*, a receptor tyrosine kinase such as a member of the ErbB family or a signaling pathway component such as PI3K) in a cellular extract of tumor cells such as breast, lung, pancreatic, gastric, colorectal or other cancer cells.

[0147] In some embodiments of the present invention, the method further comprises somatic mutation (*e.g.*, allelic variant) analysis for detecting the presence of one or more rare somatic mutations in a cellular extract of tumor cells such as breast, lung, pancreatic, gastric, colorectal, or other cancer cells. Non-limiting examples of genes carrying a somatic mutation include PI3K, KRAS and BRAF. For instance, somatic mutations in the PIK3CA gene include E542K, E545D, E545K, and H1047R mutations. Methods for detecting allelic variants are disclosed in U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/525,137, and PCT/US2012/051442 the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

[0148] As one non-limiting example, somatic mutation (*e.g.*, allelic variant) analysis for amplifying an allele-specific sequence can comprise: (a) hybridizing an allele-specific primer to a first nucleic acid molecule comprising a target allele; (b) hybridizing an allele-specific blocker probe to a second nucleic acid molecule comprising an alternative allele, wherein the alternative allele corresponds to the same loci as the target allele; (c) hybridizing a locus-specific detector probe to the first nucleic acid molecule; (d) hybridizing a locus-specific primer to the extension product of the allele-specific primer; and (e) PCR amplifying the target allele. In particular embodiments, the allele-specific blocker probe comprises a non-extendable blocker moiety at the 3' terminus. In other particular embodiments, both the allele-specific primer and the allele-specific blocker probe comprise a modified base at the

position of the target allele and the alternative allele, respectively. *See, e.g.*, U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/525,137, and PCT/US2012/051442 the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

V. Antibody Arrays

5 [0149] In certain aspects, the presence of dimerization, expression level and/or activation state of one or more (*e.g.*, a plurality) of signal transduction molecules (*e.g.*, a receptor tyrosine kinase such as HER2 or other members of the ErbB family, or a signaling pathway component such as PI3K) in a cellular extract of tumor cells such as breast, lung or other cancer cells is detected using an antibody-based array comprising a dilution series of capture
10 antibodies restrained on a solid support. The arrays typically comprise a plurality of different capture antibodies at a range of capture antibody concentrations that are coupled to the surface of the solid support in different addressable locations.

[0150] In one particular embodiment, the present invention provides an addressable array having superior dynamic range comprising a plurality of dilution series of capture antibodies
15 restrained on a solid support, in which the capture antibodies in each dilution series are specific for one or more analytes corresponding to a component of a signal transduction pathway and other target proteins. In various aspects, this embodiment includes arrays that comprise components of signal transduction pathways characteristic of particular tumors, *e.g.*, signal transduction pathways active in breast cancer cells (*e.g.*, HER pathway). Thus,
20 the invention may be advantageously practiced wherein each signal transduction molecule or other protein of interest with a potential expression or activation defect causing cancer is represented on a single array or chip. In some aspects, the components of a given signal transduction pathway active in a particular tumor cell are arrayed in a linear sequence that corresponds to the sequence in which information is relayed through a signal transduction
25 pathway within a cell. Examples of such arrays are described herein and disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 8,163,499 and PCT Publication No. WO2009/108637, the disclosures of which are herein incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes. The capture antibodies specific for one or more components of a given signal transduction pathway active in a particular tumor cell can also be printed in a randomized fashion to minimize any surface-
30 related artifacts.

[0151] The solid support can comprise any suitable substrate for immobilizing proteins. Examples of solid supports include, but are not limited to, glass (*e.g.*, a glass slide), plastic,

chips, pins, filters, beads, paper, membranes, fiber bundles, gels, metal, ceramics, and the like. Membranes such nylon (Biotrans™, ICN Biomedicals, Inc. (Costa Mesa, CA); Zeta-Probe®, Bio-Rad Laboratories (Hercules, CA)), nitrocellulose (Protran®, Whatman Inc. (Florham Park, NJ)), and PVDF (Immobilon™, Millipore Corp. (Billerica, MA)) are suitable
5 for use as solid supports in the arrays of the present invention. Preferably, the capture antibodies are restrained on glass slides coated with a nitrocellulose polymer, *e.g.*, FAST® Slides, which are commercially available from Whatman Inc. (Florham Park, NJ).

[0152] Particular aspects of the solid support which are desirable include the ability to bind large amounts of capture antibodies and the ability to bind capture antibodies with minimal
10 denaturation. Another suitable aspect is that the solid support displays minimal “wicking” when antibody solutions containing capture antibodies are applied to the support. A solid support with minimal wicking allows small aliquots of capture antibody solution applied to the support to result in small, defined spots of immobilized capture antibody.

[0153] The capture antibodies are typically directly or indirectly (*e.g.*, via capture tags)
15 restrained on the solid support via covalent or noncovalent interactions (*e.g.*, ionic bonds, hydrophobic interactions, hydrogen bonds, Van der Waals forces, dipole-dipole bonds). In some embodiments, the capture antibodies are covalently attached to the solid support using a homobifunctional or heterobifunctional crosslinker using standard crosslinking methods and conditions. Suitable crosslinkers are commercially available from vendors such as, *e.g.*,
20 Pierce Biotechnology (Rockford, IL).

[0154] Methods for generating arrays suitable for use in the present invention include, but are not limited to, any technique used to construct protein or nucleic acid arrays. In some
embodiments, the capture antibodies are spotted onto an array using a microspotter, which are typically robotic printers equipped with split pins, blunt pins, or ink jet printing. Suitable
25 robotic systems for printing the antibody arrays described herein include the PixSys 5000 robot (Cartesian Technologies; Irvine, CA) with ChipMaker2 split pins (TeleChem International; Sunnyvale, CA) as well as other robotic printers available from BioRobotics (Woburn, MA) and Packard Instrument Co. (Meriden, CT). Preferably, at least 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 replicates of each capture antibody dilution are spotted onto the array.

[0155] Another method for generating arrays suitable for use in the present invention
30 comprises dispensing a known volume of a capture antibody dilution at each selected array position by contacting a capillary dispenser onto a solid support under conditions effective to

draw a defined volume of liquid onto the support, wherein this process is repeated using selected capture antibody dilutions at each selected array position to create a complete array. The method may be practiced in forming a plurality of such arrays, where the solution-depositing step is applied to a selected position on each of a plurality of solid supports at each
5 repeat cycle. A further description of such a method can be found, *e.g.*, in U.S. Patent No. 5,807,522.

[0156] In certain instances, devices for printing on paper can be used to generate the antibody arrays. For example, the desired capture antibody dilution can be loaded into the printhead of a desktop jet printer and printed onto a suitable solid support (*see, e.g.*, Silzel *et*
10 *al.*, *Clin. Chem.*, 44:2036-2043 (1998)).

[0157] In some embodiments, the array generated on the solid support has a density of at least about 5 spots/cm², and preferably at least about 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 250, 275, 300, 325, 350, 375, 400, 425, 450, 475, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 750, 800, 850, 900, 950, 1000, 2000, 3000,
15 4000, 5000, 6000, 7000, 8000 or 9000, or 10,000 spots/cm².

[0158] In certain instances, the spots on the solid support each represents a different capture antibody. In certain other instances, multiple spots on the solid support represent the same capture antibody, *e.g.*, as a dilution series comprising a series of descending capture antibody concentrations.

[0159] Additional examples of methods for preparing and constructing antibody arrays on solid supports are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,197,599, 6,777,239, 6,780,582, 6,897,073, 7,179,638, 7,192,720, and 7,771,955; U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 20060115810, 20060263837, and 20070054326; and Varnum *et al.*, *Methods Mol. Biol.*, 264:161-172
(2004).

[0160] Methods for scanning antibody arrays are known in the art and include, without limitation, any technique used to scan protein or nucleic acid arrays. Microarray scanners suitable for use in the present invention are available from PerkinElmer (Boston, MA), Agilent Technologies (Palo Alto, CA), Applied Precision (Issaquah, WA), GSI Lumonics Inc. (Billerica, MA), and Axon Instruments (Union City, CA). As a non-limiting example, a
25
30 GSI ScanArray3000 for fluorescence detection can be used with ImaGene software for quantitation.

A. Detection Assays for Dimerization

[0161] In one embodiment, the present invention provides an assay for detecting and/or quantitating homo- or heterodimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases including, but not limited to, HER1/HER2 dimers, HER1/HER3 dimers, HER2/HER3 dimers, HER2/HER2 dimers, HER2/HER4 dimers, p95HER2/HER3 dimers, p95HER2/HER2 dimers, and the like. A homodimer is formed by two identical molecules such as HER2/HER2 in a process called homodimerization, whereas a heterodimer is formed by two different macromolecules such as HER1/HER3 in a process called heterodimerization. In this aspect, the assay comprises 3 antibodies: (1) a capture antibody specific for one member of the dimer pair; (2) a first detection antibody specific for a first member of the dimer pair, wherein the first detection antibody is specific for a different domain than the capture antibody; and a (3) a second detection antibody specific for a second member of the dimer pair.

[0162] Certain of the CEER techniques are disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 8,163,299, U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 20080261829, 20090035792, 20100167945, 20110071042 and 20110281748. Further details can be found, for example in WO 2010/132723 and WO 2011/008990, the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

[0163] FIG. 1A-C show one embodiment of the foregoing proximity assay for detection of dimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases. As shown in FIG. 1A, a capture antibody 112 is used to capture a member of the RTK dimer, for example HER2 113. A first detection antibody 115 is then used to bind to a different portion (e.g., epitope) on HER2. A second detection 120 antibody is thereafter used to bind to the dimerized second receptor tyrosine kinase e.g., HER3 125. The first detection antibody comprises one or a plurality of first activation state-independent antibodies specific for one member of the dimer, whereas a second detection antibody or a plurality of second detection antibodies is specific for the other member of the dimer. The first detection antibody is labeled with a facilitating moiety e.g., glucose oxidase (GO) and the second detection antibody is labeled with a first member of a signal amplification pair e.g., horseradish peroxidase (HRP). The facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing agent e.g., hydrogen peroxide, which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal amplification pair. Thereafter, the plurality of detectable captured analytes are incubated with a second member of the signal amplification pair e.g., tyramide or tyramide biotin to generate an amplified signal, which is then detected. Other heterodimer

examples such as a HER2/HER1 dimer and a HER3/HER1 dimer are shown as FIG. 1B and FIG. 1C, respectively.

[0164] Suitable activation state-independent antibodies for measuring dimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases include any antibody that binds to an epitope on a receptor tyrosine kinase having an amino acid residue that has not been activated (e.g., phosphorylated).
5 Activation state-independent antibodies that bind to RTKs such as members of the ErbB family, cMET, IGF-1R, and the like that are suitable for use in the present invention are commercially available from but not limited to Cell Signaling Technology (Danvers, MA), Thermo Scientific (Waltham, MA), Abcam (Cambridge, MA), Santa Cruz Biotechnology
10 (Santa Cruz, CA), Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO), and EMD Millipore (Billerica, MA).

[0165] Suitable activation state-dependent antibodies for measuring dimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases include any antibody that binds to an epitope of a receptor tyrosine kinase having an amino acid residue that has been activated (e.g., phosphorylated).
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15 family, cMET, IGF-1R, and the like that are suitable for use in the present invention are commercially available from but not limited to Cell Signaling Technology (Danvers, MA), Thermo Scientific (Waltham, MA), Abcam (Cambridge, MA), Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Santa Cruz, CA), Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO), and EMD Millipore (Billerica, MA).

[0166] In one embodiment, the present invention provides a method for selecting a treatment
20 for a subject having or suspected of having cancer, the method comprises:

(a) measuring the dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs), wherein measuring comprises: (i) incubating a cellular extract with one or a plurality of dilution series of capture antibodies to form a plurality of captured analytes; (ii) incubating the plurality of captured analytes with detection antibodies comprising a first or a plurality of first activation
25 state-independent antibodies and a second or a plurality of second activation state-independent antibodies specific for a first member and a second member, respectively, of a dimerized pair of analytes to form a plurality of detectable captured dimerized analytes, wherein the first activation state-independent antibodies are labeled with a facilitating moiety, the second activation state-independent antibodies are labeled with a first member of a signal
30 amplification pair, and the facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing agent which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal amplification pair; (iii) incubating the plurality of detectable captured dimerized analytes with a second member of the signal amplification

pair to generate an amplified signal; and (iv) detecting the amplified signal generated from the first and second members of the signal amplification pair; and

(b) selecting an anticancer drug by comparing the dimerization of at least two RTKs to a reference dimerization profile of the same two RTK wherein the reference dimerization profile is generated in the absence of the anticancer drug.

[0167] In some embodiments, the method further comprises calibrating the level of dimerization of at least two RTKs against a standard curve generated for the at least two RTKs.

[0168] In some embodiments, the cellular extract is isolated from a subject having cancer after administration of an anticancer drug. In some embodiments, the cellular extract is contacted with an anticancer drug. In some embodiments, the anticancer drug is selected from the consisting of a PI3K modulating compound, a RTK modulating compound, or a combination thereof.

[0169] In a preferred aspect, the amount of amplified signal is correlative to the amount of dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase.

[0170] The capture antibodies and detection antibodies are preferably selected to minimize competition between them with respect to analyte binding (*i.e.*, both capture and detection antibodies can simultaneously bind their corresponding signal transduction molecules).

[0171] A variety of facilitating moieties are useful in the present invention. A suitable facilitating moiety for use in the present invention includes any molecule capable of generating an oxidizing agent which channels to (*i.e.*, is directed to) and reacts with (*i.e.*, binds, is bound by, or forms a complex with) another molecule in proximity (*i.e.*, spatially near or close) to the facilitating moiety. Examples of facilitating moieties include, without limitation, enzymes such as glucose oxidase or any other enzyme that catalyzes an oxidation/reduction reaction involving molecular oxygen (O₂) as the electron acceptor, and photosensitizers such as methylene blue, rose bengal, porphyrins, squarate dyes, phthalocyanines, and the like. Non-limiting examples of oxidizing agents include hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂), a singlet oxygen, and any other compound that transfers oxygen atoms or gains electrons in an oxidation/reduction reaction. Preferably, in the presence of a suitable substrate (*e.g.*, glucose, light, *etc.*), the facilitating moiety (*e.g.*, glucose oxidase, photosensitizer, *etc.*) generates an oxidizing agent (*e.g.*, hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂), single

oxygen, *etc.*) which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal amplification pair (*e.g.*, horseradish peroxidase (HRP), hapten protected by a protecting group, an enzyme inactivated by thioether linkage to an enzyme inhibitor, *etc.*) when the two moieties are in proximity to each other.

5 [0172] Suitable signal amplification pair members include, but are not limited to, peroxidases such horseradish peroxidase (HRP), catalase, chloroperoxidase, cytochrome c peroxidase, eosinophil peroxidase, glutathione peroxidase, lactoperoxidase, myeloperoxidase, thyroid peroxidase, deiodinase, and the like. Other examples of signal amplification pair members include haptens protected by a protecting group and enzymes inactivated by
10 thioether linkage to an enzyme inhibitor.

[0173] In one example of proximity channeling, the facilitating moiety is glucose oxidase (GO) and the first member of the signal amplification pair is horseradish peroxidase (HRP). When the GO is contacted with a substrate such as glucose, it generates an oxidizing agent (*i.e.*, hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂)). If the HRP is within channeling proximity to the GO, the
15 H₂O₂ generated by the GO is channeled to and complexes with the HRP to form an HRP-H₂O₂ complex, which, in the presence of the second member of the signal amplification pair (*e.g.*, a chemiluminescent substrate such as luminol or isoluminol or a fluorogenic substrate such as tyramide (*e.g.*, biotin-tyramide), homovanillic acid, or 4-hydroxyphenyl acetic acid), generates an amplified signal. When biotin-tyramide is used as the second member of the
20 signal amplification pair, the HRP-H₂O₂ complex oxidizes the tyramide to generate a reactive tyramide radical that covalently binds nearby nucleophilic residues. The activated tyramide is either directly detected or detected upon the addition of a signal-detecting reagent such as, for example, a streptavidin-labeled fluorophore or a combination of a streptavidin-labeled peroxidase and a chromogenic reagent. Examples of fluorophores suitable for use in the
25 present invention include, but are not limited to, an Alexa Fluor[®] dye (*e.g.*, Alexa Fluor[®] 555), fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC), Oregon Green[™]; rhodamine, Texas red, tetra-rhodamine isothiocyanate (TRITC), a CyDye[™] fluor (*e.g.*, Cy2, Cy3, Cy5), and the like. The streptavidin label can be coupled directly or indirectly to the fluorophore or peroxidase using methods well-known in the art. Non-limiting examples of chromogenic reagents
30 suitable for use in the present invention include 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB), 3,3'-diaminobenzidine (DAB), 2,2'-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) (ABTS), 4-chloro-1-naphthol (4CN), and/or porphyrinogen.

[0174] In another example of proximity channeling, the facilitating moiety is a photosensitizer and the first member of the signal amplification pair is a large molecule labeled with multiple haptens that are protected with protecting groups that prevent binding of the haptens to a specific binding partner (*e.g.*, ligand, antibody, *etc.*). For example, the signal amplification pair member can be a dextran molecule labeled with protected biotin, coumarin, and/or fluorescein molecules. Suitable protecting groups include, but are not limited to, phenoxy-, analino-, olefin-, thioether-, and selenoether-protecting groups. Additional photosensitizers and protected hapten molecules suitable for use in the proximity assays of the present invention are described in U.S. Patent No. 5,807,675. When the photosensitizer is excited with light, it generates an oxidizing agent (*i.e.*, singlet oxygen). If the hapten molecules are within channeling proximity to the photosensitizer, the singlet oxygen generated by the photosensitizer is channeled to and reacts with thioethers on the protecting groups of the haptens to yield carbonyl groups (ketones or aldehydes) and sulphinic acid, releasing the protecting groups from the haptens. The unprotected haptens are then available to specifically bind to the second member of the signal amplification pair (*e.g.*, a specific binding partner that can generate a detectable signal). For example, when the hapten is biotin, the specific binding partner can be an enzyme-labeled streptavidin. Exemplary enzymes include alkaline phosphatase, β -galactosidase, HRP, *etc.* After washing to remove unbound reagents, the detectable signal can be generated by adding a detectable (*e.g.*, fluorescent, chemiluminescent, chromogenic, *etc.*) substrate of the enzyme and detected using suitable methods and instrumentation known in the art. Alternatively, the detectable signal can be amplified using tyramide signal amplification and the activated tyramide either directly detected or detected upon the addition of a signal-detecting reagent as described above.

[0175] In yet another example of proximity channeling, the facilitating moiety is a photosensitizer and the first member of the signal amplification pair is an enzyme-inhibitor complex. The enzyme and inhibitor (*e.g.*, phosphonic acid-labeled dextran) are linked together by a cleavable linker (*e.g.*, thioether). When the photosensitizer is excited with light, it generates an oxidizing agent (*i.e.*, singlet oxygen). If the enzyme-inhibitor complex is within channeling proximity to the photosensitizer, the singlet oxygen generated by the photosensitizer is channeled to and reacts with the cleavable linker, releasing the inhibitor from the enzyme, thereby activating the enzyme. An enzyme substrate is added to generate a

detectable signal, or alternatively, an amplification reagent is added to generate an amplified signal.

[0176] In a further example of proximity channeling, the facilitating moiety is HRP, the first member of the signal amplification pair is a protected hapten or an enzyme-inhibitor complex as described above, and the protecting groups comprise p-alkoxy phenol. The addition of phenylenediamine and H₂O₂ generates a reactive phenylene diimine which channels to the protected hapten or the enzyme-inhibitor complex and reacts with p-alkoxy phenol protecting groups to yield exposed haptens or a reactive enzyme. The amplified signal is generated and detected as described above (*see, e.g.*, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,532,138 and 5,445,944).

[0177] In one embodiment, the cellular extract comprises an extract of cells isolated from a sample. In certain instances, the sample is selected from whole blood, serum, plasma, fine needle aspirate (FNA), urine, sputum, bronchial lavage fluid, tears, nipple aspirate, lymph, saliva, and combinations thereof. In another embodiment, the sample is obtained from a patient having solid tumor cancer. Examples of such cancers include, but are not limited to, breast cancer, lung cancer (*e.g.*, non-small cell lung carcinoma), gastric cancer, pancreatic cancer, colorectal cancer and combinations thereof.

[0178] In some instances, the cellular extract is isolated from a patient with cancer after receiving anticancer drug therapy. In certain instances, the isolated cells are in contact with an anticancer drug or a combination of anticancer drugs. In some instances, an anticancer drug includes a PI3K inhibitor or a RTK modulating compound, such as a HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET or IGF-1R inhibitor). In other instances, the isolated cells are incubated with an anticancer drug or a combination of anticancer drugs prior to growth factor stimulation. In yet other instances, the isolated cells are lysed following growth factor stimulation to produce the cellular extract.

[0179] The methods of the present invention are particularly useful for determining the RTK activation (*e.g.*, phosphorylation) status of one or more oncogenic RTKs (*e.g.*, HER1, HER2, HER3, p95HER2, cMET and IGF-1R) in patients at risk of developing, suspected of having, or diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung or pancreatic cancer. In certain instances, the methods of the present invention aid, assist, or facilitate in the diagnosis and prognosis of a cancer in a subject by measuring activated (*e.g.*, phosphorylated) RTKs (*e.g.*, phospho-HER2 levels) to determine whether the subject

expresses an activated form of one or more of the RTK family of proteins (*e.g.*, a HER2-positive patient). In other embodiments, the methods of the present invention are performed on a subject, already determined to express one or more oncogenic proteins, to optimize therapy, reduce toxicity, monitor the efficacy of therapeutic treatment, and /or detect adaptive
5 non-responsiveness to therapy.

[0180] In some embodiments, the methods further comprise determining the activation status of one or more effector and adaptor proteins of the RTK pathway, and/or of an associated or compensatory pathway. In some instances, the associated or compensatory pathway is deregulated upon tumor adaptation to anticancer therapy.

10 B. Detection Assays for a PI3K Complex

[0181] It is known for example, that HER3 activation results in PI3K activation. However, it has now been surprisingly discovered that in certain instances and under certain conditions, HER3 phosphorylation and PI3K phosphorylation occur together. Using the assays described herein, it is possible to detect and quantitate the amount of PI3K complex and the amount of
15 activation and/or phosphorylation of a PI3K complex. The PI3K complex comprises i) a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair; ii) a PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 (*e.g.*, α or β) subunit. The assay comprises 3 antibodies: (1) a capture antibody specific for either the PI3K p85 or the PI3K p110 subunit; (2) a first detection antibody specific for a first member of the dimer pair, or PI3K subunit, wherein the first detection antibody is specific for a
20 different domain than the capture antibody and wherein the PI3K subunit may be activated; and (3) a second detection antibody specific for a second member of the dimer pair or a PI3K subunit.

[0182] FIG. 2 shows one embodiment of a PI3K complex 210 detectable by the methods and assays described herein. In this embodiment, (1) the PI3K p85 subunit 212 is bound by
25 the capture antibody 220; (2) a first detection antibody 250 is specific for the PI3K p110 α or β subunit; and (3) a second detection antibody 230 is specific for a first member of the dimer pair.

[0183] FIG. 3 shows another embodiment of an activated PI3K complex 310 detectable by the methods and assays described herein. In this embodiment, (1) the PI3K p85 subunit is
30 bound to the capture antibody 320; (2) a first detection antibody 360 is specific for the PI3K p110 α or β subunit ; and (3) a second detection antibody comprises an activation state-

dependent antibody 330 specific for a phosphorylation site on a PI3K subunit such as p85 (e.g., Y452, Y458, Y460, Y463, Y467, Y688, Y470, or other pTyr site).

[0184] FIG. 4A shows yet another embodiment of an activated PI3K complex detectable by the methods and assays described herein. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 4A (1) the PI3K p85 subunit is bound by the capture antibody 421; (2) a first detection antibody 430
5 comprises an activation state-independent antibody specific for a one member of a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase (e.g., HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R and the like); and (3) a second detection antibody 450 comprises an activation state-dependent antibody specific for a phosphorylation site on a PI3K subunit such as p85 (e.g., Y452, Y458, Y460, Y463, Y467,
10 Y688, Y470, or other pTyr site).

[0185] FIG. 4B shows still yet another embodiment of a PI3K complex detectable by the methods and assays described herein. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 4B (1) the PI3K p85 subunit is bound by the capture antibody 452; (2) a first detection antibody 471 comprises an activation state-independent antibody is specific for a one member of a dimerized receptor
15 tyrosine kinase (e.g., HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, and the like); and (3) a second detection antibody 491 comprises an activation state-independent antibody specific for the other member of the dimerized pair.

[0186] FIG. 4C illustrates the detection of activated PI3K complexes in T47D cells (human ductal breast epithelial tumor cell line) treated with heregulin (HRG), compared to non-
20 treated cells. In some embodiments, the detection of PI3K complexes will also correlate with the detection of activated (e.g., phosphorylated) PI3K.

[0187] FIG. 5A shows another embodiment of a PI3K complex detectable by the methods and assays described herein. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 5A (1) the PI3K p110 subunit is bound by the capture antibody 501; (2) a first detection antibody 515 comprises an
25 activation state-independent antibody specific for a one member of a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase (e.g., HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, and the like); and (3) a second detection antibody 525 comprises an activation state-dependent antibody specific for a phosphorylation site on a PI3K subunit such as p85 (e.g., Y452, Y458, Y460, Y463, Y467, Y688, Y470, or other pTyr site). In certain aspects, p85 capture for detecting phospho-PI3K
30 is more sensitive than p110 capture.

[0188] FIG. 5B shows an embodiment of a PI3K complex detectable by the methods and assays described herein. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 5B (1) the PI3K p85 subunit is

bound by the capture antibody 530; (2) a first detection antibody 550 comprises an activation state-independent antibody specific for one member of a dimer of a receptor tyrosine kinase (e.g., HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, and the like); and (3) a second detection antibody 562 comprises an activation state-dependent antibody specific for a phosphorylation site on a PI3K subunit such as p85 (e.g., Y452, Y458, Y460, Y463, Y467, Y688, Y470, or other pTyr site).

[0189] Suitable antibodies for measuring the level of a PI3K complex include any antibody that is specific for (*i.e.*, recognizes, binds to, or forms a complex with) an epitope of the PI3K p110 subunit (e.g., α or β), the PI3K p85 subunit, or the dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair.

[0190] Suitable activation state-independent antibodies bind to an epitope of the PI3K p110 subunit, the PI3K p85 subunit or the dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair, wherein the epitope is free of phosphorylated amino acid residues. Such activation state-independent antibodies include PI3K p85 subunit antibodies (Cat. #4257, #4292 from Cell Signaling Technology; Cat. Nos. sc-12929, sc-56934, sc-56938, sc-71892, sc-71891, and sc-376112, sc-292114, and sc-131325 from Santa Cruz Biotechnology; Cat. Nos. ab86714, ab22653, ab40755, ab250, ab135253, ab71925, ab63040, ab90578, ab133595, ab135952, ab65261, and ab71522 from Abcam), PI3K p110 α subunit antibodies (Cat. #4249 and #4249 from Cell Signaling Technology; Cat. Nos. sc-7248, sc-7189, sc-8010, sc-7174, sc-1332, sc-1331), and PI3K p110 β subunit antibodies (Cat. #3011 from Cell Signaling Technology; Cat. Nos. sc-7248, sc-7189, sc-8010, sc-376641, sc-376412, sc-376492, sc-603, sc-7175, sc-602 from Santa Cruz Biotechnology; Cat. Nos. ab32569, ab55593, ab97322, and ab32874 from Abcam).

[0191] Suitable activation state-independent antibodies specific for dimerized RTKs include antibodies to HER1 (Cat. #2646, #2239, #2239, #2963, #3265, and #2232 from Cell Signaling Technology; Cat. Nos. sc-374607, sc-365829, sc-80543, sc-120, sc-03, sc-101, sc-373476, sc-31155, sc-71031, sc-81451 and sc-71037 from Santa Cruz Biotechnology), antibodies to HER2 (Cat. #2165, #2248, #3250 and #2242 from Cell Signaling Technology), antibodies to HER3 (Cat. #4754 from Cell Signaling Technology; Cat. Nos. sc-415, sc-7390, sc-292557, sc-81455, sc-81454, sc-71067, sc-53279, and sc-285 from Santa Cruz Biotechnology), and antibodies to HER4 (Cat. # 4795 from Cell Signaling Technology; Cat.

Nos. sc-31150, sc-8050, sc-81456, sc-71071, sc-71070, sc-53280, sc31151, sc-283, and sc-31149 from Santa Cruz Biotechnology).

[0192] In some embodiments, an antibody that binds to the p110 α subunit is used in the present invention. In some embodiments, an antibody that binds to the p110 β subunit is used
5 in the present invention. Suitable activation-dependent antibodies against PI3K are described in U.S. Patent Publication No. 20080014595, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes. Antibodies to PI3K are also commercially available from, but not limited to, Upstate (Temecula, CA), Biosource (Camarillo, CA), Cell Signaling Technologies (Danvers, MA), R&D Systems (Minneapolis, MN), Lab Vision
10 (Fremont, CA), Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Santa Cruz, CA), BD Biosciences (San Jose, CA), Thermo Scientific (Waltham, MA), Abcam (Cambridge, MA), Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO), and EMD Millipore (Billerica, MA).

[0193] For example, suitable activation state-dependent antibodies bind to an epitope on the PI3K p110 subunit or the p85 subunit, wherein the epitope has at least one
15 phosphorylated amino acid residue (e.g., Y688 of p85, or other pTyr). Such activation state-dependent antibodies include a p-PI3K p85 (Tyr458)/p55 (Tyr199) antibody (Cat. #4228 from Cell Signaling Technology), a p-PI3K p85 (Tyr67) antibody (Cat. # sc-293115 from Santa Cruz Biotechnology), and a p-PI3K p85 (Tyr607) antibody (Cat. No. ab61801 from Abcam). Phospho-PI3K p85 antibodies useful in the present invention are described in U.S.
20 Patent Publication. No. 20080014595, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes. Likewise, PI3K p110 antibodies useful in the present invention are described in U.S. Patent No. 6,274,327, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes.

[0194] In some embodiments, antibodies specific to PI3K antigens (SEQ ID NOs: 10-12)
25 or fragments thereof can be used in the methods for measuring PI3K complexation.

[0195] Suitable activation state-dependent antibodies for measuring dimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases include any antibody that binds to an epitope of a receptor tyrosine kinase having an amino acid residue that has been activated (e.g., phosphorylated).
Activation state-dependent antibodies that bind to RTKs such as members of the ErbB
30 family, cMET, IGF-1R, and the like that are suitable for use in the present invention are commercially available from but not limited to Upstate (Temecula, CA), Biosource (Camarillo, CA), Cell Signaling Technologies (Danvers, MA), R&D Systems (Minneapolis,

MN), Lab Vision (Fremont, CA), Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Santa Cruz, CA), BD Biosciences (San Jose, CA), Thermo Scientific (Waltham, MA), Abcam (Cambridge, MA), Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO), and EMD Millipore (Billerica, MA).

[0196] For example, suitable activation state-dependent antibodies specific for dimerized
5 RTKs include antibodies to HER1 (Cat. #8808, #3056, #6963, #2231, #2641, #2235, #2237,
#2238, #2236, #2234, #2220, #4404, and #4407 from Cell Signaling Technology; Cat. Nos.
sc-16802, sc-12351, sc-16804, sc-16803, sc-101665, sc101668, sc-101667, and sc-101669
from Santa Cruz Biotechnology), antibodies to HER2 (Cat. #2244, #2241, #6942, #2249, and
#2247 from Cell Signaling Technology),), antibodies to HER3 (Cat. # 4561, #4787, #4791,
10 #2842 and #8017 from Cell Signaling Technology; Cat. No. sc-135654 from Santa Cruz
Biotechnology), and antibodies to HER4 (Cat. # 3790 and #4757 from Cell Signaling
Technology; Cat. Nos. sc-33040 and sc-81491 from Santa Cruz Biotechnology).

[0197] In one particular embodiment, the proximity assay for measuring (e., detecting and
quantitating) the level of a PI3K complex, wherein the PI3K complex comprises a) a
15 dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair; b) a PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 subunit,
comprises:

- (i) incubating a cellular extract with one or a plurality of dilution series of capture
antibodies to form a plurality of captured analytes;
- (ii) incubating the plurality of captured analytes with first detection antibodies
20 comprising either a) a first or a plurality of first activation state-independent
antibodies specific for one member of a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair
or b) a PI3K p110 subunit; and second detection antibodies comprising either
a) second or a plurality of second activation state-independent antibodies
specific for a) one member of a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair, a PI3K
25 p85 or a PI3K p110 subunit or b) activation state-dependent antibodies specific
for a PI3K p85 subunit and/or a PI3K p110 subunit to form a plurality of
detectable captured dimerized and complexed analytes,

wherein the first detection antibodies are labeled with a facilitating moiety, the
second detection antibodies are labeled with a first member of a signal
30 amplification pair, and the facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing agent
which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal amplification
pair;

- (iii) incubating the plurality of detectable captured dimerized analytes with a second member of the signal amplification pair to generate an amplified signal; and
- (iv) detecting the amplified signal generated from the first and second members of the signal amplification pair.

5 **[0198]** In another embodiment, the present invention provides a method for selecting a treatment for a subject having or suspected of having cancer, the method comprising:

- (a) measuring the level of a PI3K complex activation, wherein said PI3K complex comprises
 - i) dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs); ii) a PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 subunit, said measuring comprises:
 - 10 (i) incubating a cellular extract with one or a plurality of dilution series of capture antibodies to form a plurality of captured analytes; (ii) incubating the plurality of captured analytes with first detection antibodies comprising either
 - a) a first or a plurality of first activation state-independent antibodies specific for one member of a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair or b) a PI3K p110 subunit; and second detection antibodies comprising either a) second or a plurality of second activation state-independent
 - 15 antibodies specific for a) one member of a dimerized receptor tyrosine kinase pair, a PI3K p85 or a PI3K p110 subunit or b) activation state-dependent antibodies specific for a PI3K p85 subunit and/or a PI3K p110 subunit to form a plurality of detectable captured dimerized and complexed analytes, wherein the first detection antibodies are labeled with a facilitating moiety, the second detection antibodies are labeled with a first member of a signal
 - 20 amplification pair, and the facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing agent which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal amplification pair; incubating the plurality of detectable captured dimerized analytes with a second member of the signal amplification pair to generate an amplified signal; and detecting the amplified signal generated from the first and second members of the signal amplification pair; and
 - 25 (b) selecting an anticancer drug by comparing the level of the PI3K complex activation to a reference PI3K complex activation profile wherein the reference complex profile is generated in the absence of the anticancer drug.

[0199] In a preferred aspect, the amount of amplified signal is correlative to the amount of PI3K complex.

30 **[0200]** In some embodiments, the level of PI3K complex is calibrated against a standard curve generated for said PI3K complex comprising i) dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs); ii) a PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 subunit.

[0201] In some embodiments, the level of PI3K complex activation is determined by a) comparing the amount of phospho-PI3K to the total level of PI3K present in the sample, and b) establishing a ratio of activated PI3K complex to total PI3K. The level of the PI3K complex activation is determined based on the ratio. In some instances, the level of the PI3K complex activation is below a cut-off threshold, which indicates that the subject would not benefit from PI3K inhibitor treatment. In some instances, the level of the PI3K complex activation is above the cut-off threshold, which indicates that the subject would benefit from PI3K inhibitor treatment.

[0092] In some embodiments, the level of PI3K complex activation of about 3-1000 CU is indicative of a subject with cancer benefiting from a PI3K inhibitor. For instance, a subject having a cancer and with a PI3K activation level of 3-1000 CU is likely to respond to a PI3K inhibitor. In preferred embodiments, the level of PI3K complex activation of about 20-500 CU is indicative of a subject with cancer benefiting from a PI3K inhibitor. For instance, a subject having a cancer and with a PI3K complex activation level of 20-500 CU is likely to respond to a PI3K inhibitor. In some embodiments, a sample with 1 CU of PI3K complexation has a RFU value equivalent to RFU value of 1 standard reference established using a reference cell line or sample.

[0202] In some embodiments, the level of PI3K complex activation (e.g., phosphorylated PI3K complex) indicates that a PI3K inhibitor alone should be selected for the subject. In other embodiments, the level of PI3K complex activation indicates that a combination therapy comprising a PI3K inhibitor and another anticancer drug should be selected for the subject.

[0203] In some embodiments, the cellular extract is isolated from a subject having cancer after administration of an anticancer drug. In some embodiments, the cellular extract is contacted with an anticancer drug. In some embodiments, the anticancer drug is selected from the consisting of a PI3K modulating compound, a RTK modulating compound, or a combination thereof.

[0204] In some embodiments, at least two RTKs is a member selected form the group consisting of a HER1/HER2 dimer, a HER1/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER2 dimer, a HER2/HER4 dimer, a p95HER2/HER3 dimer, and a p95HER2/HER2 dimer.

[0205] As discussed above, in one example of proximity channeling, the facilitating moiety is glucose oxidase (GO) and the first member of the signal amplification pair is horseradish peroxidase (HRP). When the GO is contacted with a substrate such as glucose, it generates an oxidizing agent (*i.e.*, hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂)). If the HRP is within channeling
5 proximity to the GO, the H₂O₂ generated by the GO is channeled to and complexes with the HRP to form an HRP-H₂O₂ complex, which, in the presence of the second member of the signal amplification pair (*e.g.*, a chemiluminescent substrate such as luminol or isoluminol or a fluorogenic substrate such as tyramide (*e.g.*, biotin-tyramide), homovanillic acid, or 4-hydroxyphenyl acetic acid), generates an amplified signal. When biotin-tyramide is used as
10 the second member of the signal amplification pair, the HRP-H₂O₂ complex oxidizes the tyramide to generate a reactive tyramide radical that covalently binds nearby nucleophilic residues. The activated tyramide is either directly detected or detected upon the addition of a signal-detecting reagent such as, for example, a streptavidin-labeled fluorophore or a combination of a streptavidin-labeled peroxidase and a chromogenic reagent. Examples of
15 fluorophores suitable for use in the present invention include, but are not limited to, an Alexa Fluor[®] dye (*e.g.*, Alexa Fluor[®] 555), fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC), Oregon Green[™]; rhodamine, Texas red, tetra-rhodamine isothiocyanate (TRITC), a CyDye[™] fluor (*e.g.*, Cy2, Cy3, Cy5), and the like. The streptavidin label can be coupled directly or indirectly to the fluorophore or peroxidase using methods well-known in the art. Non-
20 limiting examples of chromogenic reagents suitable for use in the present invention include 3,3',5,5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB), 3,3'-diaminobenzidine (DAB), 2,2'-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) (ABTS), 4-chloro-1-naphthol (4CN), and/or porphyrinogen.

[0206] In one embodiment, the cellular extract comprises an extract of cells isolated from a
25 sample. In certain instances, the sample is selected from whole blood, serum, plasma, fine needle aspirate (FNA), urine, sputum, bronchial lavage fluid, tears, nipple aspirate, lymph, saliva, and combinations thereof. In another embodiment, the sample is obtained from a patient having solid tumor cancer. Examples of such cancers include, but are not limited to, breast cancer, lung cancer (*e.g.*, non-small cell lung carcinoma), gastric cancer, pancreatic
30 cancer, colorectal cancer and combinations thereof. In some instances, the cellular extract is isolated from a patient with cancer after receiving anticancer drug therapy. In certain instances, the isolated cells are in contact with an anticancer drug combination of anticancer drugs. In some instances, an anticancer drug includes a PI3K inhibitor or a RTK inhibitor,

such as a HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET or IGF-1R inhibitor). In other instances, the isolated cells are incubated with an anticancer drug or a combination of anticancer drugs prior to growth factor stimulation. In yet other instances, the isolated cells are lysed following growth factor stimulation to produce the cellular extract.

5 [0207] The methods of the present invention are particularly useful for determining the PI3K complex activation (*e.g.*, phosphorylation) status in patients at risk of developing, suspected of having, or diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung or pancreatic cancer. In some instances, the activation of the PI3K complex comprises one or more activated RTKs (*e.g.*, HER1, HER2, HER3, p95HER2, cMET and
10 IGF-1R), a PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 subunit. In certain instances, the methods of the present invention aid, assist, or facilitate in the diagnosis and prognosis of a cancer in a subject by measuring activated PI3K complexes to determine whether the subject's tumor cells express an activated PI3K complex. In other embodiments, the methods of the present invention are performed on a subject, already determined to express one or more oncogenic
15 proteins, to optimize therapy, reduce toxicity, monitor the efficacy of therapeutic treatment, and /or detect adaptive non-responsiveness to therapy.

[0208] In some aspects, the methods further comprise determining the activation status of one or more signal transducer proteins of the PI3K pathway or of an associated and/or compensatory pathway. In some instances, the associated or compensatory pathway is
20 deregulated upon tumor adaptation to anticancer therapy.

[0209] In another embodiment, the PI3K complex assay comprises: (1) a capture antibody specific for the p85 subunit of PI3K; (2) a detection antibody specific that binds to the activated form of an RTK or a downstream protein (*e.g.*, adaptor protein, effector, or kinase protein); and (3) a detection antibody that recognizes to the activated form of another RTK or
25 downstream protein. Non-limiting examples of downstream proteins (*e.g.*, adaptor protein, effector, or kinase protein) include CK, Shc, AKT, CRKL, PDK1, MEK, FAK, PTEN, ERK/MAPK, BRAF, KRAS, PRAS40, and p70S6K.

C. Production of Antibodies

[0210] The generation and selection of antibodies not already commercially available for
30 analyzing the expression and/or activation levels of signal transduction molecules (*e.g.*, HER2 signaling pathway components and PI3K) in cells such as tumor cells in accordance with the present invention can be accomplished several ways. For example, one way is to

express and/or purify a polypeptide of interest (*i.e.*, antigen) using protein expression and purification methods known in the art, while another way is to synthesize the polypeptide of interest using solid phase peptide synthesis methods known in the art. *See, e.g., Guide to Protein Purification*, Murray P. Deutcher, ed., *Meth. Enzymol.*, Vol. 182 (1990); *Solid Phase Peptide Synthesis*, Greg B. Fields, ed., *Meth. Enzymol.*, Vol. 289 (1997); Kiso *et al.*, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.*, 38:1192-99 (1990); Mostafavi *et al.*, *Biomed. Pept. Proteins Nucleic Acids*, 1:255-60, (1995); and Fujiwara *et al.*, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.*, 44:1326-31 (1996). The purified or synthesized polypeptide can then be injected, for example, into mice or rabbits, to generate polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies. One skilled in the art will recognize that many procedures are available for the production of antibodies, for example, as described in *Antibodies, A Laboratory Manual*, Harlow and Lane, Eds., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1988). For example, PI3K antigens such as those of SEQ ID NO: 10-12 can be used to produce antibodies suitable for use in the methods of the present invention. One skilled in the art will also appreciate that binding fragments or Fab fragments which mimic (*e.g.*, retain the functional binding regions of) antibodies can also be prepared from genetic information by various procedures. *See, e.g., Antibody Engineering: A Practical Approach*, Borrebaeck, Ed., Oxford University Press, Oxford (1995); and Huse *et al.*, *J. Immunol.*, 149:3914-3920 (1992).

[0211] In addition, numerous publications have reported the use of phage display technology to produce and screen libraries of polypeptides for binding to a selected target antigen (*see, e.g.*, Cwirla *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 87:6378-6382 (1990); Devlin *et al.*, *Science*, 249:404-406 (1990); Scott *et al.*, *Science*, 249:386-388 (1990); and Ladner *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,571,698). A basic concept of phage display methods is the establishment of a physical association between a polypeptide encoded by the phage DNA and a target antigen. This physical association is provided by the phage particle, which displays a polypeptide as part of a capsid enclosing the phage genome which encodes the polypeptide. The establishment of a physical association between polypeptides and their genetic material allows simultaneous mass screening of very large numbers of phage bearing different polypeptides. Phage displaying a polypeptide with affinity to a target antigen bind to the target antigen and these phage are enriched by affinity screening to the target antigen. The identity of polypeptides displayed from these phage can be determined from their respective genomes. Using these methods, a polypeptide identified as having a binding affinity for a

desired target antigen can then be synthesized in bulk by conventional means (*see, e.g.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,057,098).

[0212] The antibodies that are generated by these methods can then be selected by first screening for affinity and specificity with the purified polypeptide antigen of interest and, if
5 required, comparing the results to the affinity and specificity of the antibodies with other polypeptide antigens that are desired to be excluded from binding. The screening procedure can involve immobilization of the purified polypeptide antigens in separate wells of microtiter plates. The solution containing a potential antibody or group of antibodies is then placed into the respective microtiter wells and incubated for about 30 minutes to 2 hours.
10 The microtiter wells are then washed and a labeled secondary antibody (*e.g.*, an anti-mouse antibody conjugated to alkaline phosphatase if the raised antibodies are mouse antibodies) is added to the wells and incubated for about 30 minutes and then washed. Substrate is added to the wells and a color reaction will appear where antibody to the immobilized polypeptide antigen is present.

15 [0213] The antibodies so identified can then be further analyzed for affinity and specificity. In the development of immunoassays for a target protein, the purified target protein acts as a standard with which to judge the sensitivity and specificity of the immunoassay using the antibodies that have been selected. Because the binding affinity of various antibodies may differ, *e.g.*, certain antibody combinations may interfere with one another sterically, assay
20 performance of an antibody may be a more important measure than absolute affinity and specificity of that antibody.

[0214] Those skilled in the art will recognize that many approaches can be taken in producing antibodies or binding fragments and screening and selecting for affinity and specificity for the various polypeptides of interest, but these approaches do not change the
25 scope of the present invention.

1. Polyclonal Antibodies

[0215] Polyclonal antibodies are preferably raised in animals by multiple subcutaneous (sc) or intraperitoneal (ip) injections of a polypeptide of interest and an adjuvant. It may be useful to conjugate the polypeptide of interest to a protein carrier that is immunogenic in the species
30 to be immunized, such as, *e.g.*, keyhole limpet hemocyanin, serum albumin, bovine thyroglobulin, or soybean trypsin inhibitor using a bifunctional or derivatizing agent. Non-limiting examples of bifunctional or derivatizing agents include maleimidobenzoyl

sulfosuccinimide ester (conjugation through cysteine residues), N-hydroxysuccinimide (conjugation through lysine residues), glutaraldehyde, succinic anhydride, SOCl_2 , and $\text{R}_1\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{NR}$, wherein R and R_1 are different alkyl groups.

[0216] Animals are immunized against the polypeptide of interest or an immunogenic
5 conjugate or derivative thereof by combining, *e.g.*, 100 μg (for rabbits) or 5 μg (for mice) of the antigen or conjugate with 3 volumes of Freund's complete adjuvant and injecting the solution intradermally at multiple sites. One month later, the animals are boosted with about 1/5 to 1/10 the original amount of polypeptide or conjugate in Freund's incomplete adjuvant by subcutaneous injection at multiple sites. Seven to fourteen days later, the animals are bled
10 and the serum is assayed for antibody titer. Animals are typically boosted until the titer plateaus. Preferably, the animal is boosted with the conjugate of the same polypeptide, but conjugation to a different immunogenic protein and/or through a different cross-linking reagent may be used. Conjugates can also be made in recombinant cell culture as fusion proteins. In certain instances, aggregating agents such as alum can be used to enhance the
15 immune response.

2. Monoclonal Antibodies

[0217] Monoclonal antibodies are generally obtained from a population of substantially homogeneous antibodies, *i.e.*, the individual antibodies comprising the population are identical except for possible naturally-occurring mutations that may be present in minor
20 amounts. Thus, the modifier "monoclonal" indicates the character of the antibody as not being a mixture of discrete antibodies. For example, monoclonal antibodies can be made using the hybridoma method described by Kohler *et al.*, *Nature*, 256:495 (1975) or by any recombinant DNA method known in the art (*see, e.g.*, U.S. Patent No. 4,816,567).

[0218] In the hybridoma method, a mouse or other appropriate host animal (*e.g.*, hamster)
25 is immunized as described above to elicit lymphocytes that produce or are capable of producing antibodies which specifically bind to the polypeptide of interest used for immunization. Alternatively, lymphocytes are immunized *in vitro*. The immunized lymphocytes are then fused with myeloma cells using a suitable fusing agent, such as polyethylene glycol, to form hybridoma cells (*see, e.g.*, Goding, *Monoclonal Antibodies: Principles and Practice*, Academic Press, pp. 59-103 (1986)). The hybridoma cells thus
30 prepared are seeded and grown in a suitable culture medium that preferably contains one or more substances which inhibit the growth or survival of the unfused, parental myeloma cells.

For example, if the parental myeloma cells lack the enzyme hypoxanthine guanine phosphoribosyl transferase (HGPRT), the culture medium for the hybridoma cells will typically include hypoxanthine, aminopterin, and thymidine (HAT medium), which prevent the growth of HGPRT-deficient cells.

5 [0219] Preferred myeloma cells are those that fuse efficiently, support stable high-level production of antibody by the selected antibody-producing cells, and/or are sensitive to a medium such as HAT medium. Examples of such preferred myeloma cell lines for the production of human monoclonal antibodies include, but are not limited to, murine myeloma lines such as those derived from MOPC-21 and MPC-11 mouse tumors (available from the
10 Salk Institute Cell Distribution Center; San Diego, CA), SP-2 or X63-Ag8-653 cells (available from the American Type Culture Collection; Rockville, MD), and human myeloma or mouse-human heteromyeloma cell lines (*see, e.g., Kozbor, J. Immunol.*, 133:3001 (1984); and Brodeur *et al.*, *Monoclonal Antibody Production Techniques and Applications*, Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, pp. 51-63 (1987)).

15 [0220] The culture medium in which hybridoma cells are growing can be assayed for the production of monoclonal antibodies directed against the polypeptide of interest. Preferably, the binding specificity of monoclonal antibodies produced by hybridoma cells is determined by immunoprecipitation or by an *in vitro* binding assay, such as a radioimmunoassay (RIA) or an enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assay (ELISA). The binding affinity of monoclonal
20 antibodies can be determined using, *e.g.*, the Scatchard analysis of Munson *et al.*, *Anal. Biochem.*, 107:220 (1980).

[0221] After hybridoma cells are identified that produce antibodies of the desired specificity, affinity, and/or activity, the clones may be subcloned by limiting dilution procedures and grown by standard methods (*see, e.g., Goding, Monoclonal Antibodies: Principles and Practice*, Academic Press, pp. 59-103 (1986)). Suitable culture media for this
25 purpose include, for example, D-MEM or RPMI-1640 medium. In addition, the hybridoma cells may be grown *in vivo* as ascites tumors in an animal. The monoclonal antibodies secreted by the subclones can be separated from the culture medium, ascites fluid, or serum by conventional antibody purification procedures such as, for example, protein A-Sepharose,
30 hydroxylapatite chromatography, gel electrophoresis, dialysis, or affinity chromatography.

[0222] DNA encoding the monoclonal antibodies can be readily isolated and sequenced using conventional procedures (*e.g.*, by using oligonucleotide probes that are capable of

binding specifically to genes encoding the heavy and light chains of murine antibodies). The hybridoma cells serve as a preferred source of such DNA. Once isolated, the DNA may be placed into expression vectors, which are then transfected into host cells such as *E. coli* cells, simian COS cells, Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cells, or myeloma cells that do not
5 otherwise produce antibody, to induce the synthesis of monoclonal antibodies in the recombinant host cells. *See, e.g., Skerra et al., Curr. Opin. Immunol., 5:256-262 (1993); and Pluckthun, Immunol Rev., 130:151-188 (1992).* The DNA can also be modified, for example, by substituting the coding sequence for human heavy chain and light chain constant domains in place of the homologous murine sequences (*see, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 4,816,567; and*
10 *Morrison et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 81:6851 (1984)*), or by covalently joining to the immunoglobulin coding sequence all or part of the coding sequence for a non-immunoglobulin polypeptide.

[0223] In a further embodiment, monoclonal antibodies or antibody fragments can be isolated from antibody phage libraries generated using the techniques described in, for
15 example, *McCafferty et al., Nature, 348:552-554 (1990); Clackson et al., Nature, 352:624-628 (1991); and Marks et al., J. Mol. Biol., 222:581-597 (1991).* The production of high affinity (nM range) human monoclonal antibodies by chain shuffling is described in *Marks et al., BioTechnology, 10:779-783 (1992).* The use of combinatorial infection and *in vivo* recombination as a strategy for constructing very large phage libraries is described in
20 *Waterhouse et al., Nuc. Acids Res., 21:2265-2266 (1993).* Thus, these techniques are viable alternatives to traditional monoclonal antibody hybridoma methods for the generation of monoclonal antibodies.

3. Humanized Antibodies

[0224] Methods for humanizing non-human antibodies are known in the art. Preferably, a
25 humanized antibody has one or more amino acid residues introduced into it from a source which is non-human. These non-human amino acid residues are often referred to as “import” residues, which are typically taken from an “import” variable domain. Humanization can be essentially performed by substituting the hypervariable region sequences of a non-human antibody for the corresponding sequences of a human antibody. *See, e.g., Jones et al.,*
30 *Nature, 321:522-525 (1986); Riechmann et al., Nature, 332:323-327 (1988); and Verhoeyen et al., Science, 239:1534-1536 (1988).* Accordingly, such “humanized” antibodies are chimeric antibodies (*see, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 4,816,567*), wherein substantially less than an

intact human variable domain has been substituted by the corresponding sequence from a non-human species. In practice, humanized antibodies are typically human antibodies in which some hypervariable region residues and possibly some framework region (FR) residues are substituted by residues from analogous sites of rodent antibodies.

5 [0225] The choice of human variable domains, both light and heavy, to be used in making the humanized antibodies described herein is an important consideration for reducing antigenicity. According to the so-called “best-fit” method, the sequence of the variable domain of a rodent antibody is screened against the entire library of known human variable-domain sequences. The human sequence which is closest to that of the rodent is then
10 accepted as the human FR for the humanized antibody (*see, e.g., Sims et al., J. Immunol., 151:2296 (1993); and Chothia et al., J. Mol. Biol., 196:901 (1987)*). Another method uses a particular FR derived from the consensus sequence of all human antibodies of a particular subgroup of light or heavy chains. The same FR may be used for several different humanized antibodies (*see, e.g., Carter et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 89:4285 (1992); and Presta et al., J. Immunol., 151:2623 (1993)*).
15

[0226] It is also important that antibodies be humanized with retention of high affinity for the antigen and other favorable biological properties. To achieve this goal, humanized antibodies can be prepared by a process of analysis of the parental sequences and various conceptual humanized products using three-dimensional models of the parental and
20 humanized sequences. Three-dimensional immunoglobulin models are commonly available and are familiar to those skilled in the art. Computer programs are available which illustrate and display probable three-dimensional conformational structures of selected candidate immunoglobulin sequences. Inspection of these displays permits analysis of the likely role of the residues in the functioning of the candidate immunoglobulin sequence, *i.e.*, the analysis of
25 residues that influence the ability of the candidate immunoglobulin to bind its antigen. In this way, FR residues can be selected and combined from the recipient and import sequences so that the desired antibody characteristic, such as increased affinity for the target antigen(s), is achieved. In general, the hypervariable region residues are directly and specifically involved in influencing antigen binding.

30 [0227] Various forms of humanized antibodies are contemplated in accordance with the present invention. For example, the humanized antibody can be an antibody fragment, such

as a Fab fragment. Alternatively, the humanized antibody can be an intact antibody, such as an intact IgA, IgG, or IgM antibody.

4. Human Antibodies

- [0228] As an alternative to humanization, human antibodies can be generated. In some
5 embodiments, transgenic animals (*e.g.*, mice) can be produced that are capable, upon
immunization, of producing a full repertoire of human antibodies in the absence of
endogenous immunoglobulin production. For example, it has been described that the
homozygous deletion of the antibody heavy-chain joining region (JH) gene in chimeric and
germ-line mutant mice results in complete inhibition of endogenous antibody production.
10 Transfer of the human germ-line immunoglobulin gene array in such germ-line mutant mice
will result in the production of human antibodies upon antigen challenge. *See, e.g.*,
Jakobovits *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 90:2551 (1993); Jakobovits *et al.*, *Nature*,
362:255-258 (1993); Bruggermann *et al.*, *Year in Immun.*, 7:33 (1993); and U.S. Patent Nos.
5,591,669, 5,589,369, and 5,545,807.
- 15 [0229] Alternatively, phage display technology (*see, e.g.*, McCafferty *et al.*, *Nature*,
348:552-553 (1990)) can be used to produce human antibodies and antibody fragments *in*
vitro, using immunoglobulin variable (V) domain gene repertoires from unimmunized
donors. According to this technique, antibody V domain genes are cloned in-frame into
either a major or minor coat protein gene of a filamentous bacteriophage, such as M13 or fd,
20 and displayed as functional antibody fragments on the surface of the phage particle. Because
the filamentous particle contains a single-stranded DNA copy of the phage genome,
selections based on the functional properties of the antibody also result in selection of the
gene encoding the antibody exhibiting those properties. Thus, the phage mimics some of the
properties of the B cell. Phage display can be performed in a variety of formats as described
25 in, *e.g.*, Johnson *et al.*, *Curr. Opin. Struct. Biol.*, 3:564-571 (1993). Several sources of V-
gene segments can be used for phage display. *See, e.g.*, Clackson *et al.*, *Nature*, 352:624-628
(1991). A repertoire of V genes from unimmunized human donors can be constructed and
antibodies to a diverse array of antigens (including self-antigens) can be isolated essentially
following the techniques described in Marks *et al.*, *J. Mol. Biol.*, 222:581-597 (1991);
30 Griffith *et al.*, *EMBO J.*, 12:725-734 (1993); and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,565,332 and 5,573,905.
- [0230] In certain instances, human antibodies can be generated by *in vitro* activated B cells
as described in, *e.g.*, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,567,610 and 5,229,275.

5. Antibody Fragments

[0231] Various techniques have been developed for the production of antibody fragments. Traditionally, these fragments were derived via proteolytic digestion of intact antibodies (*see, e.g., Morimoto et al., J. Biochem. Biophys. Meth., 24:107-117 (1992); and Brennan et al., Science, 229:81 (1985)*). However, these fragments can now be produced directly using recombinant host cells. For example, the antibody fragments can be isolated from the antibody phage libraries discussed above. Alternatively, Fab'-SH fragments can be directly recovered from *E. coli* cells and chemically coupled to form F(ab')₂ fragments (*see, e.g., Carter et al., BioTechnology, 10:163-167 (1992)*). According to another approach, F(ab')₂ fragments can be isolated directly from recombinant host cell culture. Other techniques for the production of antibody fragments will be apparent to those skilled in the art. In other embodiments, the antibody of choice is a single chain Fv fragment (scFv). *See, e.g., PCT Publication No. WO 93/16185; and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,571,894 and 5,587,458.* The antibody fragment may also be a linear antibody as described, *e.g., in U.S. Patent No. 5,641,870.* Such linear antibody fragments may be monospecific or bispecific.

6. Bispecific Antibodies

[0232] Bispecific antibodies are antibodies that have binding specificities for at least two different epitopes. Exemplary bispecific antibodies may bind to two different epitopes of the same polypeptide of interest. Other bispecific antibodies may combine a binding site for the polypeptide of interest with binding site(s) for one or more additional antigens. Bispecific antibodies can be prepared as full-length antibodies or antibody fragments (*e.g., F(ab')₂ bispecific antibodies*).

[0233] Methods for making bispecific antibodies are known in the art. Traditional production of full-length bispecific antibodies is based on the co-expression of two immunoglobulin heavy chain-light chain pairs, where the two chains have different specificities (*see, e.g., Millstein et al., Nature, 305:537-539 (1983)*). Because of the random assortment of immunoglobulin heavy and light chains, these hybridomas (quadromas) produce a potential mixture of 10 different antibody molecules, of which only one has the correct bispecific structure. Purification of the correct molecule is usually performed by affinity chromatography. Similar procedures are disclosed in PCT Publication No. WO 93/08829 and Traunecker *et al., EMBO J., 10:3655-3659 (1991)*.

[0234] According to a different approach, antibody variable domains with the desired binding specificities (antibody-antigen combining sites) are fused to immunoglobulin constant domain sequences. The fusion preferably is with an immunoglobulin heavy chain constant domain, comprising at least part of the hinge, CH2, and CH3 regions. It is preferred to have the first heavy chain constant region (CH1) containing the site necessary for light chain binding present in at least one of the fusions. DNA encoding the immunoglobulin heavy chain fusions and, if desired, the immunoglobulin light chain, are inserted into separate expression vectors, and are co-transfected into a suitable host organism. This provides for great flexibility in adjusting the mutual proportions of the three polypeptide fragments in embodiments when unequal ratios of the three polypeptide chains used in the construction provide the optimum yields. It is, however, possible to insert the coding sequences for two or all three polypeptide chains into one expression vector when the expression of at least two polypeptide chains in equal ratios results in high yields or when the ratios are of no particular significance.

[0235] In a preferred embodiment of this approach, the bispecific antibodies are composed of a hybrid immunoglobulin heavy chain with a first binding specificity in one arm, and a hybrid immunoglobulin heavy chain-light chain pair (providing a second binding specificity) in the other arm. This asymmetric structure facilitates the separation of the desired bispecific compound from unwanted immunoglobulin chain combinations, as the presence of an immunoglobulin light chain in only one half of the bispecific molecule provides for a facile way of separation. *See, e.g.*, PCT Publication No. WO 94/04690 and Suresh *et al.*, *Meth. Enzymol.*, 121:210 (1986).

[0236] According to another approach described in U.S. Patent No. 5,731,168, the interface between a pair of antibody molecules can be engineered to maximize the percentage of heterodimers which are recovered from recombinant cell culture. The preferred interface comprises at least a part of the CH3 domain of an antibody constant domain. In this method, one or more small amino acid side-chains from the interface of the first antibody molecule are replaced with larger side chains (*e.g.*, tyrosine or tryptophan). Compensatory "cavities" of identical or similar size to the large side-chain(s) are created on the interface of the second antibody molecule by replacing large amino acid side-chains with smaller ones (*e.g.*, alanine or threonine). This provides a mechanism for increasing the yield of the heterodimer over other unwanted end-products such as homodimers.

[0237] Bispecific antibodies include cross-linked or “heteroconjugate” antibodies. For example, one of the antibodies in the heteroconjugate can be coupled to avidin, the other to biotin. Heteroconjugate antibodies can be made using any convenient cross-linking method. Suitable cross-linking agents and techniques are well-known in the art, and are disclosed in,
5 *e.g.*, U.S. Patent No. 4,676,980.

[0238] Suitable techniques for generating bispecific antibodies from antibody fragments are also known in the art. For example, bispecific antibodies can be prepared using chemical linkage. In certain instances, bispecific antibodies can be generated by a procedure in which intact antibodies are proteolytically cleaved to generate F(ab')₂ fragments (*see, e.g.*, Brennan
10 *et al.*, *Science*, 229:81 (1985)). These fragments are reduced in the presence of the dithiol complexing agent sodium arsenite to stabilize vicinal dithiols and prevent intermolecular disulfide formation. The Fab' fragments generated are then converted to thionitrobenzoate (TNB) derivatives. One of the Fab'-TNB derivatives is then reconverted to the Fab'-thiol by reduction with mercaptoethylamine and is mixed with an equimolar amount of the other
15 Fab'-TNB derivative to form the bispecific antibody.

[0239] In some embodiments, Fab'-SH fragments can be directly recovered from *E. coli* and chemically coupled to form bispecific antibodies. For example, a fully humanized bispecific antibody F(ab')₂ molecule can be produced by the methods described in Shalaby *et al.*, *J. Exp. Med.*, 175: 217-225 (1992). Each Fab' fragment was separately secreted from *E.*
20 *coli* and subjected to directed chemical coupling *in vitro* to form the bispecific antibody.

[0240] Various techniques for making and isolating bispecific antibody fragments directly from recombinant cell culture have also been described. For example, bispecific antibodies have been produced using leucine zippers. *See, e.g.*, Kostelny *et al.*, *J. Immunol.*, 148:1547-1553 (1992). The leucine zipper peptides from the Fos and Jun proteins were linked to the
25 Fab' portions of two different antibodies by gene fusion. The antibody homodimers were reduced at the hinge region to form monomers and then re-oxidized to form the antibody heterodimers. This method can also be utilized for the production of antibody homodimers. The “diabody” technology described by Hollinger *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 90:6444-6448 (1993) has provided an alternative mechanism for making bispecific antibody
30 fragments. The fragments comprise a heavy chain variable domain (VH) connected to a light chain variable domain (VL) by a linker which is too short to allow pairing between the two domains on the same chain. Accordingly, the VH and VL domains of one fragment are

forced to pair with the complementary VL and VH domains of another fragment, thereby forming two antigen binding sites. Another strategy for making bispecific antibody fragments by the use of single-chain Fv (sFv) dimers is described in Gruber *et al.*, *J. Immunol.*, 152:5368 (1994).

- 5 [0241] Antibodies with more than two valencies are also contemplated. For example, trispecific antibodies can be prepared. *See, e.g.*, Tutt *et al.*, *J. Immunol.*, 147:60 (1991).

7. Antibody Purification

[0242] When using recombinant techniques, antibodies can be produced inside an isolated host cell, in the periplasmic space of a host cell, or directly secreted from a host cell into the
10 medium. If the antibody is produced intracellularly, the particulate debris is first removed, for example, by centrifugation or ultrafiltration. Carter *et al.*, *BioTech.*, 10:163-167 (1992) describes a procedure for isolating antibodies which are secreted into the periplasmic space of *E. coli*. Briefly, cell paste is thawed in the presence of sodium acetate (pH 3.5), EDTA, and phenylmethylsulfonylfluoride (PMSF) for about 30 min. Cell debris can be removed by
15 centrifugation. Where the antibody is secreted into the medium, supernatants from such expression systems are generally concentrated using a commercially available protein concentration filter, for example, an Amicon or Millipore Pellicon ultrafiltration unit. A protease inhibitor such as PMSF may be included in any of the foregoing steps to inhibit proteolysis and antibiotics may be included to prevent the growth of adventitious
20 contaminants.

[0243] The antibody composition prepared from cells can be purified using, for example, hydroxylapatite chromatography, gel electrophoresis, dialysis, and affinity chromatography. The suitability of protein A as an affinity ligand depends on the species and isotype of any immunoglobulin Fc domain that is present in the antibody. Protein A can be used to purify
25 antibodies that are based on human $\gamma 1$, $\gamma 2$, or $\gamma 4$ heavy chains (*see, e.g.*, Lindmark *et al.*, *J. Immunol. Meth.*, 62:1-13 (1983)). Protein G is recommended for all mouse isotypes and for human $\gamma 3$ (*see, e.g.*, Guss *et al.*, *EMBO J.*, 5:1567-1575 (1986)). The matrix to which the affinity ligand is attached is most often agarose, but other matrices are available. Mechanically stable matrices such as controlled pore glass or poly(styrenedivinyl)benzene
30 allow for faster flow rates and shorter processing times than can be achieved with agarose. Where the antibody comprises a CH3 domain, the Bakerbond ABX™ resin (J. T. Baker; Phillipsburg, N.J.) is useful for purification. Other techniques for protein purification such as

fractionation on an ion-exchange column, ethanol precipitation, reverse phase HPLC, chromatography on silica, chromatography on heparin SEPHAROSE™, chromatography on an anion or cation exchange resin (such as a polyaspartic acid column), chromatofocusing, SDS-PAGE, and ammonium sulfate precipitation are also available depending on the
5 antibody to be recovered.

[0244] Following any preliminary purification step(s), the mixture comprising the antibody of interest and contaminants may be subjected to low pH hydrophobic interaction chromatography using an elution buffer at a pH between about 2.5-4.5, preferably performed at low salt concentrations (*e.g.*, from about 0-0.25 M salt).

10 [0245] One of skill in the art will appreciate that any binding molecule having a function similar to an antibody, *e.g.*, a binding molecule or binding partner which is specific for one or more analytes of interest in a sample, can also be used in the methods and compositions of the present invention. Examples of suitable antibody-like molecules include, but are not limited to, domain antibodies, unibodies, nanobodies, shark antigen reactive proteins,
15 avimers, adnectins, anticalms, affinity ligands, phylomers, aptamers, affibodies, trinectins, and the like.

D. Methods of Administration

[0246] According to the methods of the invention, the anticancer drugs described herein are administered to a subject by any convenient means known in the art. The methods of the
20 invention can be used to determine, predict, identify, and/or monitor the response of a tumor (*e.g.*, a primary or metastatic breast tumor) to treatment with one or more anticancer drugs. The methods of the invention can also be used to select one or more suitable anticancer drugs for the treatment of a tumor (*e.g.*, a primary or metastatic breast tumor) in a subject. One of skill in the art will appreciate that the anticancer drug(s) can be administered alone or as part
25 of a combined therapeutic approach with conventional chemotherapy, radiotherapy, hormonal therapy, immunotherapy, and/or surgery.

[0247] In certain embodiments, the anticancer drug comprises an anti-signaling agent (*i.e.*, a cytostatic drug) such as a monoclonal antibody or a tyrosine kinase inhibitor; an anti-proliferative agent; a chemotherapeutic agent (*i.e.*, a cytotoxic drug); a hormonal therapeutic agent; a radiotherapeutic agent; a vaccine; and/or any other compound with the ability to
30 reduce or abrogate the uncontrolled growth of aberrant cells such as cancerous cells. In some embodiments, the subject is treated with one or more anti-signaling agents, anti-proliferative

agents, and/or hormonal therapeutic agents in combination with at least one chemotherapeutic agent. Exemplary monoclonal antibodies, tyrosine kinase inhibitors, anti-proliferative agents, chemotherapeutic agents, hormonal therapeutic agents, radiotherapeutic agents, and vaccines are described herein.

5 [0248] In particular embodiments, the anticancer drug comprises one or more compounds that modulate HER2 activity including monoclonal antibodies, tyrosine kinase inhibitors, and combinations thereof. Non-limiting examples of HER2-modulating compounds include monoclonal antibodies such as trastuzumab (Herceptin[®]), trastuzumab-DM1, ertumaxomab and pertuzumab (2C4; Omnitarg[™]); small molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitors such as
10 gefitinib (Iressa[®]), erlotinib (Tarceva[®]), pilitinib, CP-654577, CP-724714, canertinib (CI 1033), HKI-272, lapatinib (GW-572016; Tykerb[®]), PKI-166, AEE788, BMS-599626, HKI-357, BIBW 2992, ARRY-334543, JNJ-26483327, and JNJ-26483327; and combinations thereof. In certain embodiments, HER2-modulating compounds can be used in combination with one or more other anticancer drugs described herein or known to one of skill in the art.

15 [0249] In other embodiments, the anticancer drug comprises one or more compounds that modulate activity of HER3 and other ErbB family members including monoclonal antibodies, tyrosine kinase inhibitors, and combinations thereof. Non-limiting examples of these compounds include monoclonal antibodies such as MM-121, AMG-888 (U3-1287), trastuzumab (Herceptin[®]), pertuzumab (2C4; Omnitarg[™]), cetuximab (Erbix[®]); small
20 molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitors such as gefitinib (Iressa[®]), erlotinib (Tarceva[®]), canertinib (CI 1033), lapatinib (GW-572016; Tykerb[®]), MP-470, AZD8931, PF00299804; and combinations thereof. In some embodiments, RTK modulating compounds include HER1-, HER2- and HER3-modulating compounds, cMET modulating compounds and IGF-1R modulating compounds. In certain embodiments, HER1-, HER2- and HER3-modulating
25 compounds can be used in combination with one or more other anticancer drugs described herein or known to one of skill in the art.

[0250] In other embodiments, the anticancer drug comprises one or more compounds that modulate PI3K activity including monoclonal antibodies, inhibitors, and combinations thereof. Non-limiting examples of these compounds include inhibitors such as SF1126
30 (Semaphore Pharmaceuticals), XL147 (Exelixis), XL765 (Exelixis), NVP-BEZ235 (Novartis), NVP-BGT226 (Novartis), NVP-BKM120 (Novartis), GDC-0941 (Genentech/

Piramed Pharma), PX-866 (ProIX Pharmaceuticals), GSK1059615 (GlaxoSithKline), CAL-101 (Calistoga Pharmaceuticals), and combinations thereof.

[0251] Examples of anti-signaling agents suitable for use in the present invention include, without limitation, monoclonal antibodies such as trastuzumab (Herceptin[®]), pertuzumab
5 (2C4; Omnitarg[™]), alemtuzumab (Campath[®]), bevacizumab (Avastin[®]), cetuximab (Erbitux[®]), gemtuzumab (Mylotarg[®]), panitumumab (Vectibix[™]), rituximab (Rituxan[®]), and tositumomab (BEXXAR[®]); tyrosine kinase inhibitors such as gefitinib (Iressa[®]), sunitinib (Sutent[®]), erlotinib (Tarceva[®]), lapatinib (GW-572016; Tykerb[®]), canertinib (CI 1033), semaxinib (SU5416), vatalanib (PTK787/ZK222584), sorafenib (BAY 43-9006; Nexavar[®]),
10 imatinib mesylate (Gleevec[®]), leflunomide (SU101), vandetanib (ZACTIMA[™]; ZD6474), pilitinib, CP-654577, CP-724714, HKI-272, PKI-166, AEE788, BMS-599626, HKI-357, BIBW 2992, ARRY-334543, JNJ-26483327, and JNJ-26483327; and combinations thereof.

[0252] Exemplary anti-proliferative agents include mTOR inhibitors such as sirolimus (rapamycin), temsirolimus (CCI-779), and everolimus (RAD001); AKT inhibitors such as
15 1L6-hydroxymethyl-chiro-inositol-2-(R)-2-O-methyl-3-O-octadecyl-*sn*-glycerocarbonate, 9-methoxy-2-methylellipticinium acetate, 1,3-dihydro-1-(1-((4-(6-phenyl-1H-imidazo[4,5-g]quinoxalin-7-yl)phenyl)methyl)-4-piperidiny)-2H-benzimidazol-2-one, 10-(4'-(N-diethylamino)butyl)-2-chlorophenoxazine, 3-formylchromone thiosemicarbazone (Cu(II)Cl₂ complex), API-2, a 15-mer peptide derived from amino acids 10-24 of the proto-oncogene
20 TCL1 (Hiromura *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.*, 279:53407-53418 (2004), KP372-1, and the compounds described in Kozikowski *et al.*, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 125:1144-1145 (2003) and Kau *et al.*, *Cancer Cell*, 4:463-476 (2003); and combinations thereof.

[0253] Non-limiting examples of chemotherapeutic agents include platinum-based drugs
25 (*e.g.*, oxaliplatin, cisplatin, carboplatin, spiroplatin, iproplatin, satraplatin, *etc.*), alkylating agents (*e.g.*, cyclophosphamide, ifosfamide, chlorambucil, busulfan, melphalan, mechlorethamine, uramustine, thiotepa, nitrosoureas, *etc.*), anti-metabolites (*e.g.*, 5-fluorouracil, azathioprine, 6-mercaptopurine, methotrexate, leucovorin, capecitabine, cytarabine, floxuridine, fludarabine, gemcitabine (Gemzar[®]), pemetrexed (ALIMTA[®]), raltitrexed, *etc.*), plant alkaloids (*e.g.*, vincristine, vinblastine, vinorelbine, vindesine,
30 podophyllotoxin, paclitaxel (Taxol[®]), docetaxel (Taxotere[®]), *etc.*), topoisomerase inhibitors (*e.g.*, irinotecan, topotecan, amsacrine, etoposide (VP16), etoposide phosphate, teniposide, *etc.*), antitumor antibiotics (*e.g.*, doxorubicin, adriamycin, daunorubicin, epirubicin,

actinomycin, bleomycin, mitomycin, mitoxantrone, plicamycin, *etc.*), pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, stereoisomers thereof, derivatives thereof, analogs thereof, and combinations thereof.

[0254] Examples of hormonal therapeutic agents include, without limitation, aromatase inhibitors (*e.g.*, aminoglutethimide, anastrozole (Arimidex[®]), letrozole (Femara[®]), vorozole, exemestane (Aromasin[®]), 4-androstene-3,6,17-trione (6-OXO), 1,4,6-androstatrien-3,17-dione (ATD), formestane (Lentaron[®]), *etc.*), selective estrogen receptor modulators (*e.g.*, bazedoxifene, clomifene, fulvestrant, lasofoxifene, raloxifene, tamoxifen, toremifene, *etc.*), steroids (*e.g.*, dexamethasone), finasteride, and gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonists (GnRH) such as goserelin, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, stereoisomers thereof, derivatives thereof, analogs thereof, and combinations thereof.

[0255] Non-limiting examples of cancer vaccines useful in the present invention include ANYARA from Active Biotech, DCVax-LB from Northwest Biotherapeutics, EP-2101 from IDM Pharma, GV1001 from Pharmexa, IO-2055 from Idera Pharmaceuticals, INGN 225 from Introgen Therapeutics and Stimuvax from Biomira/Merck.

[0256] Examples of radiotherapeutic agents include, but are not limited to, radionuclides such as ⁴⁷Sc, ⁶⁴Cu, ⁶⁷Cu, ⁸⁹Sr, ⁸⁶Y, ⁸⁷Y, ⁹⁰Y, ¹⁰⁵Rh, ¹¹¹Ag, ¹¹¹In, ^{117m}Sn, ¹⁴⁹Pm, ¹⁵³Sm, ¹⁶⁶Ho, ¹⁷⁷Lu, ¹⁸⁶Re, ¹⁸⁸Re, ²¹¹At, and ²¹²Bi, optionally conjugated to antibodies directed against tumor antigens.

[0257] In some embodiments, the anticancer drugs described herein can be co-administered with conventional immunotherapeutic agents including, but not limited to, immunostimulants (*e.g.*, Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG), levamisole, interleukin-2, alpha-interferon, *etc.*), immunotoxins (*e.g.*, anti-CD33 monoclonal antibody-calicheamicin conjugate, anti-CD22 monoclonal antibody-pseudomonas exotoxin conjugate, *etc.*), and radioimmunotherapy (*e.g.*, anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody conjugated to ¹¹¹In, ⁹⁰Y, or ¹³¹I, *etc.*).

[0258] Anticancer drugs can be administered with a suitable pharmaceutical excipient as necessary and can be carried out via any of the accepted modes of administration. Thus, administration can be, for example, oral, buccal, sublingual, gingival, palatal, intravenous, topical, subcutaneous, transcutaneous, transdermal, intramuscular, intra-joint, parenteral, intra-arteriole, intradermal, intraventricular, intracranial, intraperitoneal, intravesical, intrathecal, intralesional, intranasal, rectal, vaginal, or by inhalation. By “co-administer” it is meant that an anticancer drug is administered at the same time, just prior to, or just after the

administration of a second drug (*e.g.*, another anticancer drug, a drug useful for reducing the side-effects associated with anticancer drug therapy, a radiotherapeutic agent, a hormonal therapeutic agent, an immunotherapeutic agent, *etc.*).

[0259] A therapeutically effective amount of an anticancer drug may be administered
5 repeatedly, *e.g.*, at least 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or more times, or the dose may be administered by continuous infusion. The dose may take the form of solid, semi-solid, lyophilized powder, or liquid dosage forms, such as, for example, tablets, pills, pellets, capsules, powders, solutions, suspensions, emulsions, suppositories, retention enemas, creams, ointments, lotions, gels, aerosols, foams, or the like, preferably in unit dosage forms suitable for simple administration
10 of precise dosages.

[0260] As used herein, the term “unit dosage form” refers to physically discrete units suitable as unitary dosages for human subjects and other mammals, each unit containing a predetermined quantity of an anticancer drug calculated to produce the desired onset, tolerability, and/or therapeutic effects, in association with a suitable pharmaceutical excipient
15 (*e.g.*, an ampoule). In addition, more concentrated dosage forms may be prepared, from which the more dilute unit dosage forms may then be produced. The more concentrated dosage forms thus will contain substantially more than, *e.g.*, at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more times the amount of the anticancer drug.

[0261] Methods for preparing such dosage forms are known to those skilled in the art (*see*,
20 *e.g.*, *REMINGTON'S PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES*, 18TH ED., Mack Publishing Co., Easton, PA (1990)). The dosage forms typically include a conventional pharmaceutical carrier or excipient and may additionally include other medicinal agents, carriers, adjuvants, diluents, tissue permeation enhancers, solubilizers, and the like. Appropriate excipients can be tailored to the particular dosage form and route of administration by methods well known in the art
25 (*see, e.g.*, *REMINGTON'S PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES, supra*).

[0262] Examples of suitable excipients include, but are not limited to, lactose, dextrose, sucrose, sorbitol, mannitol, starches, gum acacia, calcium phosphate, alginates, tragacanth, gelatin, calcium silicate, microcrystalline cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, cellulose, water, saline, syrup, methylcellulose, ethylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, and polyacrylic
30 acids such as Carbopols, *e.g.*, Carbopol 941, Carbopol 980, Carbopol 981, *etc.* The dosage forms can additionally include lubricating agents such as talc, magnesium stearate, and mineral oil; wetting agents; emulsifying agents; suspending agents; preserving agents such as

methyl-, ethyl-, and propyl-hydroxy-benzoates (*i.e.*, the parabens); pH adjusting agents such as inorganic and organic acids and bases; sweetening agents; and flavoring agents. The dosage forms may also comprise biodegradable polymer beads, dextran, and cyclodextrin inclusion complexes.

5 [0263] For oral administration, the therapeutically effective dose can be in the form of tablets, capsules, emulsions, suspensions, solutions, syrups, sprays, lozenges, powders, and sustained-release formulations. Suitable excipients for oral administration include pharmaceutical grades of mannitol, lactose, starch, magnesium stearate, sodium saccharine, talcum, cellulose, glucose, gelatin, sucrose, magnesium carbonate, and the like.

10 [0264] In some embodiments, the therapeutically effective dose takes the form of a pill, tablet, or capsule, and thus, the dosage form can contain, along with an anticancer drug, any of the following: a diluent such as lactose, sucrose, dicalcium phosphate, and the like; a disintegrant such as starch or derivatives thereof; a lubricant such as magnesium stearate and the like; and a binder such a starch, gum acacia, polyvinylpyrrolidone, gelatin, cellulose and
15 derivatives thereof. An anticancer drug can also be formulated into a suppository disposed, for example, in a polyethylene glycol (PEG) carrier.

[0265] Liquid dosage forms can be prepared by dissolving or dispersing an anticancer drug and optionally one or more pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants in a carrier such as, for example, aqueous saline (*e.g.*, 0.9% w/v sodium chloride), aqueous dextrose, glycerol,
20 ethanol, and the like, to form a solution or suspension, *e.g.*, for oral, topical, or intravenous administration. An anticancer drug can also be formulated into a retention enema.

[0266] For topical administration, the therapeutically effective dose can be in the form of emulsions, lotions, gels, foams, creams, jellies, solutions, suspensions, ointments, and transdermal patches. For administration by inhalation, an anticancer drug can be delivered as
25 a dry powder or in liquid form via a nebulizer. For parenteral administration, the therapeutically effective dose can be in the form of sterile injectable solutions and sterile packaged powders. Preferably, injectable solutions are formulated at a pH of from about 4.5 to about 7.5.

[0267] The therapeutically effective dose can also be provided in a lyophilized form. Such
30 dosage forms may include a buffer, *e.g.*, bicarbonate, for reconstitution prior to administration, or the buffer may be included in the lyophilized dosage form for reconstitution with, *e.g.*, water. The lyophilized dosage form may further comprise a suitable

vasoconstrictor, *e.g.*, epinephrine. The lyophilized dosage form can be provided in a syringe, optionally packaged in combination with the buffer for reconstitution, such that the reconstituted dosage form can be immediately administered to a subject.

[0268] A subject can also be monitored at periodic time intervals to assess the efficacy of a certain therapeutic regimen. For example, the activation states of certain signal transduction molecules may change based on the therapeutic effect of treatment with one or more of the anticancer drugs described herein. The subject can be monitored to assess response and understand the effects of certain drugs or treatments in an individualized approach. Additionally, subjects who initially respond to a specific anticancer drug or combination of anticancer drugs may become refractory to the drug or drug combination, indicating that these subjects have developed acquired drug resistance. These subjects can be discontinued on their current therapy and an alternative treatment prescribed in accordance with the methods of the present invention.

[0269] In certain aspects, the methods described herein can be used in conjunction with panels of gene expression markers that predict the likelihood of breast cancer prognosis and/or recurrence in various populations of women with for example, node-negative disease. These gene panels can be useful for identifying women who are unlikely to experience recurrence and, thus, unlikely to benefit from adjuvant chemotherapy. The expression panels can be used to identify women who can safely avoid adjuvant chemotherapy, without negatively affecting disease-free and overall survival outcomes. Suitable systems include, but are not limited to, Oncotype DX™, which is a 21-gene panel from Genomic Health, Inc.; MammaPrint,® which is a 70-gene panel from Agendia; and a 76-gene panel from Veridex.

[0270] In addition, in certain other aspects, the methods described herein can be used in conjunction with panels of gene expression markers that identify the original tumors for cancers of unknown primary (CUP). These gene panels can be useful in identifying women with metastatic cancer who would benefit from therapy consistent with that given to women diagnosed initially with breast cancer. Suitable systems include, but are not limited to, the Aviara CancerTYPE ID assay, an RT-PCR-based expression assay that measures 92 genes to identify the primary site of origin for 39 tumor types; and the Pathwork® Tissue of Origin Test, which measures the expression of more than 1600 genes on a microarray and compares a tumor's gene expression "signature" against those of 15 known tissue types."

VI. Examples

[0271] The following examples are offered to illustrate, but not to limit, the claimed invention.

5 **Example 1: Quantitative Analysis of PI3K Activation for Selecting Patients for PI3K-Modulating Compounds.**

[0272] This example demonstrates the presence of activated (phosphorylated) PI3K complex correlates with the presence of activated PI3K complex pathway components, including, as but not limited to AKT, mTOR and S6K. This example illustrates that in certain instances, breast cancer patients with elevated levels of PI3K activation also express
10 activated (phosphorylated) AKT. Of the 21 patients with activated PI3K, 19 also had elevated levels of phospho-AKT. This supports the discovery that phospho-AKT acts downstream of PI3K and that activation of PI3K can result in activation of AKT. The high degree of correlation (p-value=0.0222; FIG. 6) between PI3K activation and phosphorylated AKT in breast cancer patient samples confirms that PI3K pathway activation is biologically
15 relevant to tumorigenesis.

[0273] Pathway profiling analysis was performed on 60 FNA samples collected from breast cancer patients. A multiplexed immunoarray CEER (Collaborative Enzyme Enhanced Reactive-immunoassay) platform was utilized to determine the levels of pathway protein expression and phosphorylation. DNA was extracted from the samples and analyzed for
20 panels of somatic mutations. Activated pathways detected include HER1, HER2, HER3, IGF-1R, cMET, PI3K and associated downstream proteins.

[0274] This example shows that only 5 out of 21 patients with PI3K activation carried PI3KCA mutations. And that in most breast cancer patients, activated (phosphorylated) AKT corresponds with PI3KCA wild-type status. While there is a correlation between PI3KCA
25 mutations and responsiveness to PI3K inhibitors, this example illustrates that cancer patients without PI3K pathway alteration can also benefit from PI3K inhibitor therapy. FIG. 6 illustrates a comparison of phospho-AKT and phospho-PI3K in pathway profiling analysis of patient with breast cancer. FIG. 7 illustrates that the presence of phospho-PI3K correlates with phospho-AKT in 60 FNA samples from patients with breast cancer. Activated AKT
30 was detected in patients without PI3KCA mutations. FIG. 8 illustrates that activated AKT does not correlate with PI3KCA somatic mutations.

Example 2: Quantitative Analysis of PI3K Activation and ErbB Family Receptor Tyrosine Kinase (RTK) Activation in FNA Samples from Breast Cancer Patients.

[0275] This example illustrates an analysis of ErbB activation and dimer formation along with PI3K pathway activation in breast cancer patients. In particular, this example shows that an increased level of activated phosphorylated ErbB, such as phosphorylated HER2 and phosphorylated HER3, is associated with increased levels of p-AKT and p-PI3K. In addition, this example shows that patients with increased levels of ErbB activation and dimerization can benefit from treatments with PI3K inhibitors. By detecting the presence or absence of any changes in activated HER2, HER3, PI3K, and/or AKT levels, the clinical sensitivity to PI3K inhibitors can be assessed.

[0276] Pathway analysis was performed on 60 FNA samples collected from breast cancer patients. A multiplexed immunoarray CEER (Collaborative Enzyme Enhanced Reactive-immunoassay) platform was utilized to determine the levels of pathway protein expression and phosphorylation. DNA was extracted from the samples and analyzed for panels of somatic mutations. Activated pathways detected include HER1, HER2, HER3, IGF-1R, cMET, PI3K and associated downstream proteins (e.g., adaptor and effector proteins).

[0277] This example illustrates a high degree of correlation among activated HER2, HER3, PI3K and AKT in 60 FNA samples from breast cancer patients. In particular, phospho-HER3 is activated in 20 out of 21 patients who have activated phospho-PI3K ($p=0.00001$, FIG. 9). This example also shows that patients with ErbB activation (*i.e.*, increased levels of HER3:PI3K complex, phospho-HER3, total HER3, HER2/HER3 heterodimer, HER1/HER3 heterodimer, HER4/HER3 heterodimer in the presence of Heregulin (HRG) or TGF α) can benefit from PI3K inhibitor treatment. FIG. 9 illustrates a high degree of correlation between the presence of phospho-HER3 and phospho-PI3K in 60 FNA samples from breast cancer patients. Regardless of the cutoff value for PI3K used in the assay, there is a correlation between phospho-HER3 and phospho-PI3K in the samples. FIG. 10 illustrates a correlation between the presence of phospho-HER3 and phospho-AKT in breast cancer patients. FIG. 11 shows that activated PI3K is associated with activated AKT and phospho-HER3. FIG. 6 also shows that activated AKT correlates with phospho-HER3 in the absence of PI3K activation. FIG. 12 shows that phospho-HER2 is associated with activated PI3K and activated AKT in FNA samples from breast cancer patients. FIG. 13 shows concurrent activation of phospho-HER2, phospho-PI3K and phospho-AKT in breast cancer patient samples that do not have HER2 genetic mutations or amplifications.

Example 3: Quantitative Analysis of PI3K Activation and HER3 Activation in Patients Relapsed on Herceptin Combination Therapy.

[0278] A comprehensive analysis of key signature receptor tyrosine kinases including HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, and downstream kinases and adapter
5 proteins including PI3K, Shc, AKT and ERK, in fine needle aspirate (FNA) samples collected from metastatic sites of breast cancer (BCA) patients who have relapsed on anti-cancer therapy is reported herein.

[0279] In this study CEER-FNA pathway profiling analysis was performed on an endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) guided liver biopsy of a breast cancer patient relapsed on
10 Herceptin combination therapy. Elevated levels of the activated forms of HER1, HER2, HER3, p95, PI3K, AKT, ERK/MAPK, and Shc proteins in the sample were detected. The pathway activation profile suggests that the patient may be clinically sensitive to a combination treatment comprising a pan-HER inhibitor and a PI3K inhibitor.

[0280] In another study CEER-FNA pathway profiling analysis was performed on a biopsy
15 from the axilar node of a breast cancer patient relapsed on Herceptin combination therapy. Somatic mutational analysis shows that the patient has a H1047R PIK3CA mutation. Elevated levels of the activated forms of HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, Shc, ERK/MAPK, PI3K and AKT proteins were detected. The pathway activation profile suggests that the patient may be responsive to PI3K inhibitor combination therapy.

[0281] This example also suggests that patients with ErbB activation (*i.e.*, increased levels
20 of HER3:PI3K complex, phospho-HER3, total HER3, HER2/HER3 heterodimer, HER1/HER3 heterodimer, HER4/HER3 heterodimer, Heregulin (HRG) or TGF α) may benefit from combination treatment. In one embodiment, a patient with solid tumor cancer who has an elevated level of HER3/PI3K complex may benefit from a treatment regimen
25 comprising PI3K inhibitor and anti-HER3 antibody therapy. In another embodiment, a solid tumor cancer patient who has elevated levels of HER2/HER3 heterodimer may be clinically sensitive to a combination treatment of PI3K inhibitor and either Pertuzamab or an anti-HER2 antibody or a TKI). FIG. 14 shows activated HER1, HER2, HER3, p95, ERK, Shc, PI3K, AKT and ERK proteins in a sample from a breast cancer patient who relapsed on
30 Herceptin combination therapy. FIG. 15 shows activated HER2, HER3, cMet, ERK, PI3K, and AKT proteins in a sample from a breast cancer patient with a H1047R PIK3CA somatic mutation who relapsed on Herceptin combination therapy.

Example 4: Pathway Activation Profiling of Tumor Samples Exposed to Anti-Cancer Therapy.

[0282] This example demonstrates the detection of total and activated (phosphorylated) levels of RTK pathways and downstream kinases, effector and adaptor proteins in tumor cell samples as determined by a CEER assay platform. Higher levels of phosphorylated PI3K, AKT, ERK (downstream effector targets), as well as activated HER1, HER2, HER3 and IGF1R (which are also known as PI3K membrane recruiter proteins) were detected. In some embodiments, the non-small cell lung carcinoma tumor cell samples are exposed to AKT inhibitor and/or HER1 inhibitor therapy. Higher levels of phosphorylated PI3K, AKT, ERK (downstream effector targets), as well as activated HER1, HER2, HER3 and IGF-1R (which are also known as PI3K membrane recruiter proteins) were detected. The breast cancer tumor samples were exposed to AKT inhibitor and/or Lapatinib (a tyrosine kinase inhibitor). This example illustrates that cancer cells can adapt to therapeutic pressure due to drug therapy. It also shows that PI3K inhibitor therapy in combination with ErbB modulating compounds (*i.e.*, anti-HER2 antibody, such as Pertuzamab, anti-HER3 antibody, and tyrosine kinase inhibitor) can benefit patients who are no longer responsive to ErbB modulating compounds alone. FIG. 16 shows CEER-FNA analysis of PI3K pathway activation in NSCLC tumor cell samples after treatment with an AKT inhibitor, a HER1 inhibitor or combination therapy. FIG. 17 illustrates CEER-FNA analysis of biomarkers in pathway profiling of breast cancer cell samples after treatment with an AKT inhibitor, Lapatinib (a tyrosine kinase inhibitor) or combination therapy.

Example 5: Novel Proximity Based Complex Assays to Measure HER Activation and Dimerization.

[0283] This example illustrates novel proximity dimerization and complexation assays capable of specifically detecting activation events in signal transduction complexes with sensitivity at a single cell level. The assays comprising a CEER platform, are extremely useful in dealing with a limited amount of sample and advantageously provide expression/activation profiling of kinases and other signal transduction pathway molecules on collected circulating tumor cells and metastatic FNA tumor samples.

[0284] In one embodiment, the novel proximity based dimer assay is able to detect ErbB heterodimer complexes in patient tumor samples. It also can detect these complexes in cancer cells exposed to anticancer drugs and/or pathway activating ligands, such as, but not limited to HRG and EGF.

[0285] In another embodiment, the novel proximity based complex assay detects HER3/PI3K complexes in pancreatic cancer tumor samples.

[0286] This example illustrates that three antibodies used in the proximity assay can comprise: (1) a capture antibody specific for one member of the dimer pair; (2) a first
5 detection antibody specific for a first member of the dimer pair, wherein the first detection antibody is specific for a different domain than the capture antibody; and a (3) a second detection antibody specific for a second member of the dimer pair. In some embodiments, the novel proximity based dimer assay is used to detect and quantitate homo- or heterodimerization of receptor tyrosine kinases including, but not limited to, HER1/HER2
10 dimers, HER1/HER3 dimers, HER2/HER3 dimers, HER2/HER2 dimers, HER2/HER4 dimers, p95HER2/HER3 dimers, p95HER2/HER2 dimers, and the like.

[0287] In an embodiment, the PI3K complex assay comprises: (1) a capture antibody specific for the p85 subunit of PI3K; (2) a detection antibody specific that binds to the activated form of an RTK or an adaptor protein; and (3) a detection antibody that recognizes
15 the activated form of the p85 subunit of PI3K. In another embodiment, the PI3K complex assay comprises: (1) a capture antibody specific for the p85 subunit of PI3K; (2) a detection antibody specific that binds to the activated form of an RTK or an adaptor protein; and (3) a detection antibody that recognizes to the activated form of another RTK or adaptor protein. In another embodiment, the PI3K complex assay comprises: (1) a capture antibody specific
20 for the p110 subunit of PI3K; (2) a detection antibody specific that binds to the activated form of an RTK or an adaptor protein; and (3) a detection antibody that recognizes the activated form of the p85 subunit of PI3K. In yet another embodiment, the PI3K complex assay comprises: (1) a capture antibody specific for the p85 subunit of PI3K; (2) a detection antibody specific that binds to the activated form of an RTK or an adaptor protein; and (3) a
25 detection antibody that recognizes the activated form of the p110 subunit of PI3K. In an embodiment, the PI3K complex assay comprises: (1) a capture antibody specific for the p85 subunit of PI3K; (2) a detection antibody specific that binds to the activated form of the p85 subunit of PI3K; and (3) a detection antibody that recognizes the activated form of the p110 subunit of PI3K. FIG. 18 shows raw data of HER1/2 and HER2/3 heterocomplexes on
30 MCF7 cells detected using a novel proximity based dimer assay. FIG. 19 shows activation of HER3 heterodimer complexes and HER3/PI3K complexes in a pancreatic tumor sample and HDPE cells. The CEER dimer assay is performed at 10 μ g, 5 μ g and 2 μ g using a combination of capture and multiple detection antibodies. 5 μ g data is shown for all except

for HER3/PI3K complex at 10 µg. HPDE cells and tumor sample 10-494 form 1:2 and 2:3 complexes, respectively. Relative to the HPDE cells, the tumor sample has higher levels of phospho-HER3 and associates with PI3K to form a HER3/PI3K complex. FIG. 20 shows activation of HER2 heterodimers and PI3K in response to HRG or EGF in MCF7 cells (a human breast adenocarcinoma cell line).

Example 6: Detection of RTK and PI3K Pathway Activation in FNA from Breast Cancer Patients.

[0288] This example illustrates CEER-FNA pathway analysis of 59 breast cancer patients. The incidence of RTK pathway activation as well as downstream effector and adaptor proteins were assessed, as measured by the CEER assay, in a group of breast cancer patients with solid tumors. High levels of phosphorylated HER2, HER3, PI3K and AKT were detected in several samples. This example illustrates that PI3K inhibitor therapy in combination with ErbB modulating compounds (*i.e.*, anti-HER2 antibody, such as Pertuzamab, anti-HER3 antibody, and tyrosine kinase inhibitor) can benefit patients with this pathway profile. CEER-FNA pathway analysis of solid tumor patients provides valuable clinical information to assist clinicians in assessing the disease treatment options for each patient according to the pathway activation profile. FIG. 21 illustrates CEER-FNA pathway analysis of breast cancer patients. FIG. 22 illustrates CEER-FNA pathway analysis of more breast cancer patients. FIG. 23 illustrates from CEER-FNA pathway analysis of yet more breast cancer patients. FIG. 24 illustrates CEER-FNA pathway analysis of breast cancer patients.

Example 7: Quantitative Analysis of PI3K and IGF-1R Activation in Breast Cancer Patients.

[0289] This example illustrates a comprehensive analysis of key signature receptor tyrosine kinases including HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF 1R, and downstream kinases and adapter proteins including PI3K, Shc, AKT and ERK, in FNA samples collected from a breast cancer patient who have relapsed on hormonal therapy. We detected elevated levels of the activated IGF-1R, PI3K AKT and ERK/MAPK proteins. Notably, PI3K activation in the patient was not due to PIK3CA mutation. Surprisingly, the existing therapy (e.g., hormonal therapy) activated compensatory pathways associated with the hormonal pathway shut down by the therapy, but not directly targeted by it. The pathway activation profile suggests that the patient may clinically benefit from a combination treatment comprising an IGF-1R inhibitor and a PI3K inhibitor. The pathway profile also suggests that therapeutic agent that

targets the IGF-1R pathway may be effective in treating ER positive breast cancer patients. FIG. 25 illustrates IGF-1R, PI3K, AKT and ERK activation in a breast cancer patient. FIG. 26 illustrates IGF-1R and AKT activation in a breast cancer patient. Activated IGF-1R levels correlates with phospho-AKT levels. In addition, elevated levels of total IGF-1R also correlates with phospho-AKT.

Example 8: Quantitative Analysis of PI3K Activation along with IGF-1R or cMet Activation in Non-Small Cell Lung Carcinoma Patients.

[0290] This example illustrates a comprehensive analysis of key signature receptor tyrosine kinases including HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, and downstream kinases and adapter proteins including PI3K, Shc, AKT and ERK, in FNA samples collected from NSCLC patients prior to anti-cancer treatment. In one particular embodiment, the present method enables the detection and measurement of expression levels of a plurality of oncogenic proteins (*e.g.*, FGFR1, FGFR2, IGF-1R, cMET, HER1, HER2, HER3, VEGFR2, PI3K, SHC, FAK, CRKL) and) as well as expression levels of their activated (*e.g.*, phosphorylated) forms in a biological sample harvested from patient tumor tissue. In certain instances, tumor samples from NSCLC patients have a KRAS mutation (*e.g.*, G12C, G12D, G12R, G12S, G12V, G13C and G13R).

[0291] The method described herein was used to perform PI3K activation profiling of tumor samples from lung cancer patients. Elevated levels of PI3K and AKT activation along with HER1/2, HER1/3, HER2/3 and HER3/PI3K complexation were detected. Interestingly, activation of the ERK was also seen. FIG. 27 illustrates PI3K activation along with IGF-1R or cMET activation in NSCLC patients. Tumor sample from patient 1 with G12C KRAS mutation has high levels of total and phosphorylated IGF-1R along with high levels of PI3K complex and phospho-PI3K. The pathway profiling analysis also shows that tumor sample from patient 2 also expresses high levels of total and phosphorylated IGF-1R, PI3K complex and phospho-PI3K. FIG. 28 illustrates that PI3K activation along with HER3 and/or cMET activation are detected in a lung cancer patient. FIG. 29 illustrates concurrent activation of HER3, cMET and PI3K in a NSCLC patient with a G12C KRAS mutation. Other activated downstream effector proteins (*e.g.* FAK, and CRKL) were detected. VEGFR2 expression was high and both FGFR1 and FGFR2 were activated in the sample. The pathway analysis profiling was performed on the tumor sample prior to treatment. FIG. 30 shows a “heat map” of PI3K activation and HER heterodimers in NSCLC patients. ErbB dimerization and PI3K pathway activation were detected the tumor samples. FIG. 31 illustrates concurrent

activation of HER3 and PI3K in a tumor sample without KRAS and EGFR somatic mutations from a NSCLC patient. Levels of activated CRKL, FAK and Shc were also detected. Total VEGFR2 expression was high as well.

Example 9. Quantitation of ErbB Family Receptor Tyrosine Kinases Activation and PI3K Activation in Gastric Cancer Patients.

5 [0292] This example illustrates a comprehensive analysis of key signature receptor tyrosine kinases including HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, cKIT and downstream effector proteins including PI3K, Shc, AKT and ERK, in FNA samples collected from gastric cancer patients. In one particular embodiment, high levels of ErbB family RTK activation and dimer
10 formation was detected in several tumor samples. In some sample, cMET activation correlated to phospho-HER1 levels.

[0293] Marker grouping analysis was performed to evaluate the concordance or correlation between predictive biomarkers for solid tumor cancer. Using Multi Dimensional Scaling which is similar to Principal Component Analysis, it was determined that phosphorylated
15 forms of cMET and HER1 have a high degree of concordance in tumor samples from gastric cancer patients. A concordance was also present between HER2 and Shc, as well as IGF-1R and PI3K in these samples. Interestingly, HER3 has a close relationship to both HER2 and PI3K. This supports the notion that detection of an activated PI3K complex comprising
20 gastric tumor samples. FIG. 32 illustrates the presence of phospho-HER3 in gastric cancer patient samples. In some samples, activated HER3 correlated with the presence of activated cMET. Activated ErbB receptors were detected in several gastric tumor samples. FIG. 33 shows a MultiDimensional Scaling (MDS) graph that displays the concordance of phosphorylated pathway markers. FIG. 34 illustrates a comparison of phospho-PI3K and
25 phospho-AKT/ERK in pathway profiling analysis of patients with gastric cancer. Activation of the FGFR family including FGFR1, FGFR2, FGFR3, and FGFR4 were detected in some of the samples.

Example 10. Detection of PI3K Pathway Activation from Solid Tumor Samples From Colorectal Cancer Patients Prior to Therapy.

30 [0294] This example illustrates a comprehensive analysis of key signature receptor tyrosine kinases including HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, cKIT and downstream effector proteins including PI3K, Shc, AKT and ERK, in FNA samples collected from colorectal

cancer patients. In one embodiment, the tumor sample has a G13D KRAS mutation. In another embodiment, the tumor sample expresses wild-type KRAS gene. FIG. 35 illustrates PI3K pathway activation and HER pathway activation in a patient with colorectal cancer prior to therapy. FIG. 36 illustrates PI3K pathway activation and HER pathway activation in a sample with a G13D KRAS mutation taken from colorectal cancer patient a prior to therapy. FIG. 36 shows that HER1 (EGFR), HER2, Shc, ERK and AKT proteins are highly activated. FIG. 37 illustrates PI3K pathway activation and HER pathway activation in a colorectal cancer patient with a G12D KRAS mutation prior to therapy. FIG. 38 illustrates FNA analysis of biomarkers in pathway profiling of samples from patients with colorectal cancer.

Example 11. Method of Detecting PI3K Pathway Activation from Solid Tumors of Pancreatic Cancer Patients.

[0295] Analysis of expression of target protein or mutation alone has limitations for selecting the right therapy regimen with maximal clinical efficacy. A comprehensive functional analysis of pathway proteins including their level of expression and phosphorylation is critical in developing clinical strategies focused on the most effective targeted drug combination. A pathway profiling analysis was conducted on key receptor tyrosine kinases including HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, and downstream effector proteins including PI3K, Shc, AKT and ERK, in FNA samples collected from pancreatic cancer patients. Surprisingly, concurrent activation of PI3K along with HER3, IGF-1R and/or cMET in the patient samples. PIK3CA mutations and KRAS mutations (e.g., G12V or G12D) were found in this cohort. FIG. 39 illustrates FNA analysis of biomarkers in pathway profiling of pancreatic cancer patients with KRAS mutations. FIG. 40 illustrates FNA analysis of biomarkers in pathway profiling of pancreatic patients with and without KRAS mutations.

Example 12. Comprehensive Disease Profiling of Breast Cancer Patients Using Combined Nucleic Acid and Functional Protein Analysis.

[0296] This example illustrates a method of comprehensive disease profiling using a combination of nucleic acid and functional protein analysis. FIG. 41 shows a schematic of an exemplary method. The method of the present invention uses a few as about 100 cells obtained from a patient (610). In some embodiments, the sample is from a fine needle aspirate (FNA), circulating tumor cells (CTC), ascites, an endoscopic ultrasound guided biopsy, or other cells harvested from a patient. The harvested patient sample represents the

single sample source (620) and can be stored and shipped by methods described in International Patent Publication No. WO2011/008149, which is herein incorporated by reference. An aliquot of the sample can be analyzed using methods for determining the functional pathway profile on an automated platform (630), such as the CEER platform
5 (635). Another aliquot of the sample can be analyzed using methods for determining the presence of rare somatic mutations (640). Non-limiting examples of methods of detecting somatic mutations include allelic variant quantitation and SNP genotyping (645). The methods of the present invention integrate data obtained from functional pathway profiling and somatic mutation analysis to provide a comprehensive disease profile (650). In some
10 embodiments, the disease profile can be presented as a report.

[0297] The example describes results from a multi-national and multi-center study of combined CEER-FNA pathway profiling and somatic mutation analysis of breast cancer patients. The details of the study are shown in FIG. 42 and 43. Tissues from patients were screened for HER2 overexpression by primary immunohistochemistry (IHC) and/or
15 fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH). Patients undergoing disease relapse and are diagnosed with Stage IIIB or IV breast cancer (124 patients) were enrolled in the study. FNA samples were collected from various and/or multiple metastatic sites from each patient. Non-limiting examples of metastatic sites include liver, bone, axilar and other lymph nodes, lung, skin, chest wall, brain and sternal mass. In some embodiments, FNA was collected in 100 μ l
20 of ProteinLater (Prometheus Laboratories; San Diego, CA) with a 23 gauge needle, and stored and shipped at ambient temperature. In other embodiments, the patient's FNA sample was collected in 100 μ l of ProteinLater by endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) guided biopsy, and stored and shipped at ambient temperature.

[0298] This example describes the interim analysis performed on 58 patients for multiple
25 pathway proteins such as, HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, CK, SHC, AKT, ERK and PI3K, and somatic mutations in genes such as PIK3CA, KRAS and BRAF. The CEER assay can be used to detect levels of total protein and/or activated (phosphorylated) protein of signaling pathways (e.g., RTK and PI3K pathways). The profile of RTKs and downstream signaling proteins was obtained for 100% (58 out of 58 patients) of the FNA
30 lysates tested. This is much greater than the ~70% success rate achieved for RNA-based analysis. In some embodiments, 4-8 μ l of about 100 μ l of the FNA lysate is sufficient for the pathway profiling analysis. The proteins in the FNA lysate are well-preserved for both functional pathway profiling and genotyping screening. In particular, phosphorylated sites

are maintained on proteins. Thus, a single sample source can be used for both mutation and pathway profiling to establish a comprehensive disease profile.

[0299] In some embodiments, pathway profiling can be performed on breast cancer aspirate from a patient receiving anti-cancer therapeutic agents. FIG. 44 illustrates the use of PI3K pathway profiling of breast cancer aspirate from a sample exposed to HER1 inhibitor.

[0300] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention include determining and comparing a signaling pathway and somatic mutation profiles of a patient's primary tumor and secondary tumor from a minimal amount of sample. FIG. 45 illustrates the activated (phosphorylated) PI3K pathway profiles of FNA from a breast tumor and FNA from a lymph node tumor. The FNA samples were obtained using a 23 or 25 gauge needle for either the lymph node or the axilar region. In other instances, the samples were EUS-FNA. FIG. 46A illustrates the level of protein expression of components of the PI3K pathway as determined by the CEER assay. FIG. 46B shows that protein levels of HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF1R and CK are similar in the patient's breast tumor and lymph node tumor.

[0301] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention can be used to analyze signaling pathway profiles in a patient cohort and establish a correlation between a plurality of biomarkers and disease profiles. In some instances, comprehensive disease profiling of a breast cancer patient can be performed to determine whether the patient would benefit from a treatment comprising a PI3K inhibitor. FIG. 47 shows that in a cohort of breast cancer patients in the study there are statistically significant correlations between activated PI3K pathway proteins, activated PI3K mutations, and combinations thereof. FIG. 48 illustrates the data obtained from comprehensive disease profiling of Patient 14003-3004 in the interim analysis of the study. It was determined using the methods described herein that the patient overexpressed HER2 and has a breast cancer tumor with high HER3 and PI3K activity. The disease profile indicates that the patient can benefit from PI3K inhibitor therapy.

[0302] In some embodiments, the methods of the present invention can be used to compare the pathway profile of a tumor and a normal adjacent tissue (NAT). FIG. 49A shows an immunohistochemical image of tissue stained with an anti-pan CK antibody. The tumor cells are positive for CK, while the normal adjacent tissue does not express CK. FIG. 49B illustrates the PI3K pathway profiles of breast cancer tumor samples and normal adjacent tissue samples. FIG. 49C shows results from CEER-FNA assays described herein. The

graph shows that pathway profile of tumor samples is different compared to that of normal adjacent tissue. In particular, HER2, HER3, IGF-1R and CK are overexpressed in tumors compared to normal adjacent tissue.

[0303] The methods of the present invention can be used to demonstrate that in a breast cancer FNA sample the prevalence of HER2 protein as measured by immunohistochemistry (IHC) correlates with the increased levels of both total p95HER2 protein and phospho-p95HER2 protein as determined by CEER assay. FIG. 50A shows a Western blot for HER2 protein and p95HER2 protein in breast cancer aspirate samples. FIG. 50B shows that tumor samples which highly express HER2 (e.g., 3+) as measured by IHC are more likely to overexpress total p95HER2 protein and activated (phosphorylated) p95HER2 protein compared to those expressing HER2 at 2+ or 1+/0 levels. FIG. 50C represents a graph of total p95HER2 protein expression grouped by IHC measured HER2 expression.

[0304] The interim analysis of the study also showed a high concordance (100%) for IHC HER2 (e.g., 3+) samples with CEER. FIG. 51 shows that 6 FNA samples which tested positive for HER2 by CEER were from patients that expressed HER2 positive cells as determined by primary IHC. There was also a 90.5% concordance for IHC HER2 negative tumors with CEER. Notably, 8 patient samples had PI3KCA somatic mutations.

[0305] The methods of the present invention can be used to determine a comprehensive disease profile for breast cancer patients. FIG. 52 illustrates data from the comprehensive pathway analysis described herein using a combination of functional pathway profiling and genotyping. FNA samples were analyzed to detect total and activated (*i.e.*, phosphorylated) signaling pathway components (*e.g.*, HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, CK, PI3K, SHC, AKT, and/or ERK) by CEER assay and to detect somatic mutations in genes such as PIK3CA, KRAS, and/or BRAF.

25 **Example 13. Detection of HER2 Expression and Phosphorylation in Breast Cancer CTC Samples by CEER.**

[0306] This example illustrates the use of the methods of the invention for monitoring and quantitating the levels of activated and/or total HER2 protein in a multiplexed immuno-microarray platform, such as the CEER platform.

30 [0307] Survival rates of metastatic breast cancers are considerably low. Tumor cells at the primary site often do not reflect the profile of the tumor cell population in recurrent disease. Evaluating circulating tumor cells (CTCs) in the peripheral blood of patients offers a non-

invasive method of monitoring disease. Identification and evaluation of reliable molecular markers within CTCs from patients with recurrent disease can further improve breast cancer survival.

5 [0308] The Collaborative Enzyme Enhanced Reactive-immunoassay (CEER) technology utilizes the formation of a unique immuno-complex requiring co-localization of two detector antibodies in proximity to capture antibodies immobilized on an immuno-array. The collaboration between two channeling-enzymes conjugated on two detection antibodies in proximity, enables the profiling of the target proteins with extreme sensitivity and specificity.

10 [0309] In this study CEER was utilized to analyze the levels of activated and/or total HER2 protein in CTCs isolated from 76 breast cancer patients at stages III to IV with HER2 negative primary disease. Approximately 25% of the HER2 negative BCA patients in this cohort showed varying levels of HER2 activation (phosphorylation) in CTCs isolated from the recurrent disease. About 8% of the patients who determined to have HER2 activation also showed significant over-expression of total HER2 protein.

15 [0310] The results show that HER2 activation takes place in the presence or absence of HER2 over-expression. In some instances, HER2 activation can occur from formation of either HER2 heterodimers (*e.g.*, p95HER2/HER2, HER1/HER2, HER2/HER3, HER2/HER4, *etc.*) and thus, levels of total HER2 proteins are not elevated. In other instances, HER2 activation can occur from HER2 over-expression and formation HER2 homodimers (*e.g.*,
20 HER2/HER2). The results show that detecting levels of activated and total HER2 protein provide an improved method of monitoring disease in breast cancer patients with recurrent disease.

[0311] Since HER2 profiles can vary been a primary tumor and recurrent disease in a patient, there is an urgent need for routine monitoring of HER2 status in CTCs in metastatic
25 breast cancer patients. In addition, monitoring the incidence of HER2 alterations in CTCs using CEER can also aid in the selection of effective treatment regimens for BCA patients with relapsed disease. Furthermore, CEER can be used for profiling other druggable target proteins and guiding the development of effective clinical therapies.

30 **Example 14. Pathway Activation and Somatic Mutation Analysis in Fine Needle Aspirates Can Identify Candidate Drugs for Effective Treatment of Breast Cancer.**

[0312] This example illustrates a comprehensive genetic and molecular analysis of fine needle aspirates (FNA) samples collected from metastatic sites of 58 breast cancer (BCA)

patients. This example illustrates using the methods of the invention, such as performing CEER-FNA pathway analysis to assess RTK pathway activation and oncogenic somatic mutation profiling. In particular, this example illustrates that the methods of the present invention can be used to develop a disease profile from a limited amount of patient sample.

5 [0313] In this study, CEER-FNA pathway analysis included interrogation of key receptor tyrosine kinases and their downstream signaling molecules including HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF-1R, PI3K, Shc, AKT and ERK, as well as somatic mutational profiling of oncogenic genes (*e.g.*, PI3KCA, KRAS, BRAF, and EGFR). A multiplexed immuno-array CEER (Collaborative Enzyme Enhanced Reactive-immunoassay) platform
10 was utilized to determine the levels of pathway protein expression and activation (*e.g.*, phosphorylation). All FNA samples provided sufficient materials for the combined analysis of multiplexed pathway expression/activation and somatic mutation analysis.

[0314] For the unblinded samples, all FNA from metastatic sites (mFNA) collected from HER2 positive primary tumors as by determined by IHC were confirmed to be HER2 positive
15 by CEER analysis. Over-expression of HER2 was found in 10% of mFNAs collected from breast cancer patients with HER2 negative primary tumors. PIK3CA mutations were found in 20% of the samples in this cohort. Statistically significant higher levels of phosphorylated AKT, ERK as well as HER1, HER2, HER3 and IGF-1R were found in mFNAs also carrying
20 pathway signatures indicating pathway activation. The results of the study show that evaluation of biomarkers in breast cancer patients should include both pathway proteins as well as mutation analysis.

[0315] Comprehensive disease profiling can provide insightful information on the efficacy of specific agents on their intended target proteins. The multiplexed pathway analysis of the
25 present invention can also provide valuable information regarding potential drug resistance mechanisms. Furthermore, the combined mutational and pathway activation profiling described herein can help guide therapeutic strategies in a clinical setting.

[0316] All publications and patent applications cited in this specification are herein incorporated by reference as if each individual publication or patent application were
30 specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference. Although the foregoing invention has been described in some detail by way of illustration and example for purposes of clarity of understanding, it will be readily apparent to those of ordinary skill in

the art in light of the teachings of this invention that certain changes and modifications may be made thereto without departing from the spirit or scope of the appended claims.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 **1.** A method for selecting a treatment for a subject having or suspected of
2 having cancer, the method comprising:

3 (a) measuring the level of dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine
4 kinases (RTKs), wherein measuring comprises:

5 (i) incubating a cellular extract with one or a plurality of dilution
6 series of capture antibodies to form a plurality of captured analytes;

7 (ii) incubating the plurality of captured analytes with detection
8 antibodies comprising a first or a plurality of first activation state-independent
9 antibodies and a second or a plurality of second activation state-independent
10 antibodies specific for a first member and a second member, respectively, of a
11 dimerized pair of analytes to form a plurality of detectable captured dimerized
12 analytes, wherein the first activation state-independent antibodies are labeled
13 with a facilitating moiety, the second activation state-independent antibodies
14 are labeled with a first member of a signal amplification pair, and the
15 facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing agent which channels to and reacts
16 with the first member of the signal amplification pair;

17 (iii) incubating the plurality of detectable captured dimerized
18 analytes with a second member of the signal amplification pair to generate an
19 amplified signal; and

20 (iv) detecting the amplified signal generated from the first and
21 second members of the signal amplification pair; and

22 (b) selecting an anticancer drug by comparing the dimerization of at least
23 two RTKs to a reference dimerization profile of the same two RTK wherein the reference
24 dimerization profile is generated in the absence of the anticancer drug.

1 **2.** The method of claim **1**, further comprises calibrating the level of
2 dimerization of at least two RTKs against a standard curve generated for said at least two
3 RTKs.

1 **3.** The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the cellular
2 extract is isolated from a subject having cancer after administration of an anticancer drug.

1 4. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the cellular
2 extract is contacted with an anticancer drug.

1 5. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the anticancer
2 drug is selected from the group consisting of a PI3K modulating compound, a RTK
3 modulating compound, or a combination thereof.

1 6. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein said at least
2 two RTKs is a member selected from the group consisting of a HER1/HER2 dimer, a
3 HER1/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER2 dimer, a HER2/HER4 dimer, a
4 p95HER2/HER3 dimer, and a p95HER2/HER2 dimer.

1 7. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the cellular
2 extract is isolated from a subject having or suspected of having a cancer selected from the
3 group consisting of breast, lung, pancreatic, colorectal, or gastric cancer.

1 8. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first
2 activation state-independent antibodies are directly labeled with the facilitating moiety.

1 9. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the second
2 activation state-independent antibodies are directly labeled with the first member of the signal
3 amplification pair.

1 10. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the second
2 activation state-independent antibodies are labeled with the first member of the signal
3 amplification pair via binding between a first member of a binding pair conjugated to the
4 activation state-independent antibodies and a second member of the binding pair conjugated
5 to the first member of the signal amplification pair.

1 11. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first
2 member of the binding pair is biotin and/or the second member of the binding pair is
3 streptavidin.

1 12. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the
2 facilitating moiety is glucose oxidase.

1 **13.** The method of claim **12**, wherein the glucose oxidase and the
2 activation state-independent antibodies are conjugated to a sulfhydryl-activated dextran
3 molecule.

1 **14.** The method of claim **13**, wherein the sulfhydryl-activated dextran
2 molecule has a molecular weight of about 500kDa.

1 **15.** The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the capture
2 antibodies are on a solid support, selected from the group consisting of glass, plastic, chips,
3 pins, filters, beads, paper, membrane, fiber bundles, and combinations thereof.

1 **16.** The method of claim **15**, wherein the capture antibodies are restrained
2 on the solid support in an addressable array.

1 **17.** The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first
2 member of the signal amplification pair is a peroxidase.

1 **18.** The method of claim **17**, wherein the peroxidase is horseradish
2 peroxidase (HRP).

1 **19.** The method of claim **17**, wherein the second member of the signal
2 amplification pair is a tyramide reagent.

1 **20.** The method of claim **19**, wherein the tyramide reagent is biotin-
2 tyramide.

1 **21.** The method of claim **20**, wherein the amplified signal is generated by
2 peroxidase oxidization of the biotin-tyramide to produce an activated tyramide.

1 **22.** The method of claim **21**, wherein the activated tyramide is directly
2 detected.

1 **23.** The method of claim **21**, wherein the activated tyramide is detected
2 upon the addition of a signal-detecting reagent.

1 **24.** The method of claim **23**, wherein the signal-detecting reagent is a
2 streptavidin-labeled fluorophore.

1 **25.** The method of claim **23**, wherein the signal-detecting reagent is a
2 combination of a streptavidin-labeled peroxidase and a chromogenic reagent.

1 **26.** The method of claim **25**, wherein the chromogenic reagent is 3,3',5,5'-
2 tetramethylbenzidine (TMB).

1 **27.** A method for selecting a treatment for a subject having or suspected of
2 having cancer, the method comprising:

3 (a) measuring the level of a PI3K complex activation, wherein said PI3K
4 complex comprises i) dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs); ii) a
5 PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 subunit, said measuring comprises:

6 (i) incubating a cellular extract with one or a plurality of dilution
7 series of capture antibodies to form a plurality of captured analytes;

8 (ii) incubating the plurality of captured analytes with first detection
9 antibodies comprising either a) a first or a plurality of first activation state-
10 independent antibodies specific for one member of a dimerized receptor
11 tyrosine kinase pair or b) a PI3K p110 subunit; and second detection
12 antibodies comprising either a) second or a plurality of second activation state-
13 independent antibodies specific for a) one member of a dimerized receptor
14 tyrosine kinase pair, a PI3K p85 or a PI3K p110 subunit or b) activation state-
15 dependent antibodies specific for a PI3K p85 subunit and/or a PI3K p110
16 subunit to form a plurality of detectable captured dimerized and complexed
17 analytes,

18 wherein the first detection antibodies are labeled with a facilitating moiety, the
19 second detection antibodies are labeled with a first member of a signal
20 amplification pair, and the facilitating moiety generates an oxidizing
21 agent which channels to and reacts with the first member of the signal
22 amplification pair;

23 (iii) incubating the plurality of detectable captured dimerized
24 analytes with a second member of the signal amplification pair to generate
25 an amplified signal; and

26 (iv) detecting the amplified signal generated from the first and
27 second members of the signal amplification pair; and

28 (b) selecting an anticancer drug by comparing the level of the PI3K
29 complex activation to a reference PI3K complex activation profile wherein the reference
30 dimerization profile is generated in the absence of the anticancer drug.

1 28. The method of claim 27, wherein the method further comprises
2 calibrating the level of PI3K complex against a standard curve generated for said PI3K
3 complex comprising i) dimerization of at least two receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs); ii) a
4 PI3K p85 subunit and a PI3K p110 subunit.

1 29. The method of claim 27 or 28, wherein the cellular extract is isolated
2 from a subject having cancer after administration of an anticancer drug.

1 30. The method of any one of claims 27-29, wherein the cellular extract is
2 contacted with an anticancer drug.

1 31. The method of any one of claims 27-30, wherein the anticancer drug is
2 selected from the consisting of a PI3K modulating compound, a RTK modulating compound,
3 or a combination thereof.

1 32. The method of any one of claims 27-31, wherein said at least two
2 RTKs is a member selected from the group consisting of a HER1/HER2 dimer, a
3 HER1/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER3 dimer, a HER2/HER2 dimer, a HER2/HER4 dimer, a
4 p95HER2/HER3 dimer, and a p95HER2/HER2 dimer.

1 33. The method of any one of claims 27-32, wherein the cellular extract is
2 isolated from a subject having or suspected of having a cancer selected from the group
3 consisting of breast, lung, pancreatic, colorectal, or gastric cancer.

1 34. The method of any one of claims 27-33, wherein the first detection
2 antibodies are directly labeled with the facilitating moiety.

1 35. The method of any one of claims 27-34, wherein the second detection
2 antibodies are directly labeled with the first member of the signal amplification pair.

1 36. The method of any one of claims 27-35, wherein the second detection
2 antibodies are labeled with the first member of the signal amplification pair via binding
3 between a first member of a binding pair conjugated to the second detection antibodies and a

4 second member of the binding pair conjugated to the first member of the signal amplification
5 pair.

1 **37.** The method of claim **36**, wherein the first member of the binding pair
2 is biotin and/or the second member of the binding pair is streptavidin.

1 **38.** The method of claim **34**, wherein the facilitating moiety is glucose
2 oxidase.

1 **39.** The method of claim **38**, wherein the glucose oxidase and the
2 activation state-independent antibodies are conjugated to a sulfhydryl-activated dextran
3 molecule.

1 **40.** The method of claim **39**, wherein the sulfhydryl-activated dextran
2 molecule has a molecular weight of about 500kDa.

1 **41.** The method of claim **27**, wherein the capture antibodies are on a solid
2 support, selected from the group consisting of glass, plastic, chips, pins, filters, beads, paper,
3 membrane, fiber bundles, and combinations thereof.

1 **42.** The method of claim **41**, wherein the capture antibodies are restrained
2 on the solid support in an addressable array.

1 **43.** The method of any one of claims **27-42**, wherein the first member of
2 the signal amplification pair is a peroxidase.

1 **44.** The method of claim **43**, wherein the peroxidase is horseradish
2 peroxidase (HRP).

1 **45.** The method of claim **27-44**, wherein the second member of the signal
2 amplification pair is a tyramide reagent.

1 **46.** The method of claim **45**, wherein the tyramide reagent is biotin-
2 tyramide.

1 **47.** The method of claim **46**, wherein the amplified signal is generated by
2 peroxidase oxidization of the biotin-tyramide to produce an activated tyramide.

1 **48.** The method of claim **47**, wherein the activated tyramide is directly
2 detected.

1 **49.** The method of claim **47**, wherein the activated tyramide is detected
2 upon the addition of a signal-detecting reagent.

1 **50.** The method of claim **49**, wherein the signal-detecting reagent is a
2 streptavidin-labeled fluorophore.

1 **51.** The method of claim **49**, wherein the signal-detecting reagent is a
2 combination of a streptavidin-labeled peroxidase and a chromogenic reagent.

1 **52.** The method of claim **51**, wherein the chromogenic reagent is 3,3',5,5'-
2 tetramethylbenzidine (TMB).

1 **53.** The method of claim **1** or **27**, wherein the method is used to determine
2 whether the subject should receive a PI3K inhibitor or PI3K inhibitor combination therapy.

1 **54.** The method of claim **1** or **27**, wherein the method is used to determine
2 whether the subject, who has relapsed on anticancer therapy, should receive a PI3K inhibitor
3 or PI3K inhibitor combination therapy.

1 **55.** The method of claim **1** or **27**, wherein the method is performed on the
2 subject, already determined to express one or more oncogenic proteins, to optimize therapy,
3 reduce toxicity, monitor the efficacy of therapeutic treatment, and/or detect adaptive non-
4 responsiveness to therapy.

1 **56.** The method of claim **1** or **27**, wherein the method is used to measure
2 RTK activation or phosphorylation status in the subject at risk of developing, suspected of
3 having, or diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer, such as breast, colorectal, gastric, lung or
4 pancreatic cancer.

1 **57.** The method of claim **1** or **27**, wherein the method is used to measure
2 RTK dimerization status in the subject at risk of developing, suspected of having, or
3 diagnosed with a solid tumor cancer selected from the group consisting of breast, colorectal,
4 gastric, lung or pancreatic cancer.

1 **58.** The method of claim **1** or **27**, wherein the method is used to measure
2 RTK dimerization and/or activation status in the subject who has relapsed on anti-cancer
3 therapy, and to determine whether the tumor cells have adapted to the existing anti-cancer
4 therapy, or whether the subject should receive PI3K inhibitor or PI3K inhibitor combination
5 therapy.

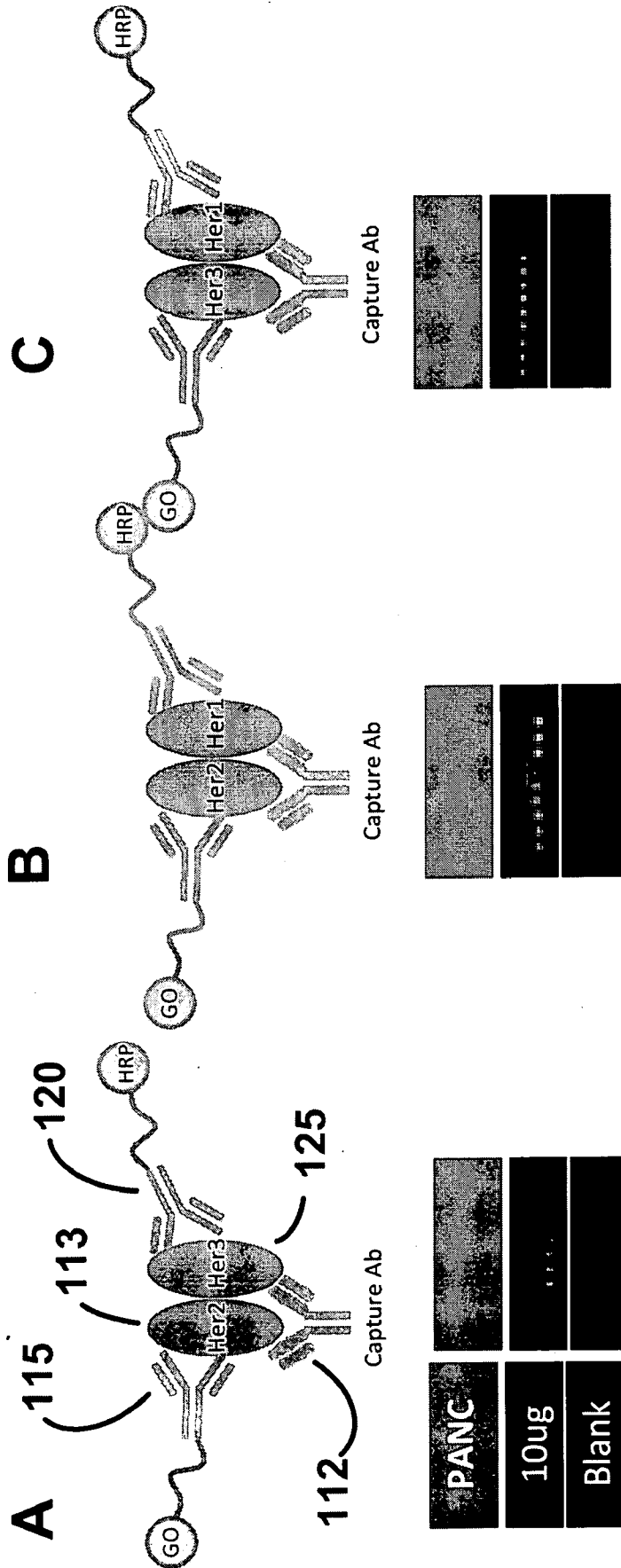
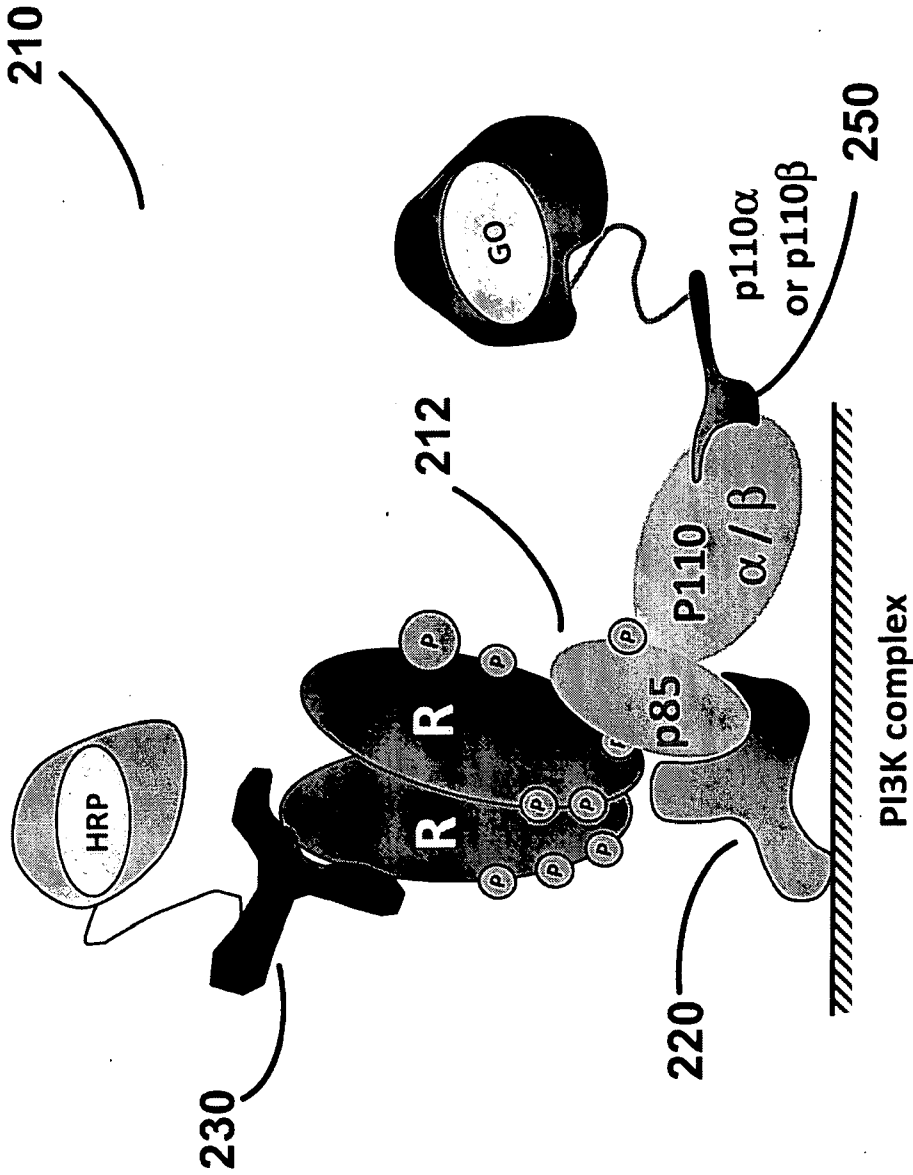
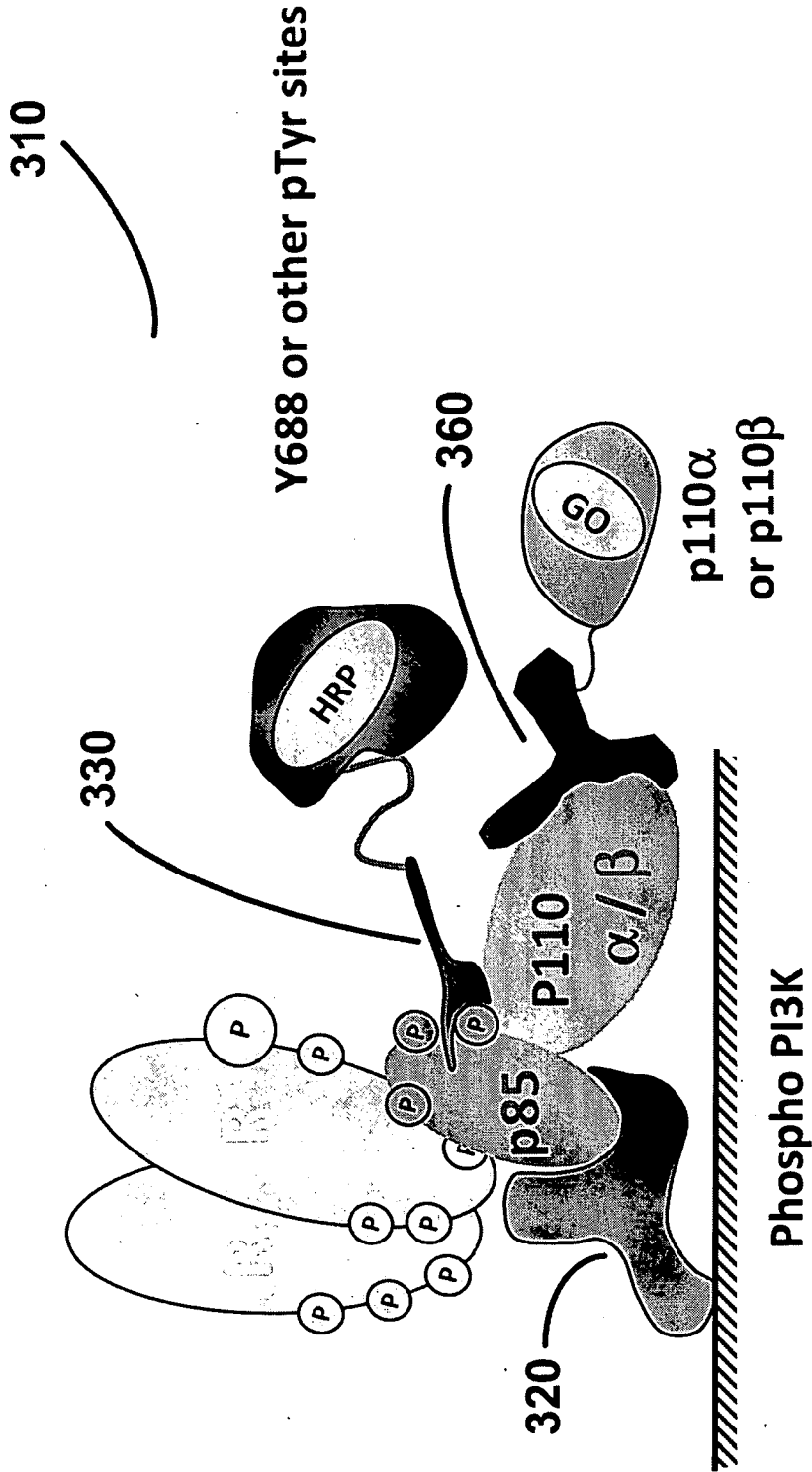


FIG. 1



R: RTKs (HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET) and adaptor proteins
 P : phosphorylated residues
 GO : Glucose Oxidase
 HRP: Horse Radish Peroxidase

FIG. 2



R: RTKs (HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET) and adaptor proteins
 P : phosphorylated residues
 GO : Glucose Oxidase
 HRP: Horse Radish Peroxidase

FIG. 3

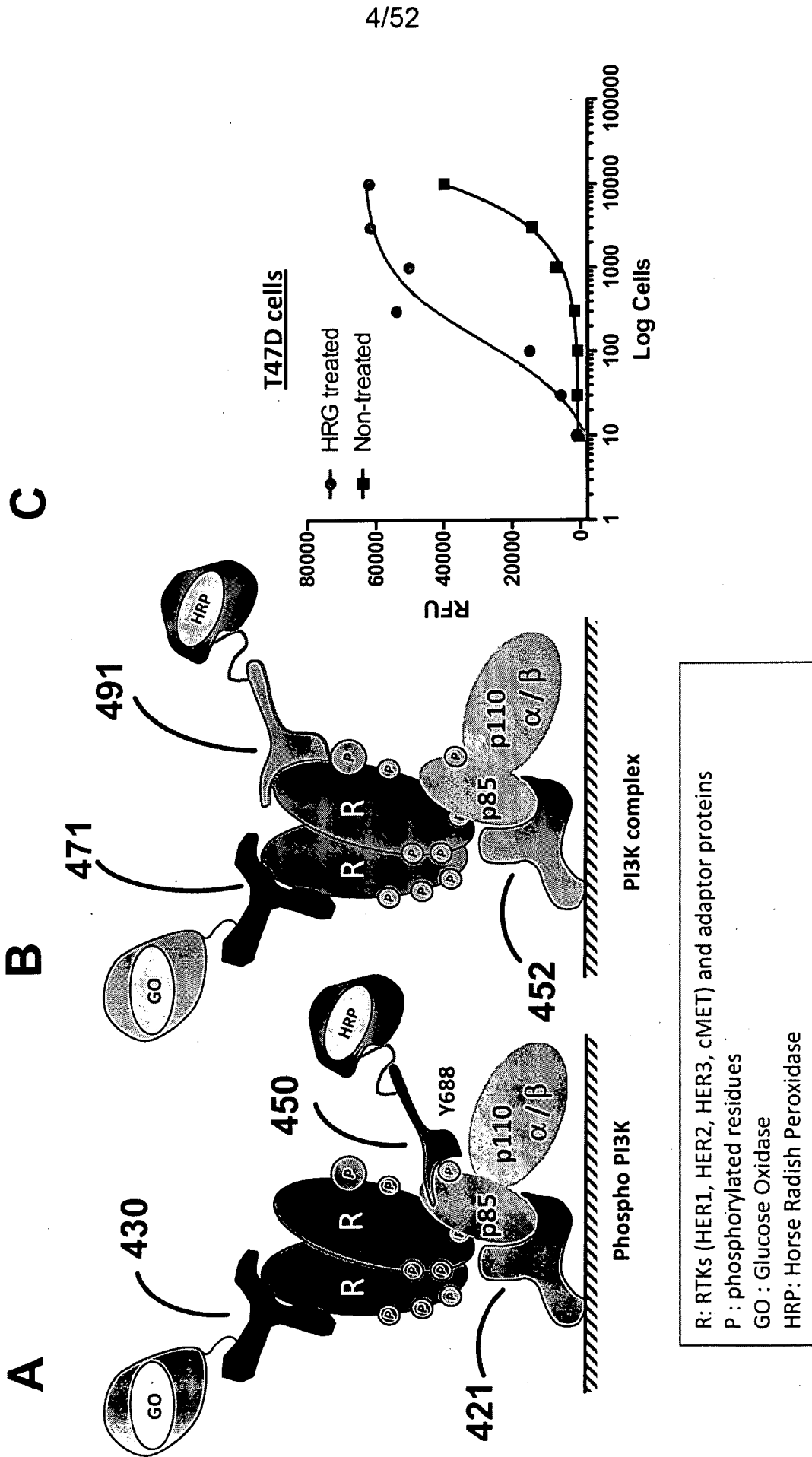
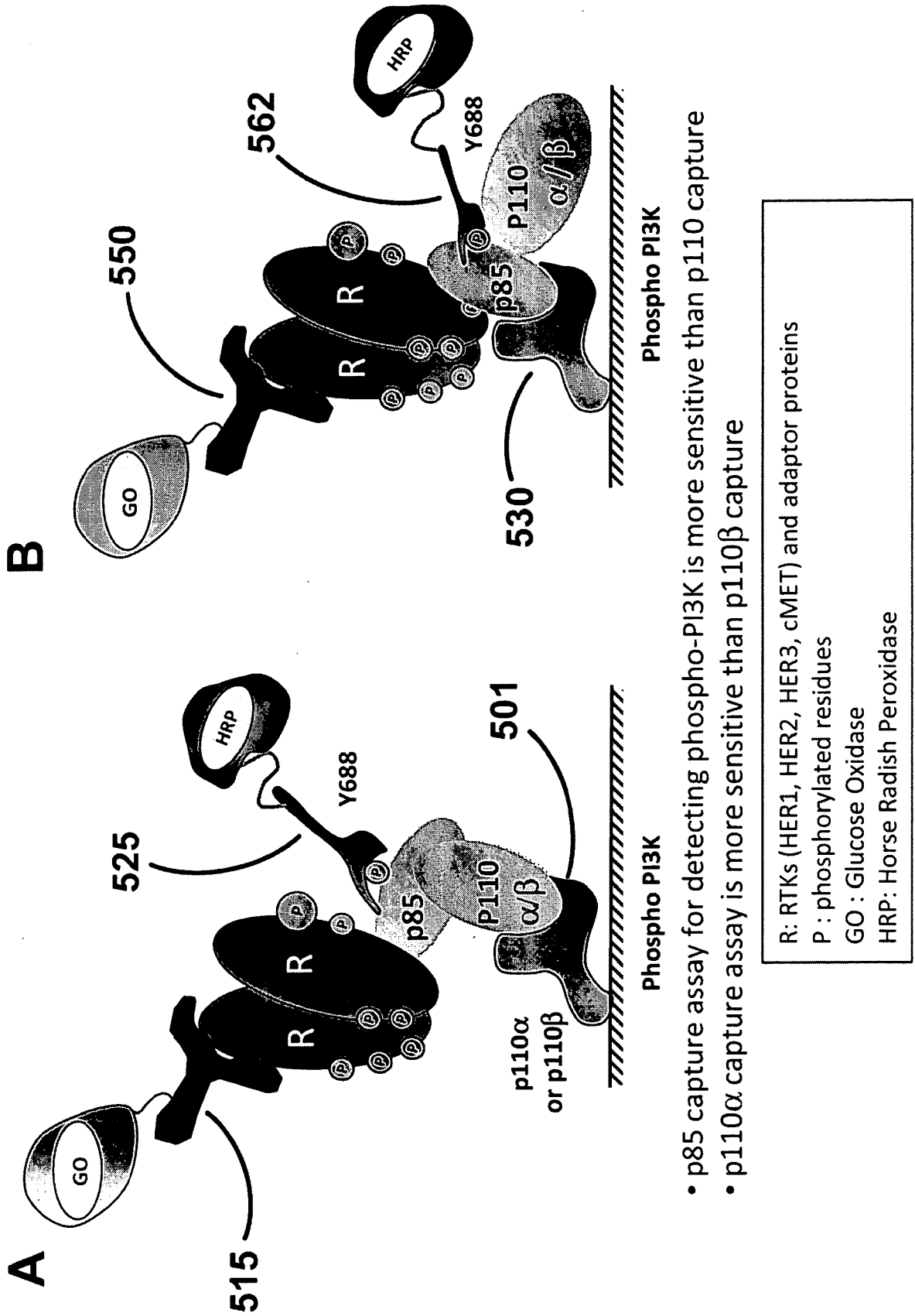


FIG. 4



- p85 capture assay for detecting phospho-PI3K is more sensitive than p110 capture
- p110α capture assay is more sensitive than p110β capture

R: RTKs (HER1, HER2, HER3, cMET) and adaptor proteins
 P : phosphorylated residues
 GO : Glucose Oxidase
 HRP: Horse Radish Peroxidase

FIG. 5

PI3K cutoff ≥ 60							
PI3K & AKT	✓✓	✓x	x✓	xx	count PI3K pos	count AKT pos	p-value
AKT cutoff ≥ 24	17	4	20	19	21	37	0.0222
AKT cutoff ≥ 8	19	2	26	13	21	45	0.0385

And just to show using the same cutoff for PI3K and AKT (although that does not make sense based on assay limits):

PI3K cutoff ≥ 24							
PI3K & AKT	✓✓	✓x	x✓	xx	PI3K pos	AKT pos	p-value
AKT ≥ 24	24	6	13	17	30	37	0.00364

FIG. 6

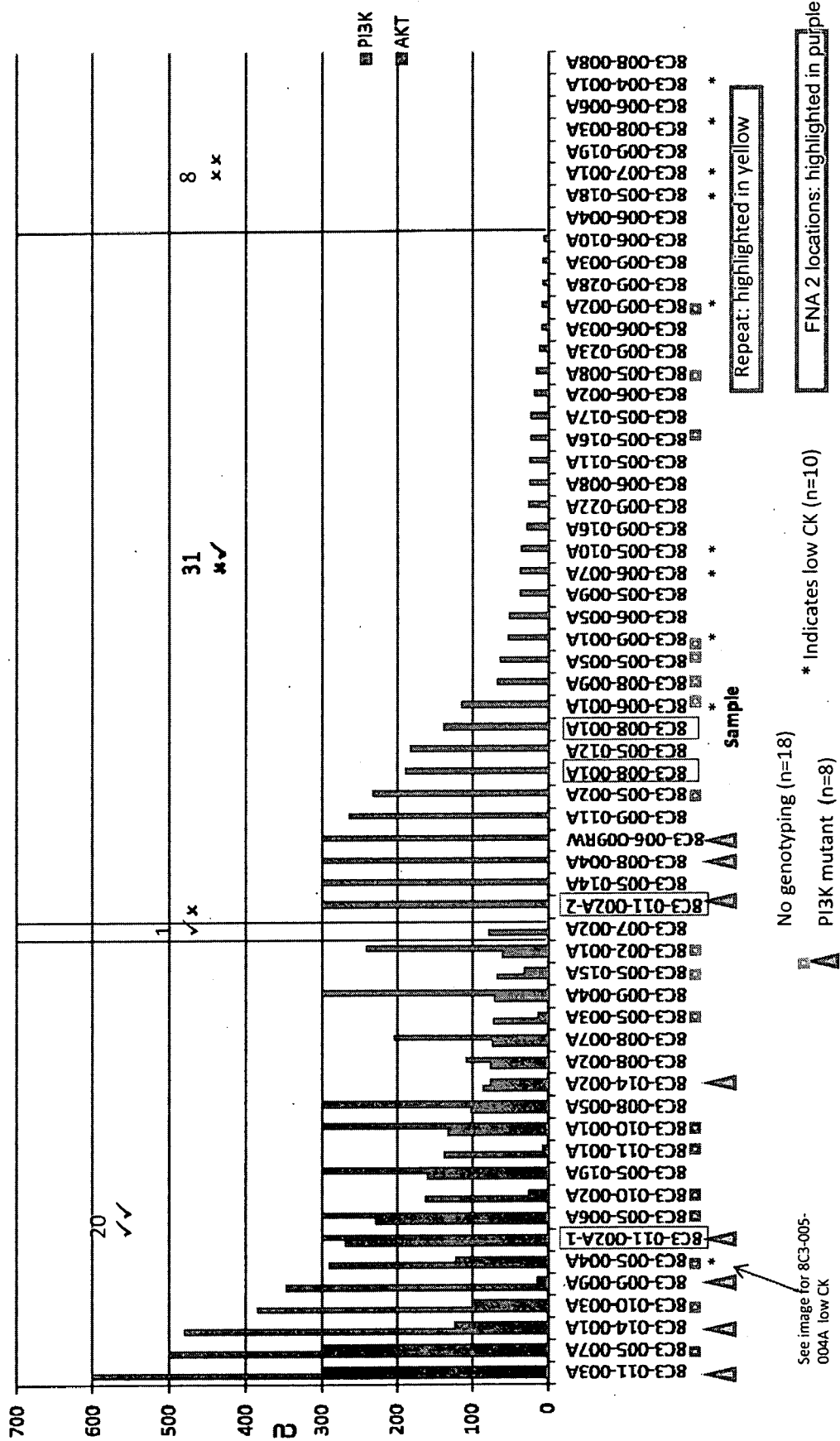
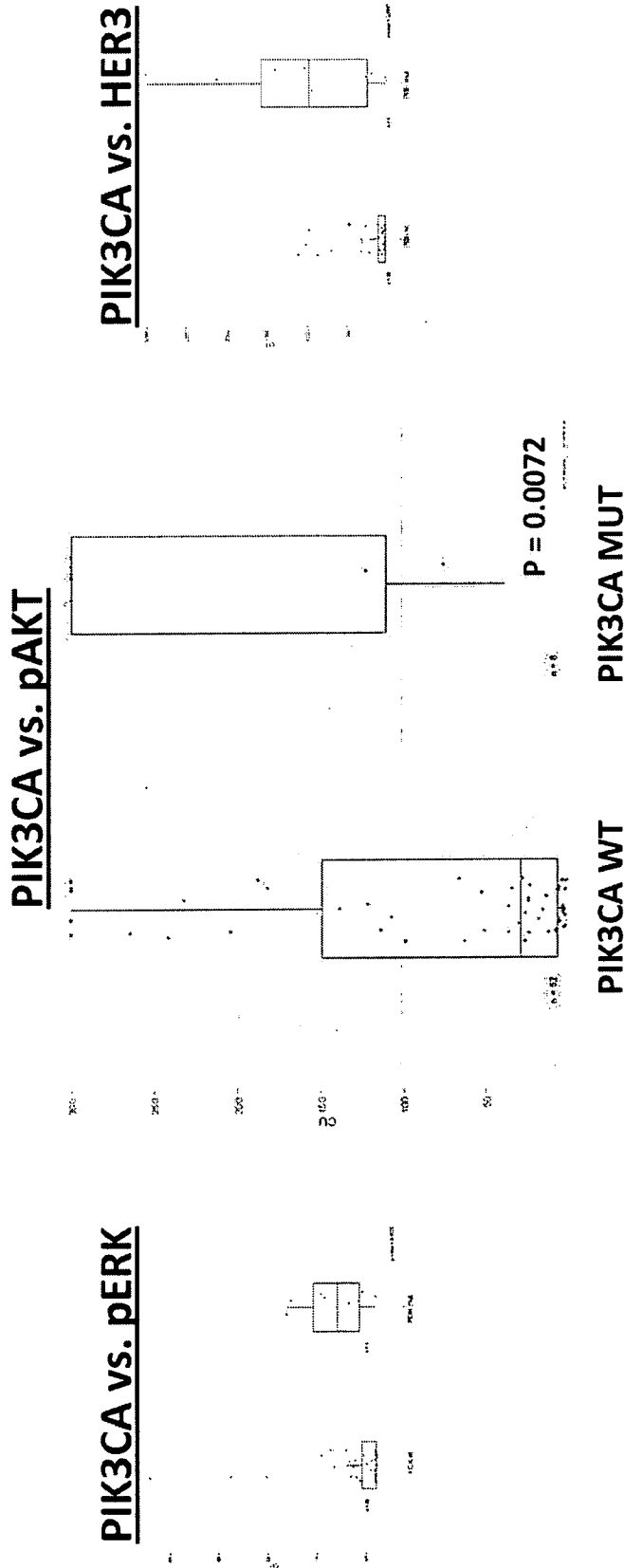


FIG. 7



- While showing good correlation, mutation based patient selection may leave patients who may benefit
- In Breast CA good correlation found but similar analysis did not reveal good correlation between mutation and downstream targets in other cancers
- Combination of pathway activation + mutation panel is ideal in clinical setting!

FIG. 8

PI3K cutoff ≥ 30								
	PI3K \uparrow HER3-P \uparrow	PI3K \uparrow HER3-P \downarrow	PI3K \downarrow HER3-P \uparrow	PI3K \downarrow HER3-P \downarrow	# PI3K +	# HER3-P +	# samples	p-value
PI3K & HER3-P	✓	✓x	x✓	xx	27	35	60	0.0000116
HER3-P ≥ 30	24	3	11	22				

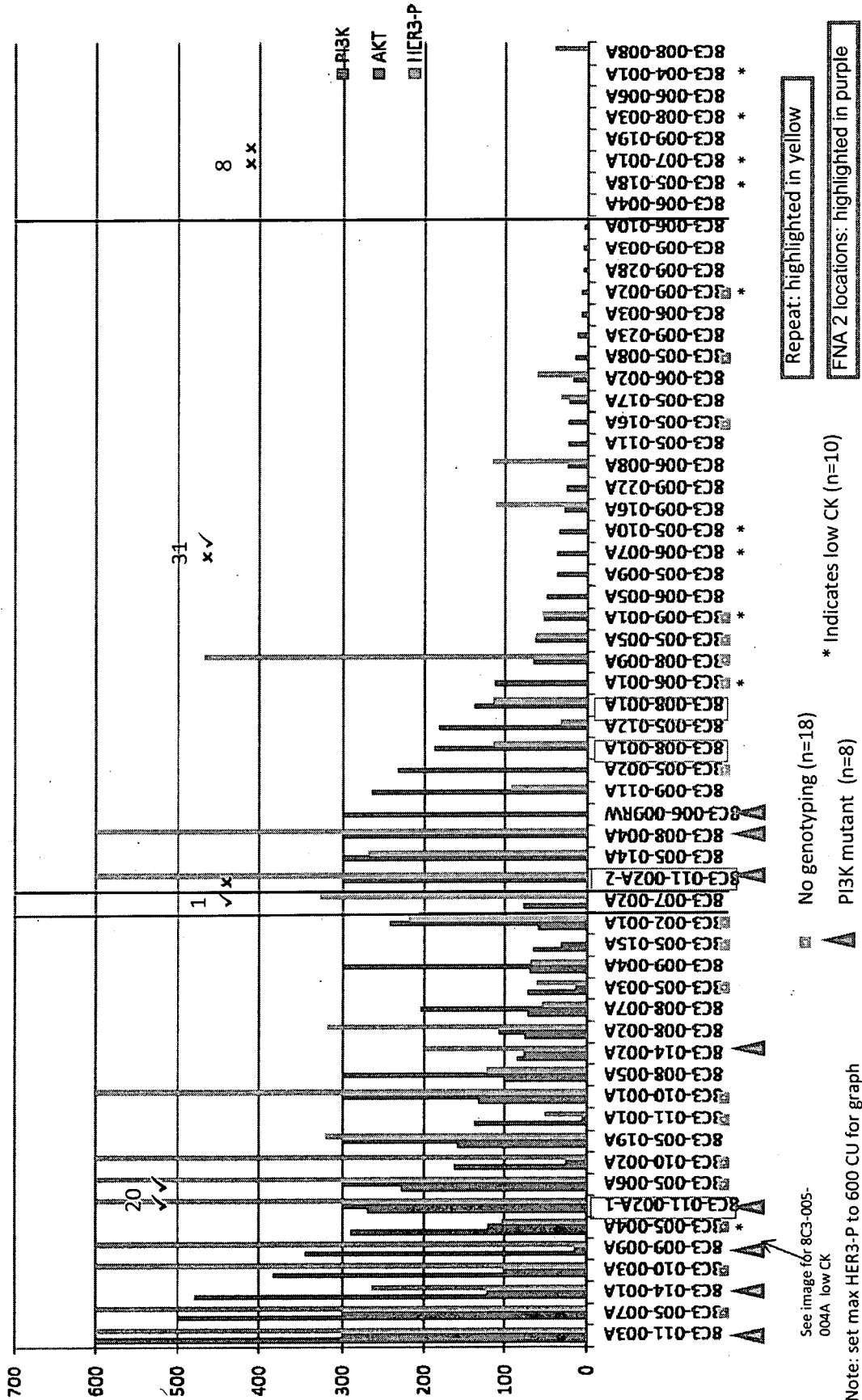
PI3K cutoff ≥ 60								
	PI3K \uparrow HER3-P \uparrow	PI3K \uparrow HER3-P \downarrow	PI3K \downarrow HER3-P \uparrow	PI3K \downarrow HER3-P \downarrow	# PI3K +	# HER3-P +	# samples	p-value
PI3K & HER3-P	✓	✓x	x✓	xx	21	35	60	0.0000105
HER3-P ≥ 30	20	1	15	24				

PI3K cutoff ≥ 90								
	PI3K \uparrow HER3-P \uparrow	PI3K \uparrow HER3-P \downarrow	PI3K \downarrow HER3-P \uparrow	PI3K \downarrow HER3-P \downarrow	# PI3K +	# HER3-P +	# samples	p-value
PI3K & HER3-P	✓	✓x	x✓	xx	13	35	60	0.000286
HER3-P ≥ 30	13	0	22	25				

FIG. 9

HER3-P cutoff ≥ 30				
	HER3 \uparrow AKT \uparrow ✓✓	HER3 \uparrow AKT \downarrow ✓✗	HER3 \downarrow AKT \uparrow ✗✓	HER3 \downarrow AKT \downarrow ✗✗
HER3-P & AKT	33	2	18	7
AKT cutoff ≥ 4				p-value
				0.022

FIG. 10



Repeat: highlighted in yellow
 FNA 2 locations: highlighted in purple

* Indicates low CK (n=10)
 * No genotyping (n=18)
 ▲ PI3K mutant (n=8)

Note: set max HER3-P to 600 CU for graph
 See image for 8C3-005-004A low CK

FIG. 11

HER2-P cutoff ≥ 30								
HER2-P	HER2- P \uparrow PI3K \uparrow $\checkmark\checkmark$	HER2- P \uparrow PI3K \downarrow $\checkmark x$	HER2- P \downarrow PI3K \uparrow $x\checkmark$	HER2- P \downarrow PI3K \downarrow xx	# HER2-P +	# PI3K+	# samples	p-value
PI3K cutoff ≥ 90	9	9	4	38	18	13	60	0.0679
PI3K cutoff ≥ 60	12	6	9	33	18	21	60	0.00117
PI3K cutoff ≥ 30	14	4	13	29	18	27	60	0.000998
HER2-P	HER2- P \uparrow AKT \uparrow $\checkmark\checkmark$	HER2- P \uparrow AKT \downarrow $\checkmark x$	HER2- P \downarrow AKT \uparrow $x\checkmark$	HER2- P \downarrow AKT \downarrow xx	# HER2-P +	# AKT +	# samples	p-value
AKT cutoff ≥ 16	17	1	24	18	18	41	60	0.00333
AKT cutoff ≥ 8	18	0	27	15	18	45	60	0.00185
AKT cutoff ≥ 4	18	0	33	9	18	51	60	0.0302

HER2-P cutoff ≥ 1								
HER2-P	HER2- P \uparrow PI3K \uparrow $\checkmark\checkmark$	HER2- P \uparrow PI3K \downarrow $\checkmark x$	HER2- P \downarrow PI3K \uparrow $x\checkmark$	HER2- P \downarrow PI3K \downarrow xx	# HER2-P +	# PI3K+	# samples	p-value
PI3K cutoff ≥ 90	11	17	2	30	28	13	60	0.00226
PI3K cutoff ≥ 60	17	11	4	28	28	21	60	0.000105
PI3K cutoff ≥ 30	21	7	6	26	28	27	60	0.0000131
HER2-P	HER2- P \uparrow AKT \uparrow $\checkmark\checkmark$	HER2- P \uparrow AKT \downarrow $\checkmark x$	HER2- P \downarrow AKT \uparrow $x\checkmark$	HER2- P \downarrow AKT \downarrow xx	# HER2-P +	# AKT +	# samples	p-value
AKT cutoff ≥ 16	25	3	16	16	28	41	60	0.00107
AKT cutoff ≥ 8	26	2	19	13	28	45	60	0.00273
AKT cutoff ≥ 4	26	2	25	7	28	51	60	0.108

FIG. 12

HER2-P cutoff ≥ 1								
HER2-P	HER2- P \uparrow PI3K \uparrow $\checkmark\checkmark$	HER2- P \uparrow PI3K \downarrow $\checkmark x$	HER2- P \downarrow PI3K \uparrow $x\checkmark$	HER2- P \downarrow PI3K \downarrow xx	# HER2-P +	#PI3K+	# samples	p-value
PI3K cutoff ≥ 30	5	1	3	15	6	8	24	0.00686
HER2-P	HER2- P \uparrow AKT \uparrow $\checkmark\checkmark$	HER2- P \uparrow AKT \downarrow $\checkmark x$	HER2- P \downarrow AKT \uparrow $x\checkmark$	HER2- P \downarrow AKT \downarrow xx	# HER2-P +	#AKT +	# samples	p-value
AKT cutoff ≥ 16	5	1	9	9	6	14	24	0.171
AKT cutoff ≥ 8	5	1	11	7	6	16	24	0.319
AKT cutoff ≥ 4	5	1	15	3	6	20	24	0.749

FIG. 13

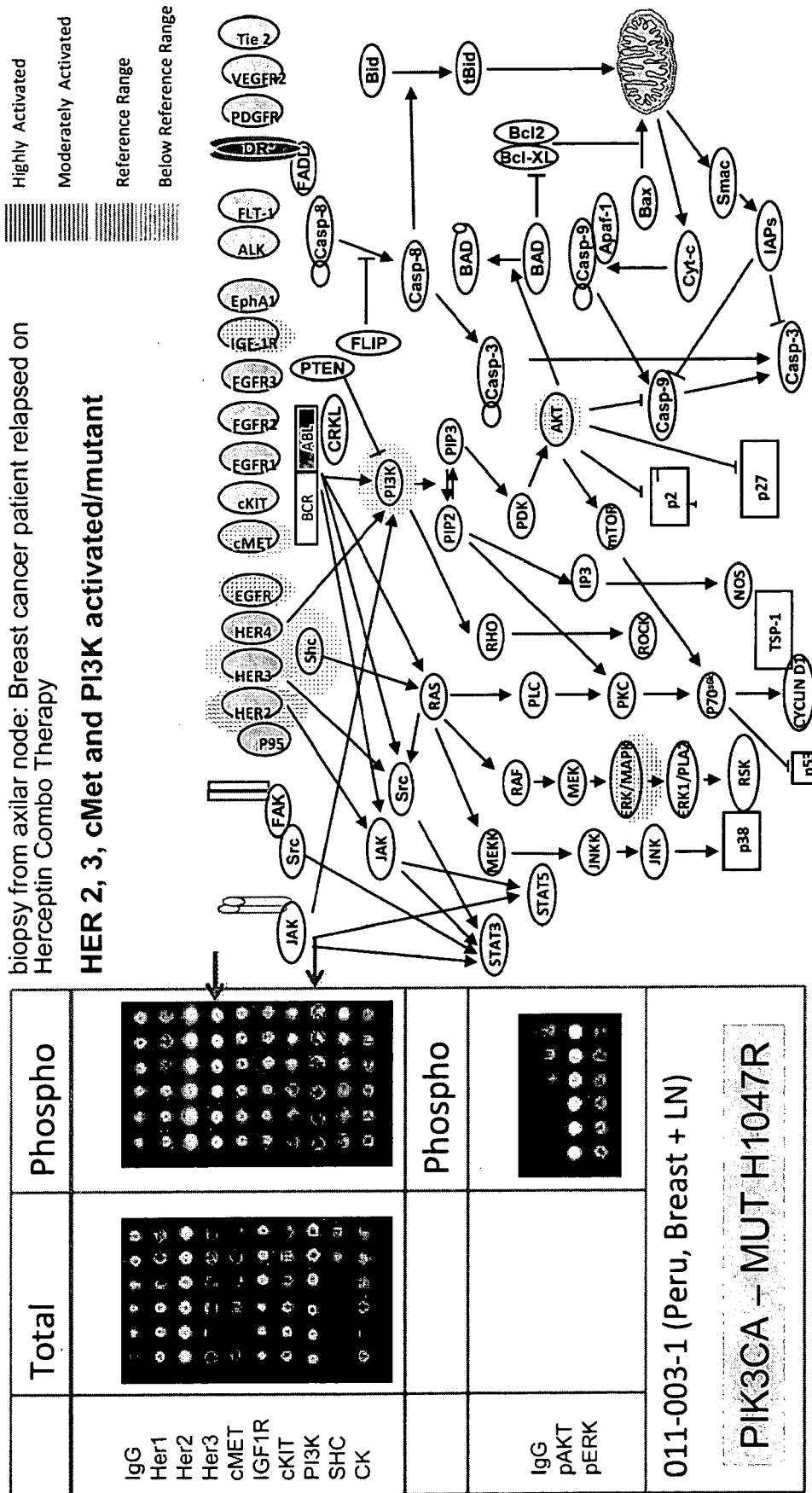


FIG. 15

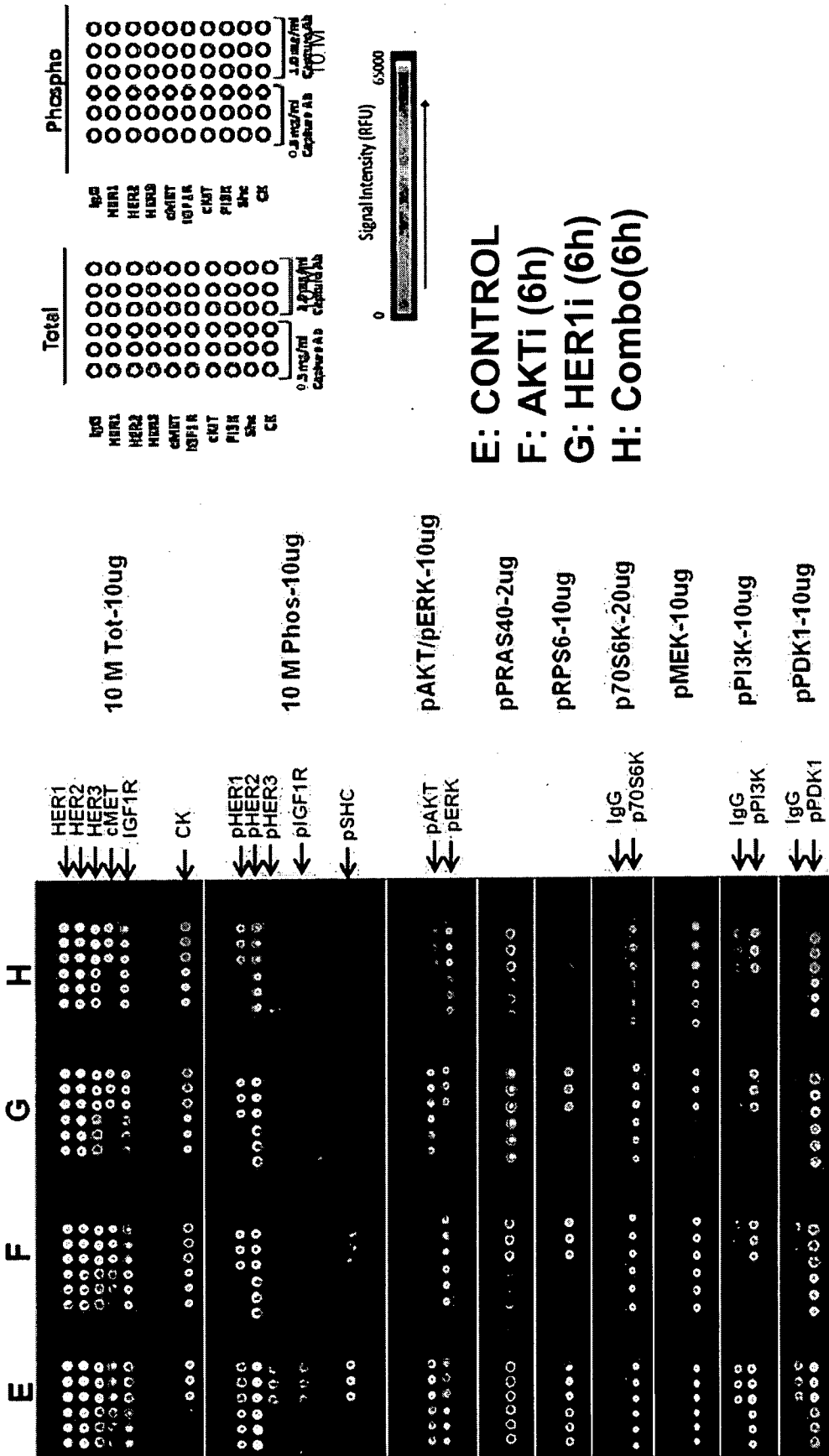


FIG. 16

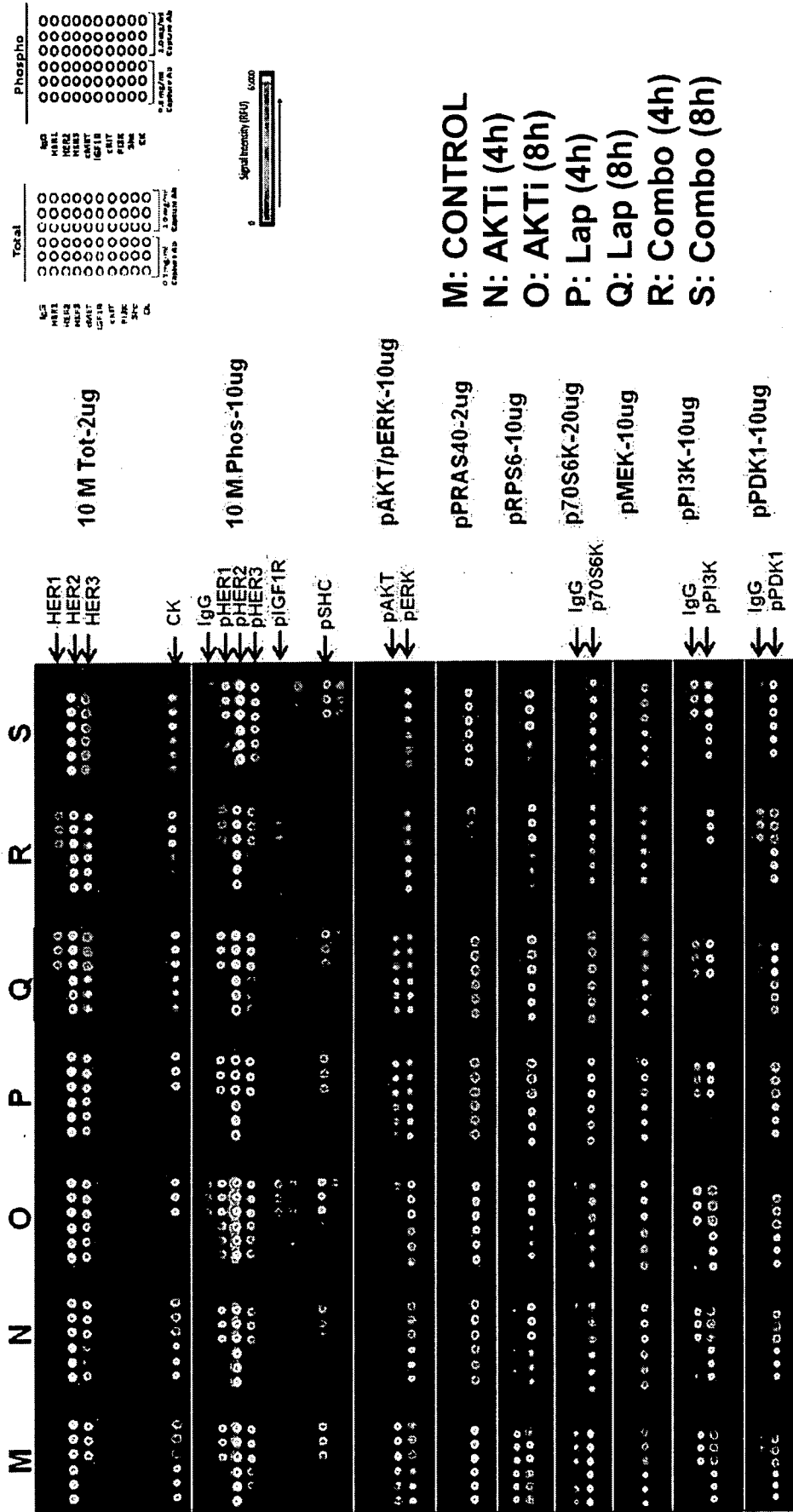


FIG. 17



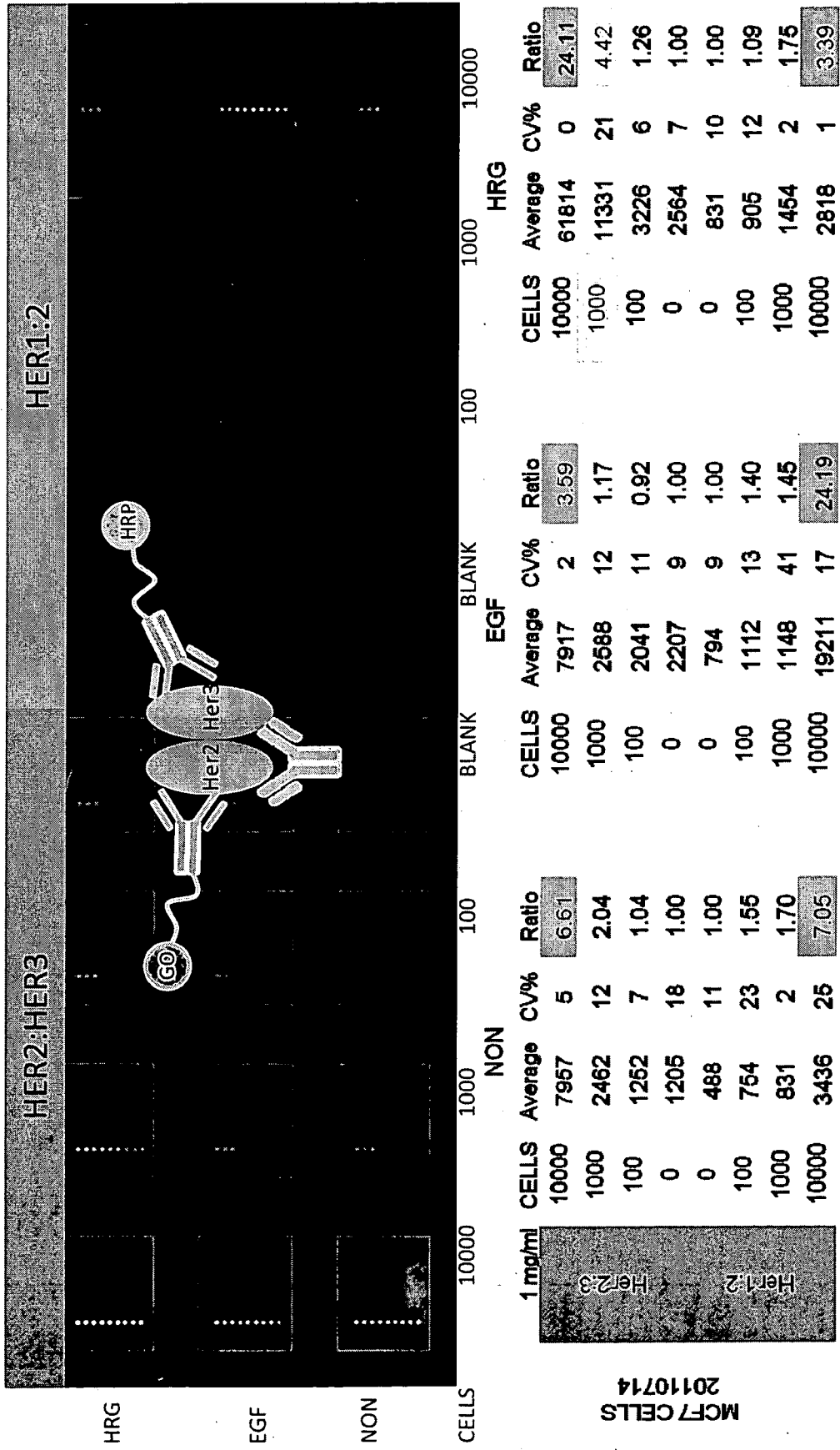


FIG. 18

Sample	Her1:2	Her2:3	Her1:3	Her3:PI3K
HPDE	~10000	~10000	~10000	~10000
Pancreatic Tumor	~10000	~10000	~10000	~10000
Blank	~10000	~10000	~10000	~10000

Figure xx. Heterodimer complexes for HDPE cells and tumor sample 10-494. CEER™ dimer assay is performed at 10µg, 5µg, and 2µg using a combination of capture and multiple detection antibodies. 5µg data is shown for all except for Her3:PI3K complex at 10µg. HPDE cells and tumor sample 10-494 form 1:2 and 2:3 complexes respectively. Relative to the HPDE cells, tumor sample has higher levels of phospho Her3 and associate with PI3K to form a Her3: PI3K complex.

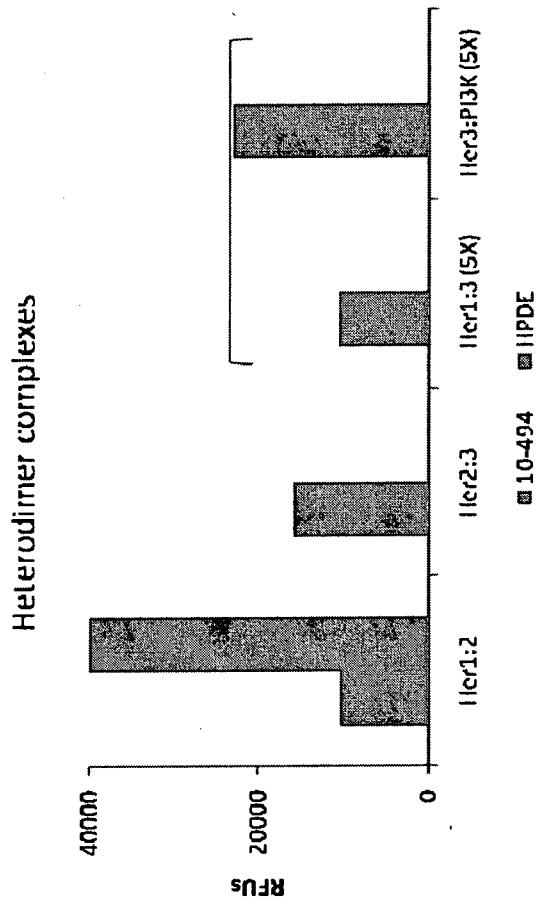
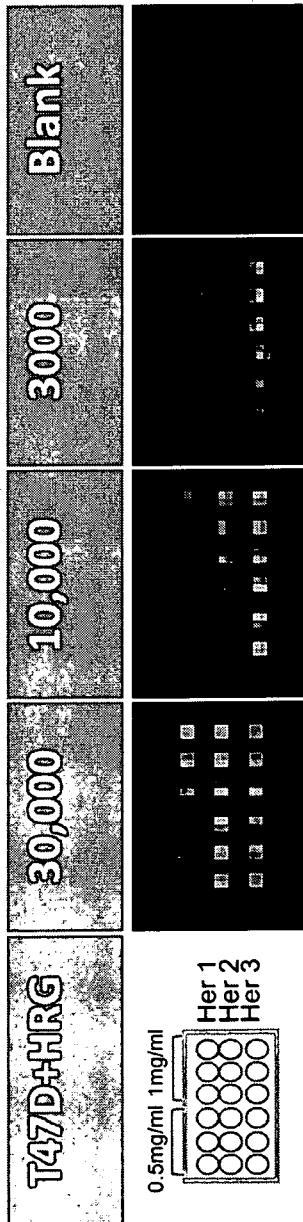
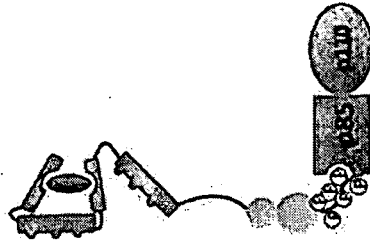


FIG. 19

HER3: PI3K

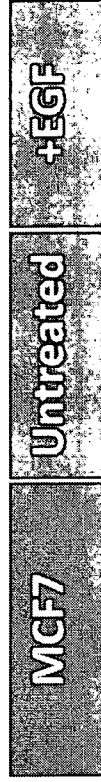


HER2: HER3



0.5mg/ml 1mg/ml
Her2
Detection:
HER3

HER1: HER2



0.5mg/ml 1mg/ml
Her2
Detection:
HER1

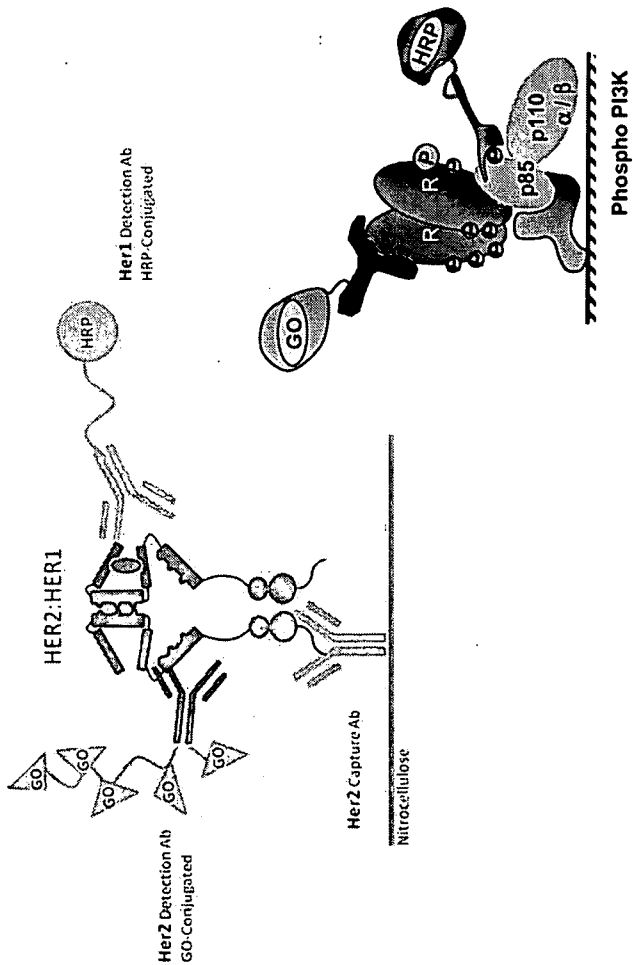


FIG. 20

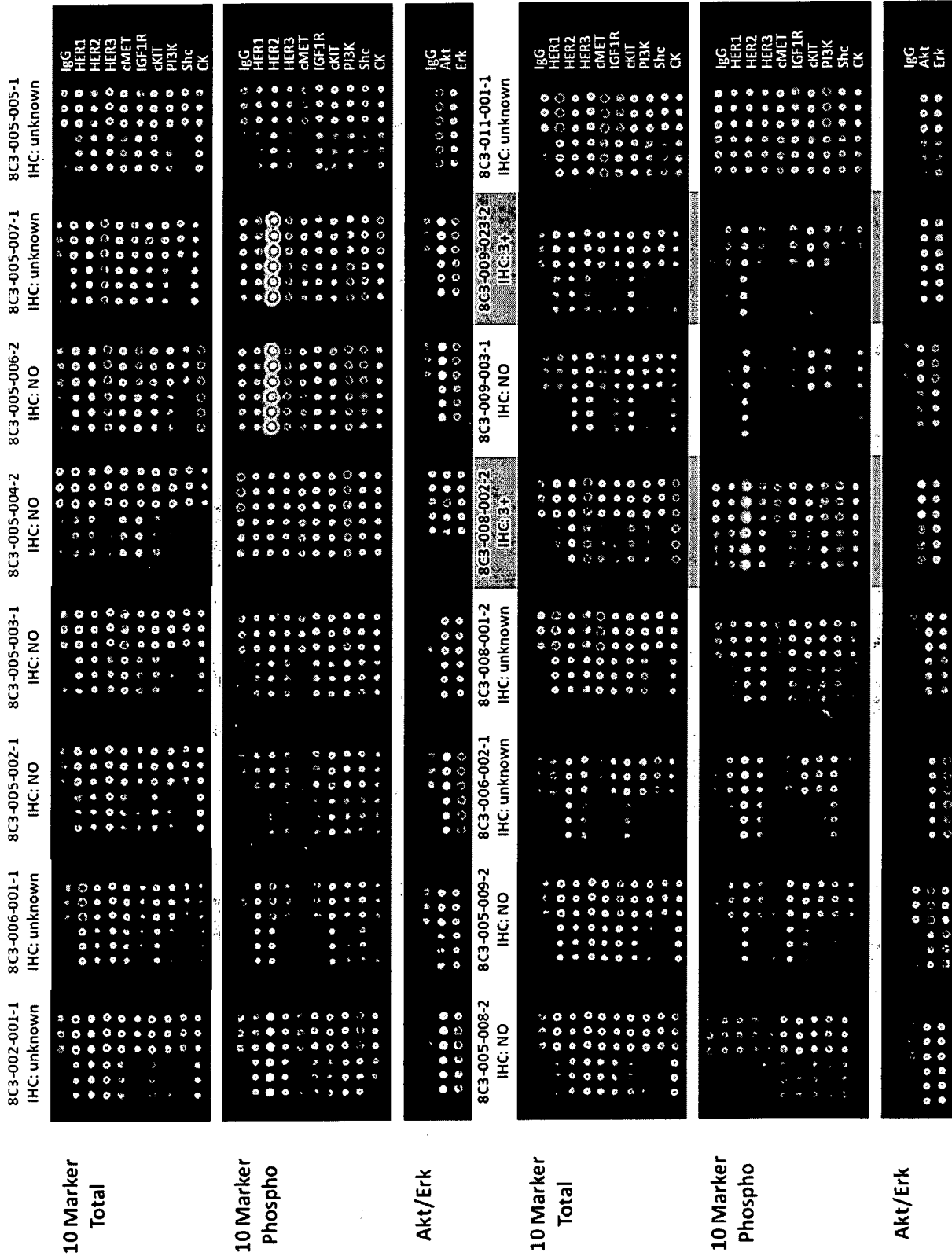


FIG. 21

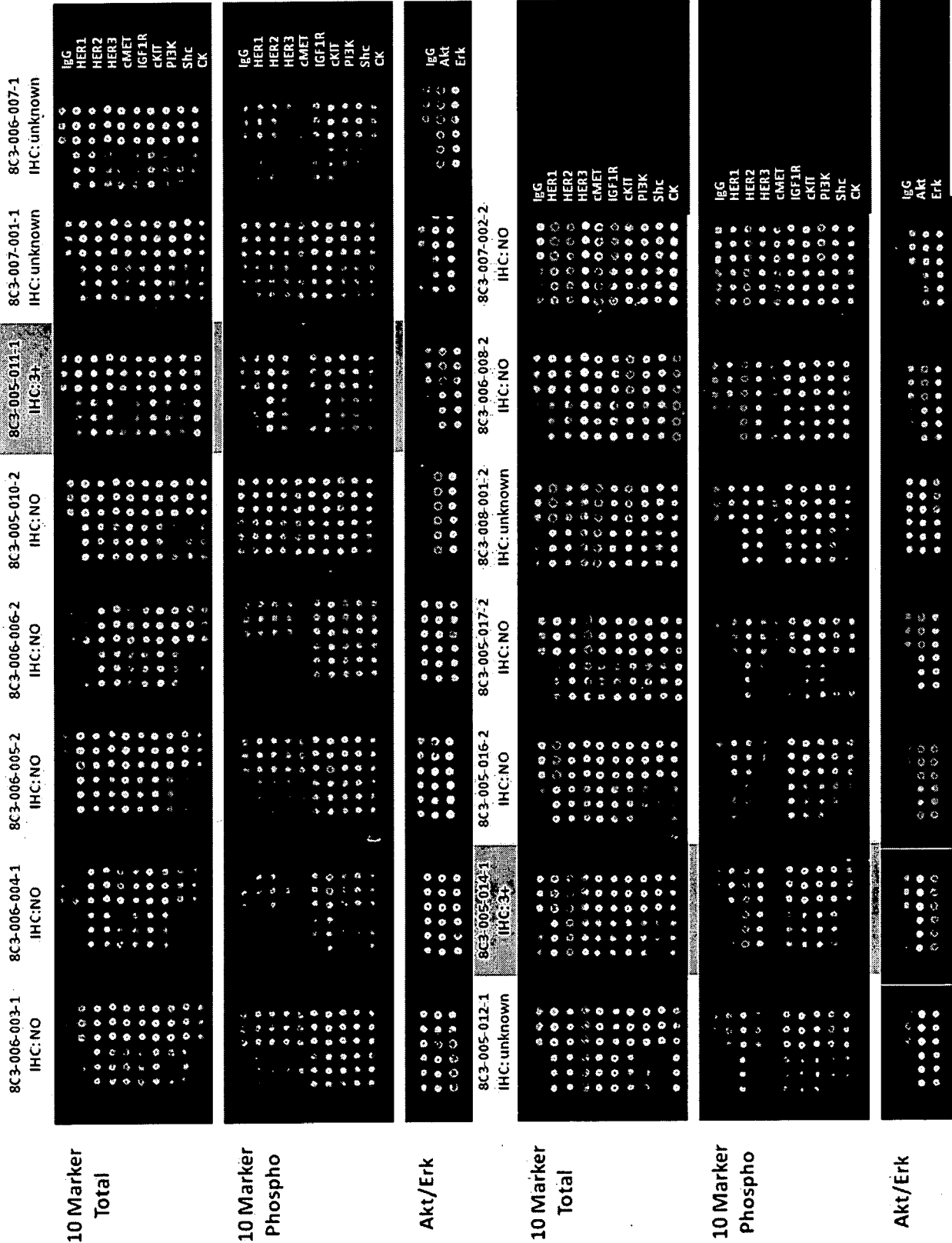


FIG. 22



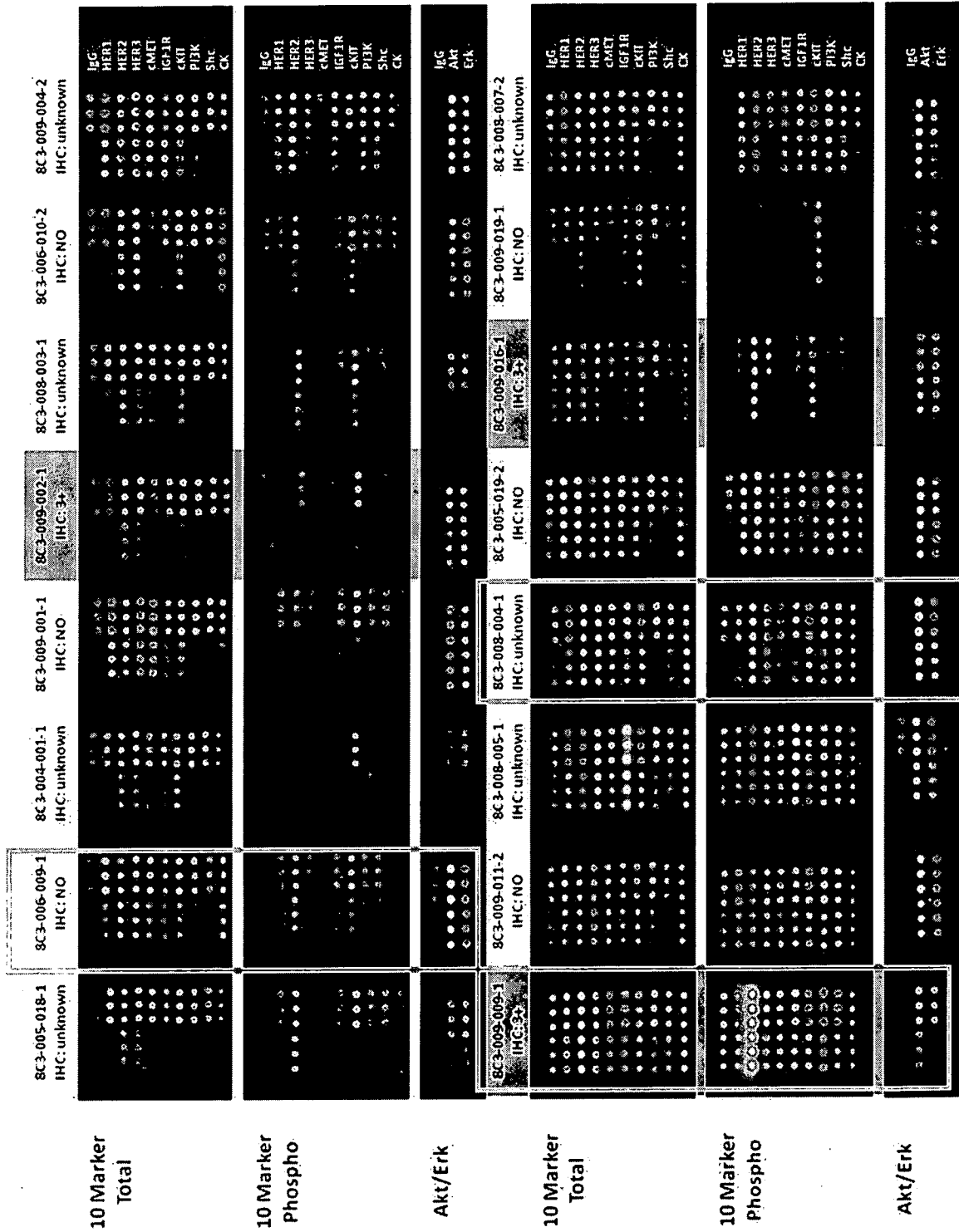


FIG. 23

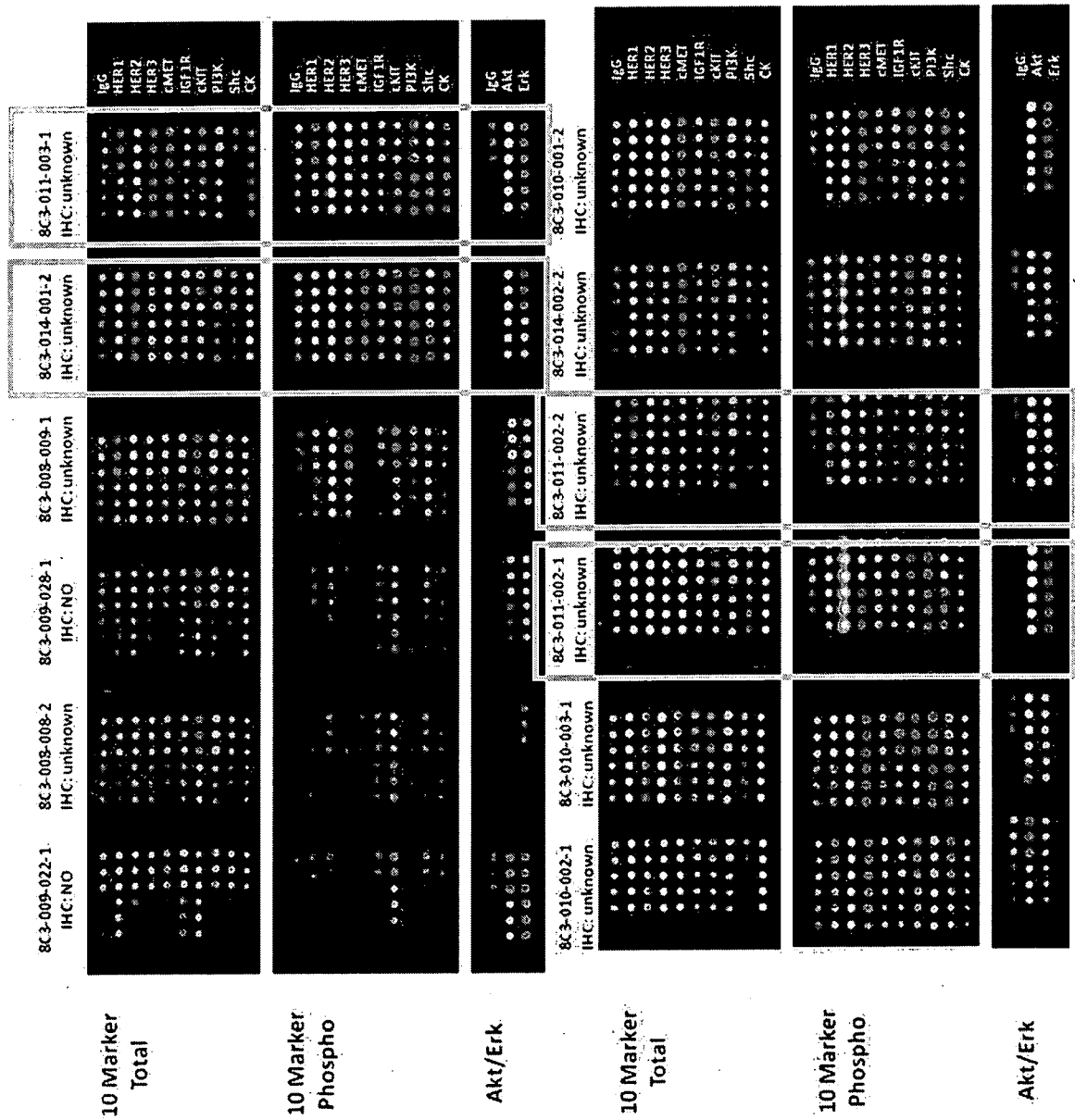
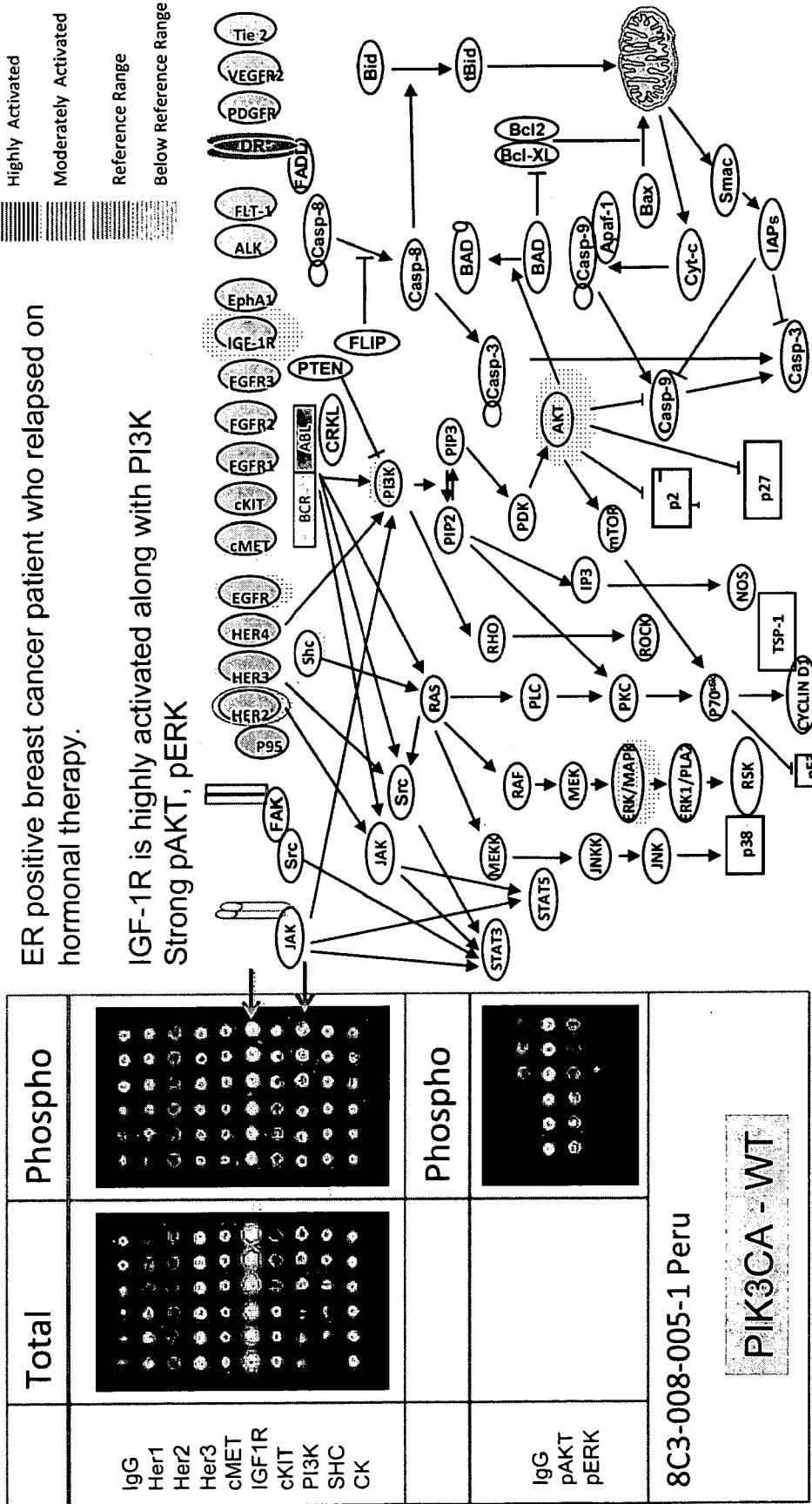


FIG. 24





IGF1R is responsible for PI3K activation

FIG. 25

IGF1R-P cutoff ≥ 30								
IGF1R-P	IGF1R- P \uparrow AKT \uparrow $\checkmark\checkmark$	IGF1R- P \uparrow AKT \downarrow $\checkmark\times$	IGF1R- P \downarrow AKT \uparrow $\times\checkmark$	IGF1R- P \downarrow AKT \downarrow $\times\times$	#IGF1R-P+	#AKT+	# samples	p-value
AKT cutoff ≥ 16	15	2	26	17	17	41	60	0.0335
AKT cutoff ≥ 8	16	1	29	14	17	45	60	0.0279
AKT cutoff ≥ 4	17	0	34	9	17	51	60	0.0381

6

IGF1R-T cutoff ≥ 30								
IGF1R-T	IGF1R- T \uparrow AKT \uparrow $\checkmark\checkmark$	IGF1R- T \uparrow AKT \downarrow $\checkmark\times$	IGF1R- T \downarrow AKT \uparrow $\times\checkmark$	IGF1R- T \downarrow AKT \downarrow $\times\times$	#IGF1R-T+	#AKT+	# samples	p-value
AKT cutoff ≥ 16	19	3	22	16	22	41	60	0.0203
AKT cutoff ≥ 8	20	2	25	13	22	45	60	0.0278
AKT cutoff ≥ 4	21	1	30	8	22	51	60	0.0838

FIG. 26

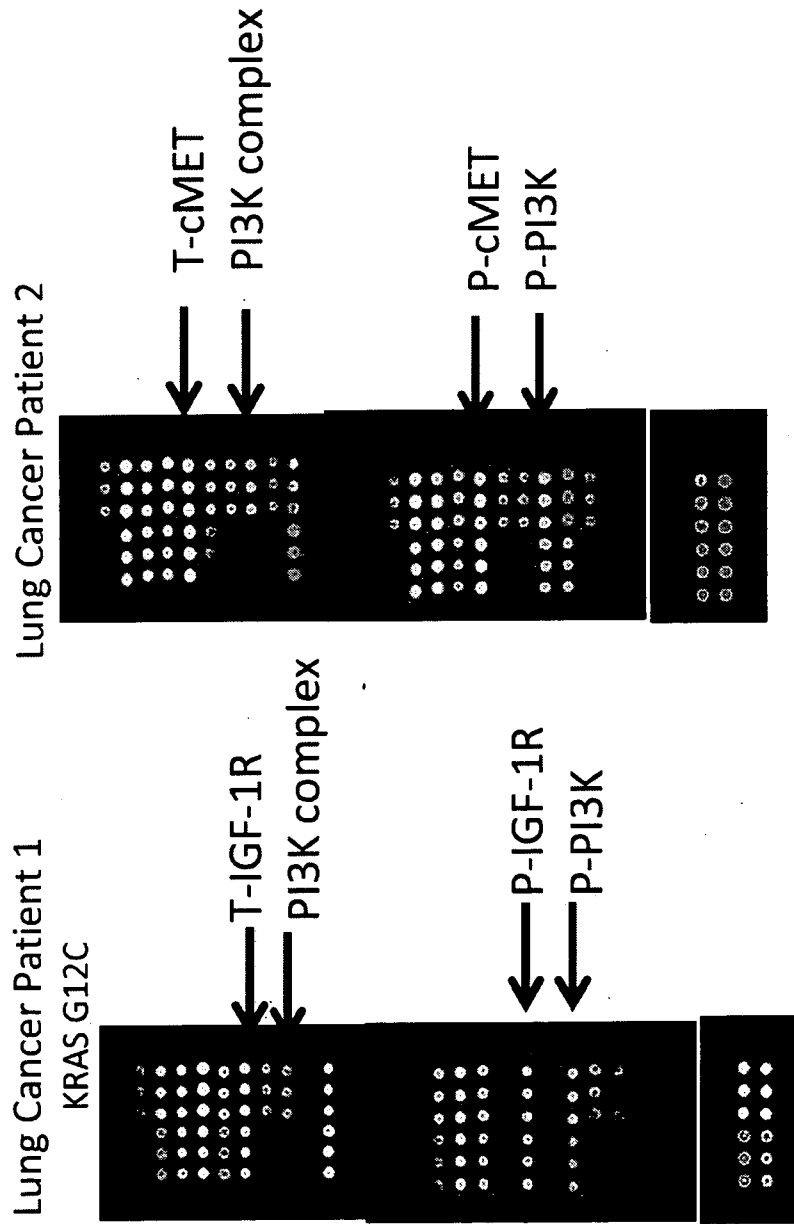
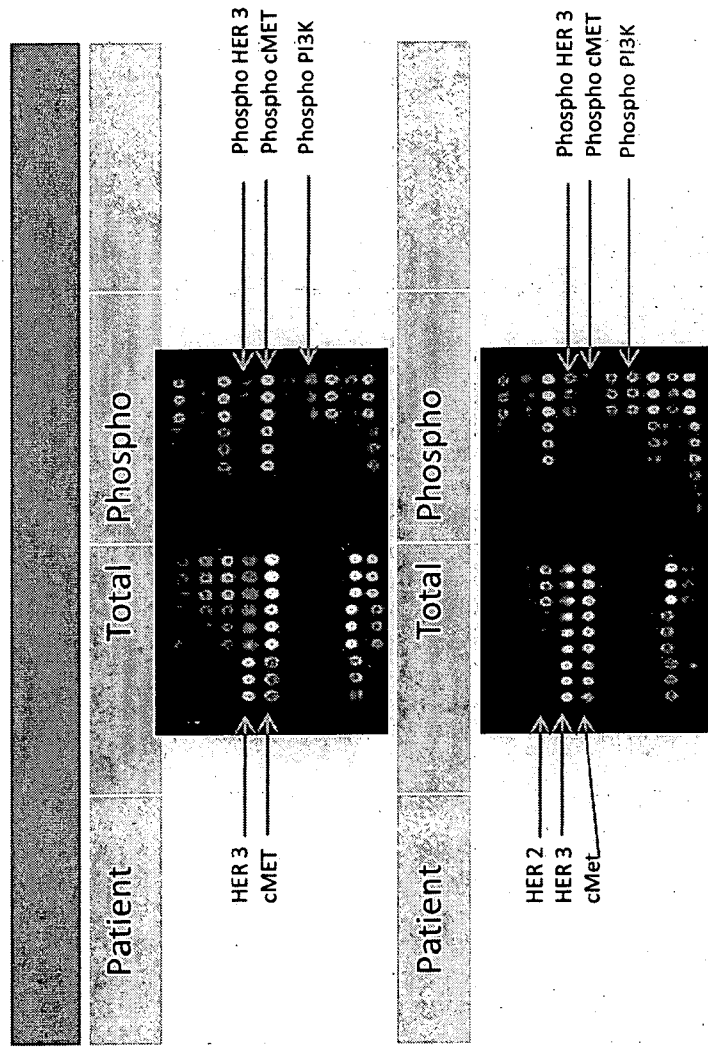


FIG. 27

Asian samples: KRAS mutations: 8/29
 Caucasian patients: KRAS mutations: 13/48



cMet is responsible for PI3K activation

FIG. 28

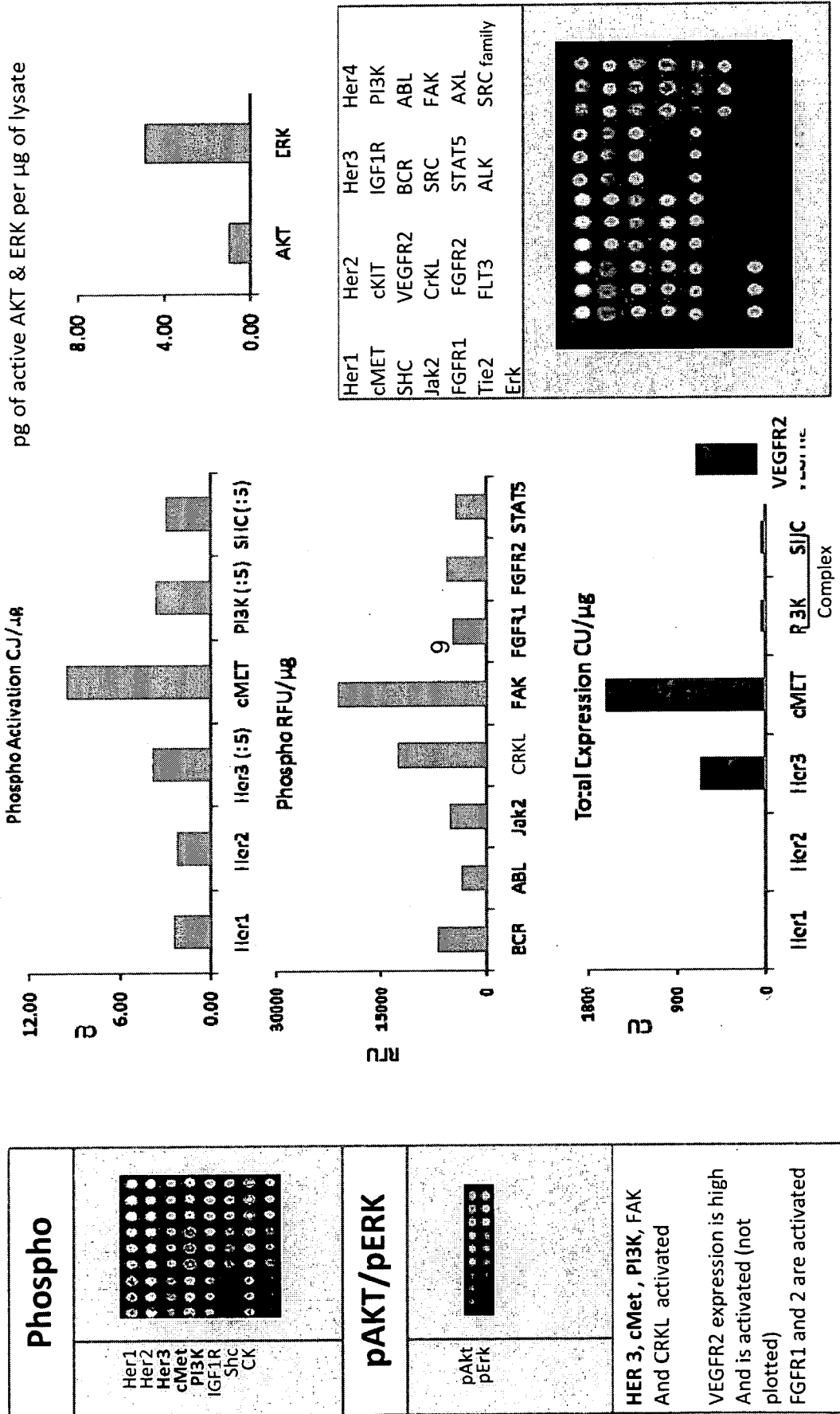


FIG. 29

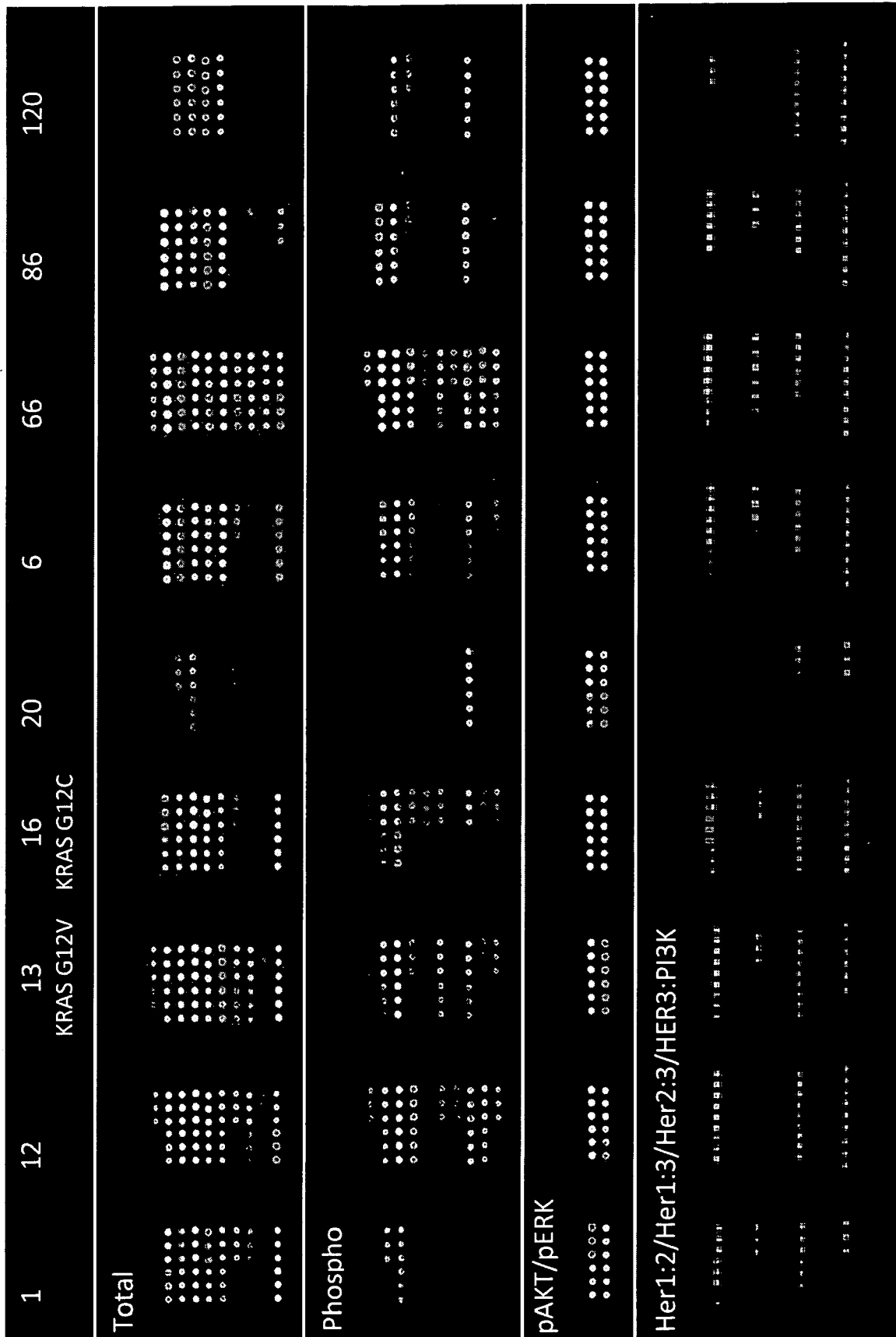
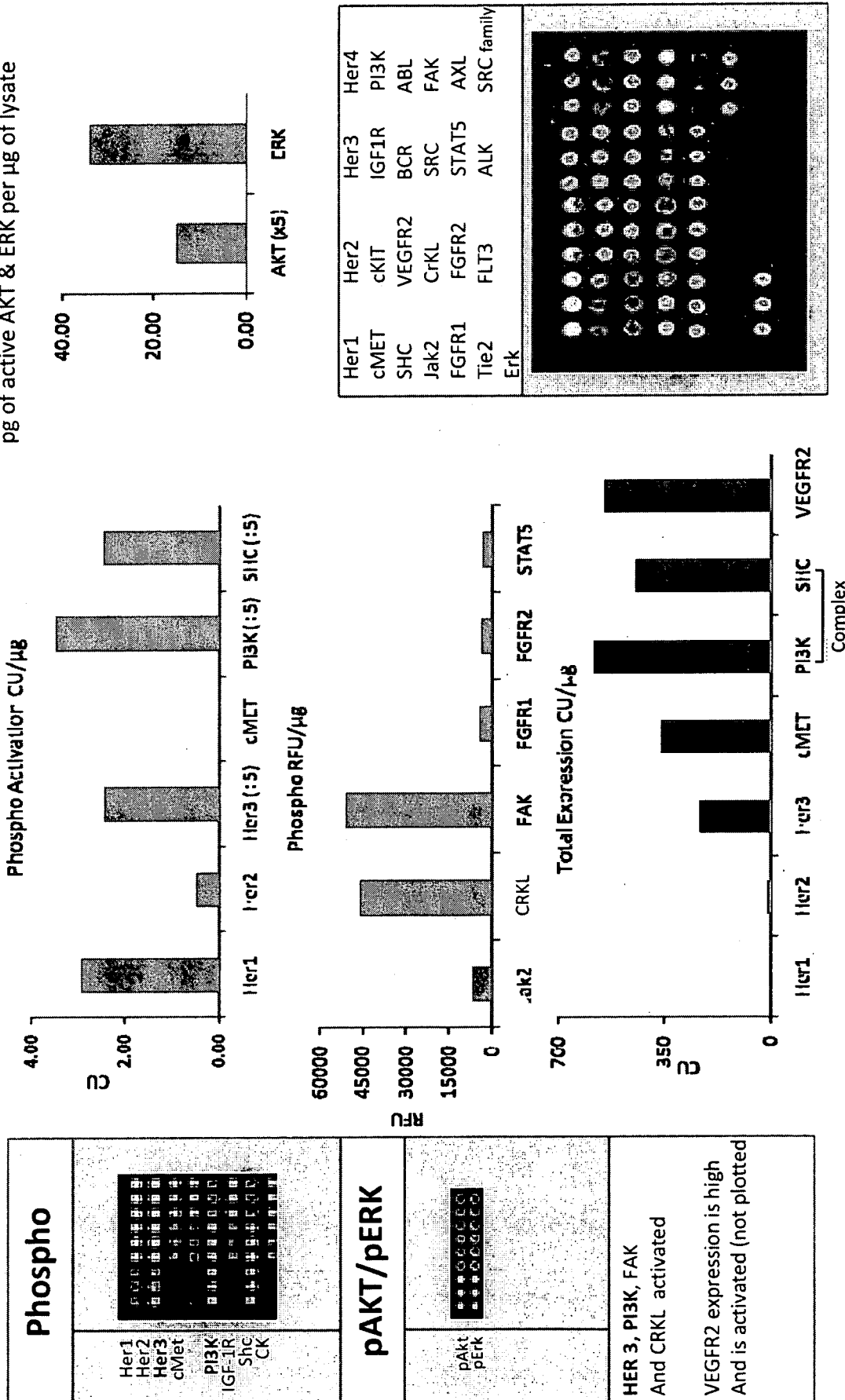


FIG. 30



pg of active AKT & ERK per μg of lysate

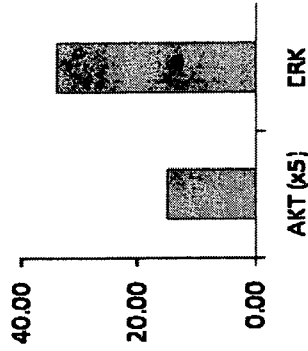
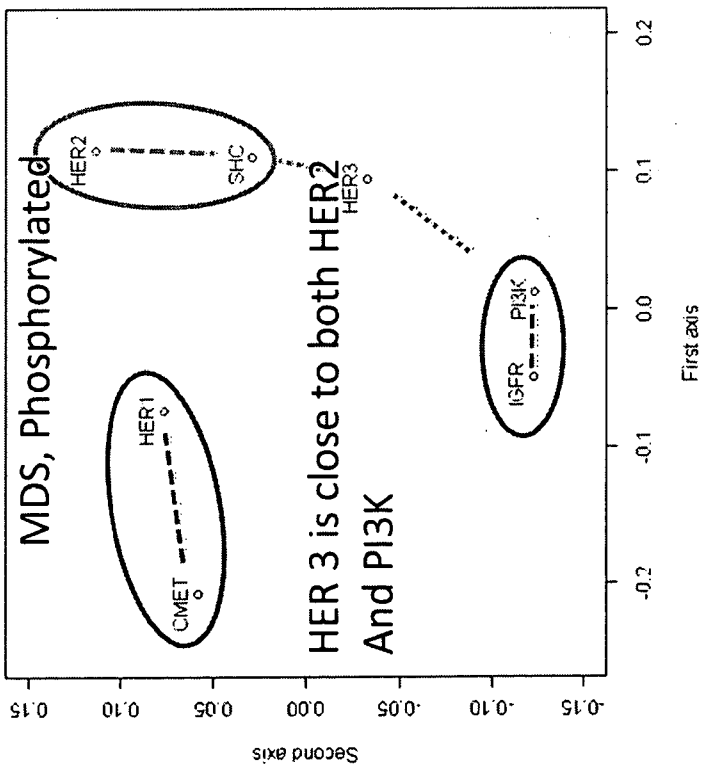
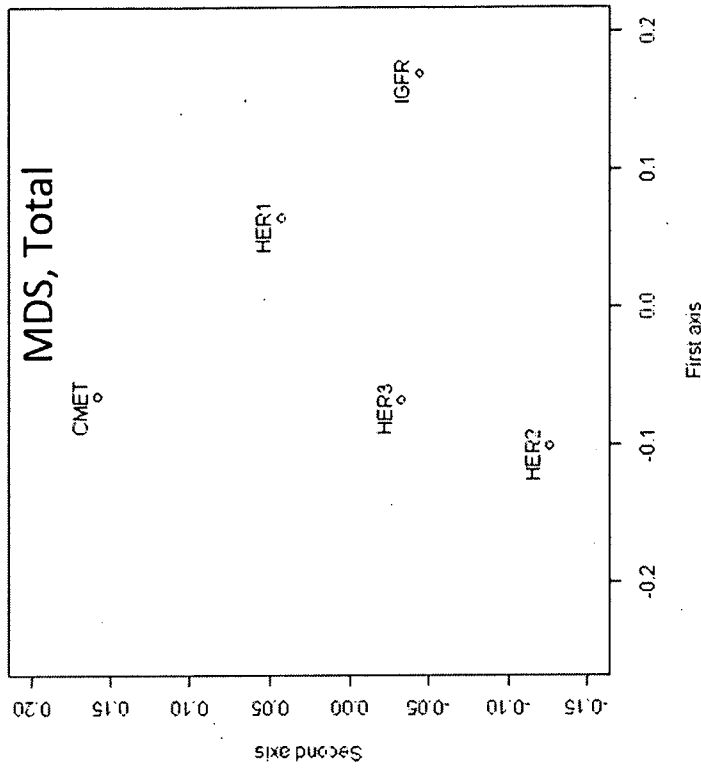


FIG. 31



- Graph using MDS (Multi Dimensional Scaling, similar to Principal Component Analysis)
- Gastric cancer patients: N=435 x 7 assays / 5 assays (P / T)
- For each marker, identify samples in top 25% as positive
- For any two markers, “similarity” is measured by concordance (i.e. overlap of positives)
- MDS lays out the markers in two dimensions in a way which tries to preserve the distance relationships
- Concordance is used (rather than correlation) due to missing & unquantifiable data

FIG. 33

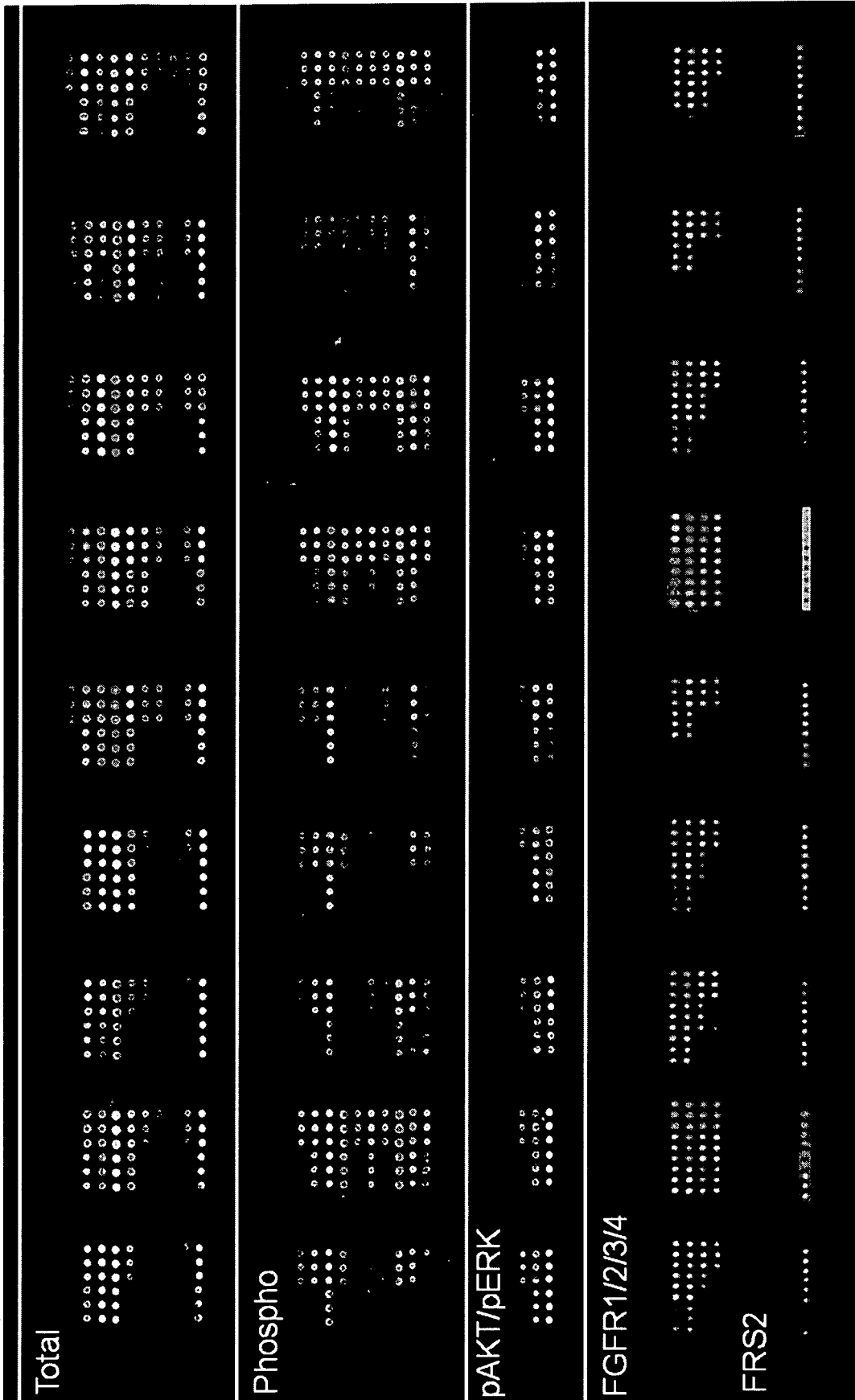


FIG. 34



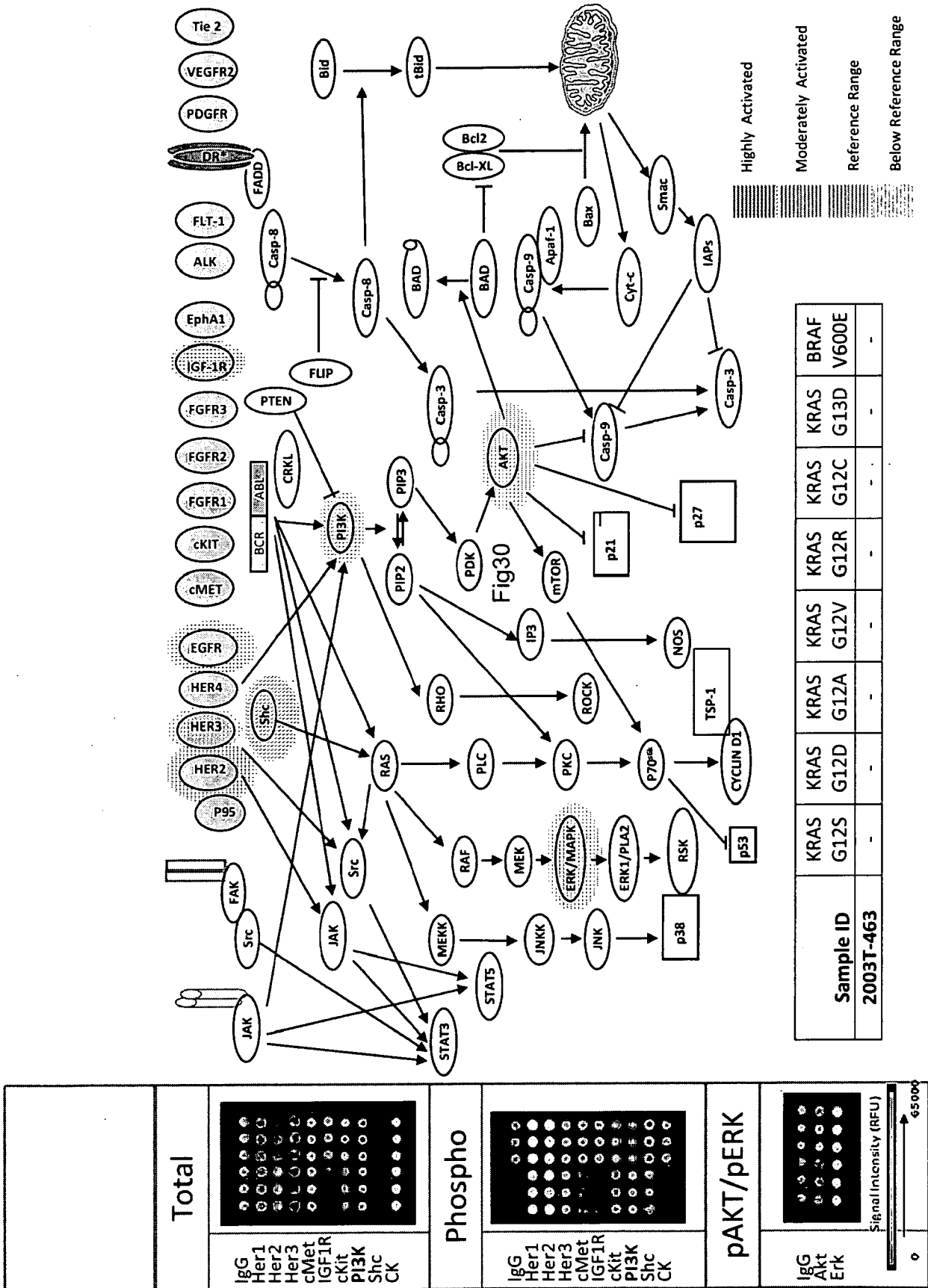
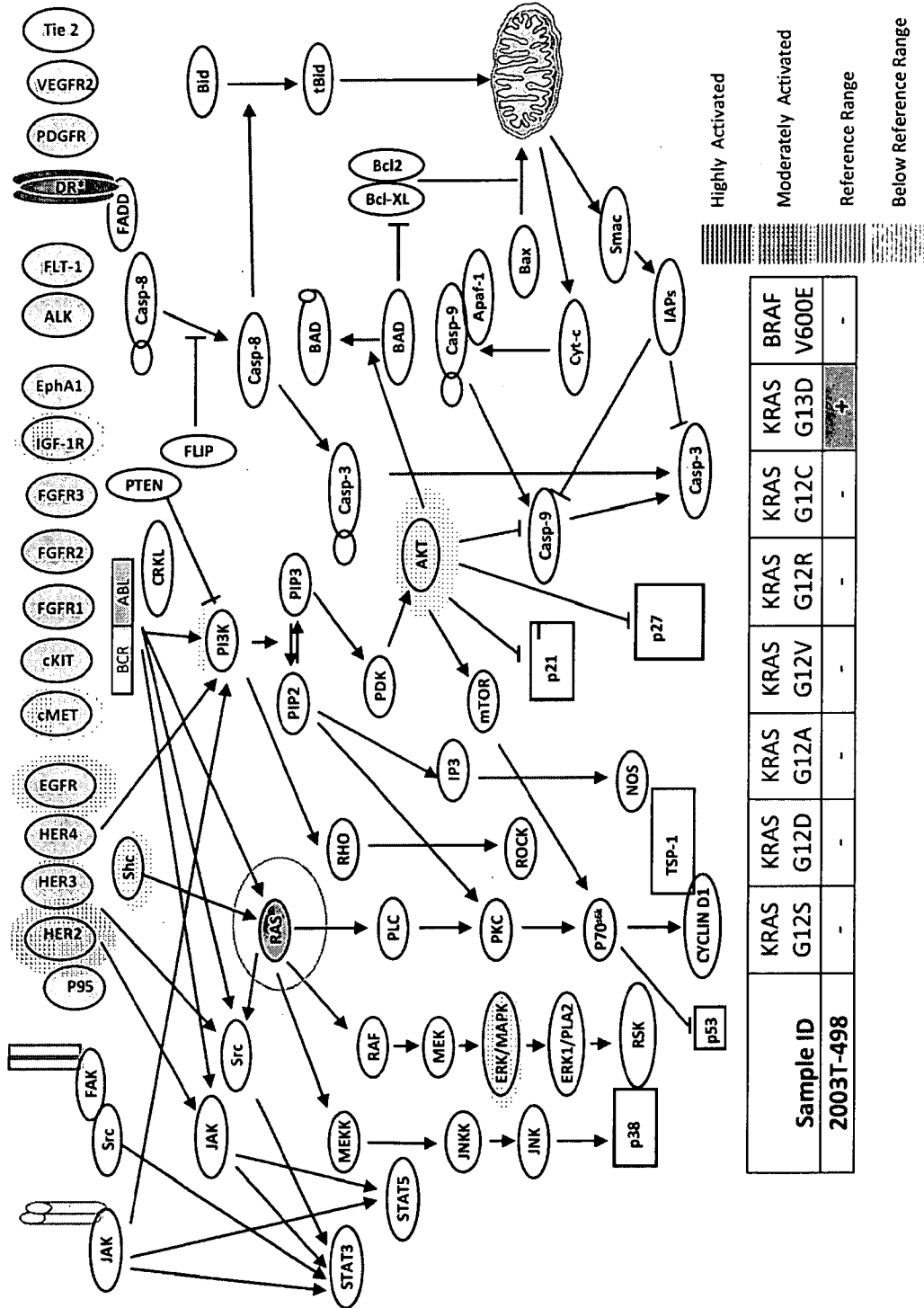


FIG. 35



Highly Activated
 Moderately Activated
 Reference Range
 Below Reference Range

Sample ID	2003T-498	KRAS G12S	-	KRAS G12D	-	KRAS G12A	-	KRAS G12R	-	KRAS G12C	-	KRAS G13D	+	BRAF V600E	-
-----------	-----------	-----------	---	-----------	---	-----------	---	-----------	---	-----------	---	-----------	---	------------	---

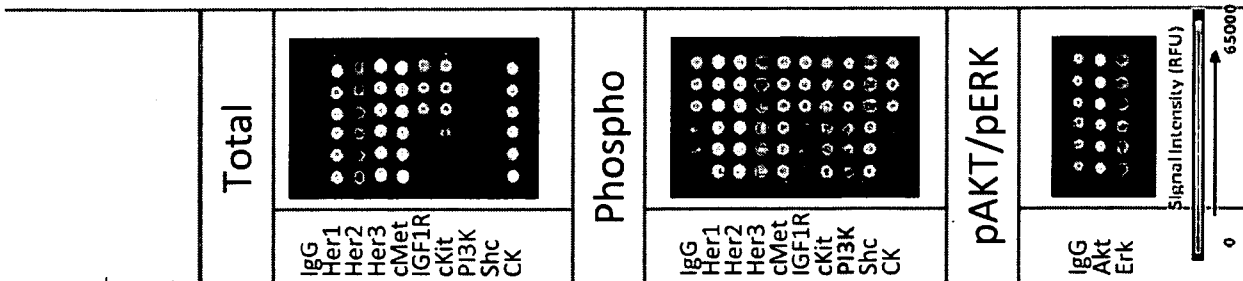


FIG. 36

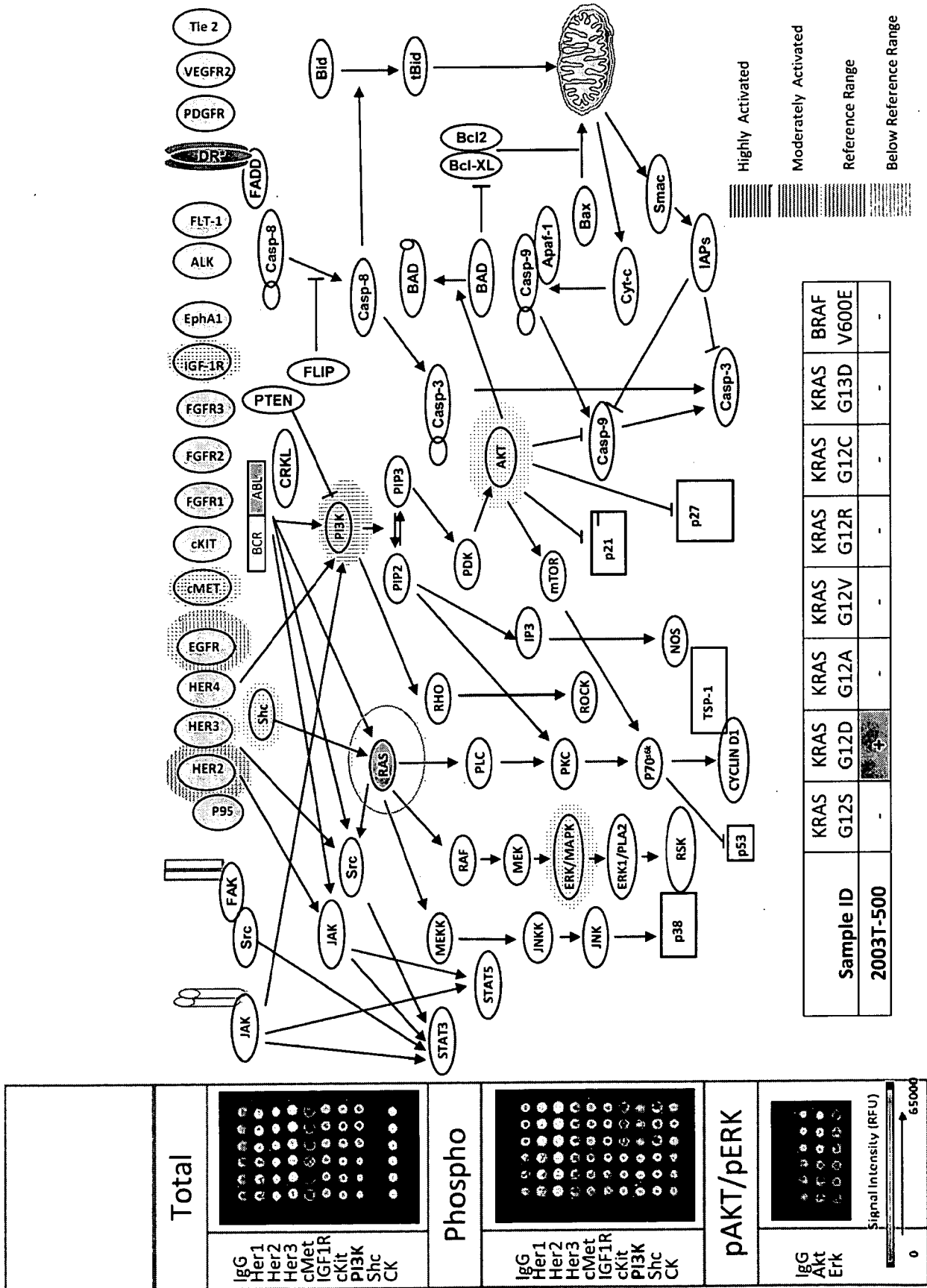


FIG. 37



Total

Phos

pAKT
pERK

Total

Phos

pAKT
pERK

FIG. 38



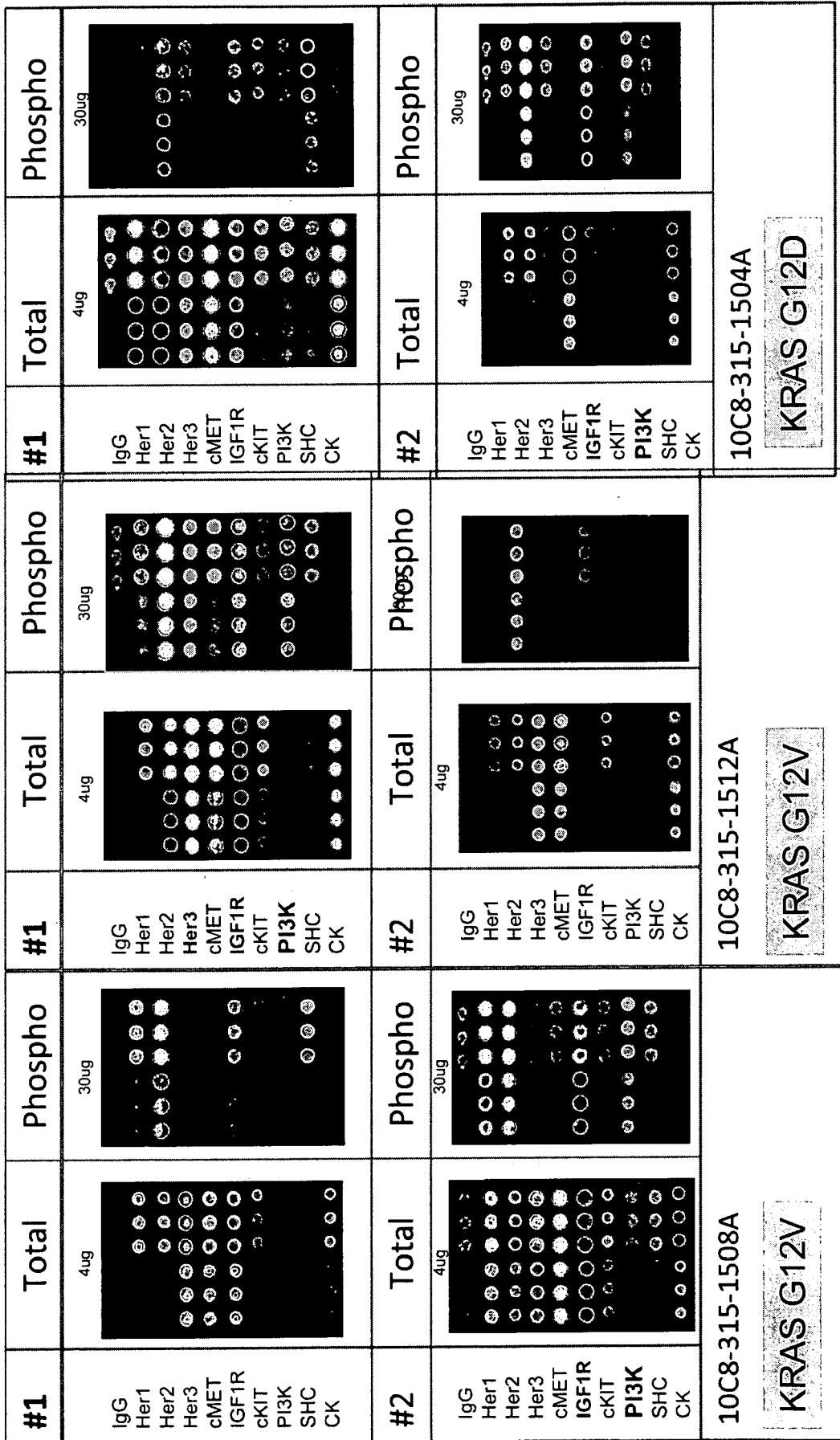


FIG. 39

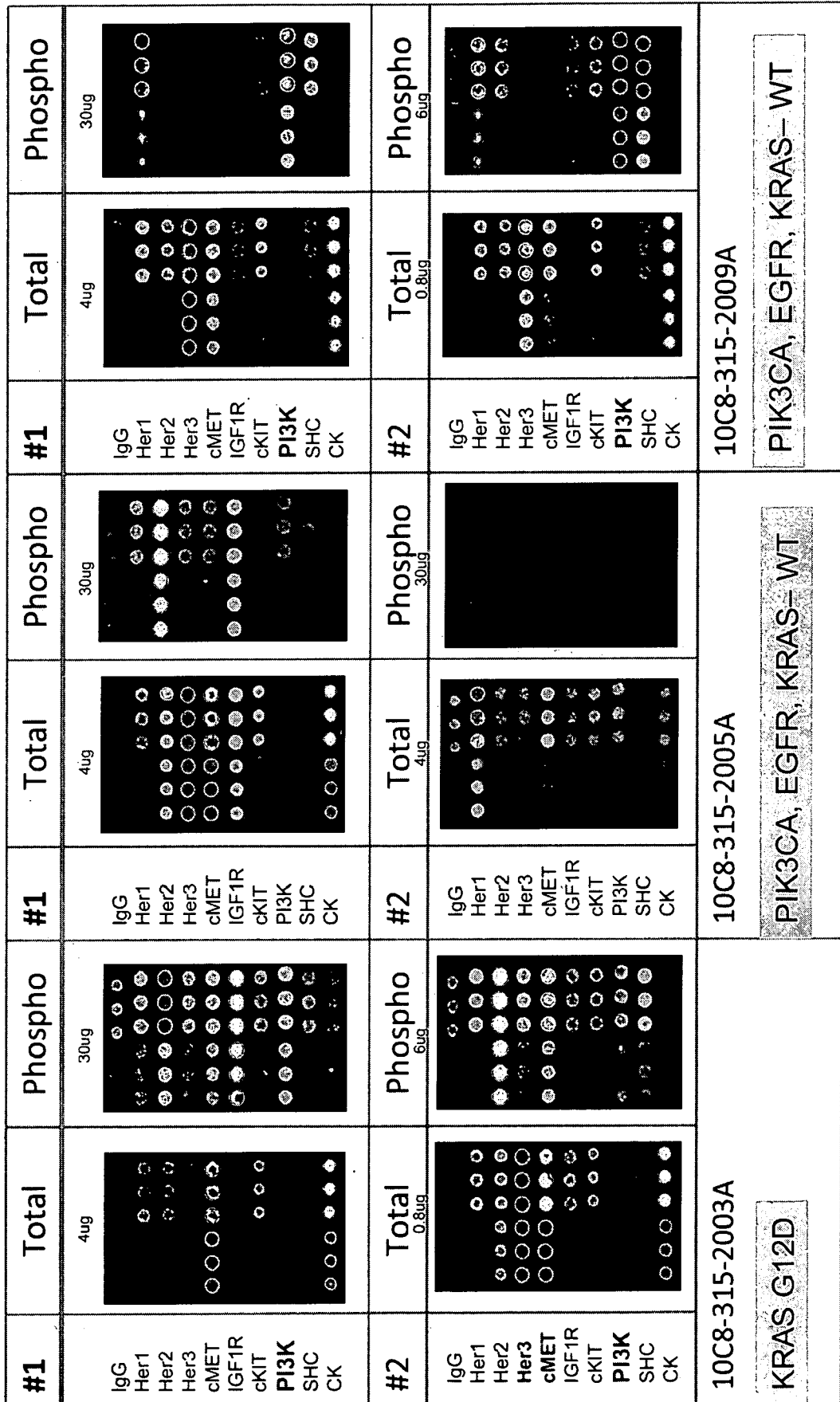


FIG. 40

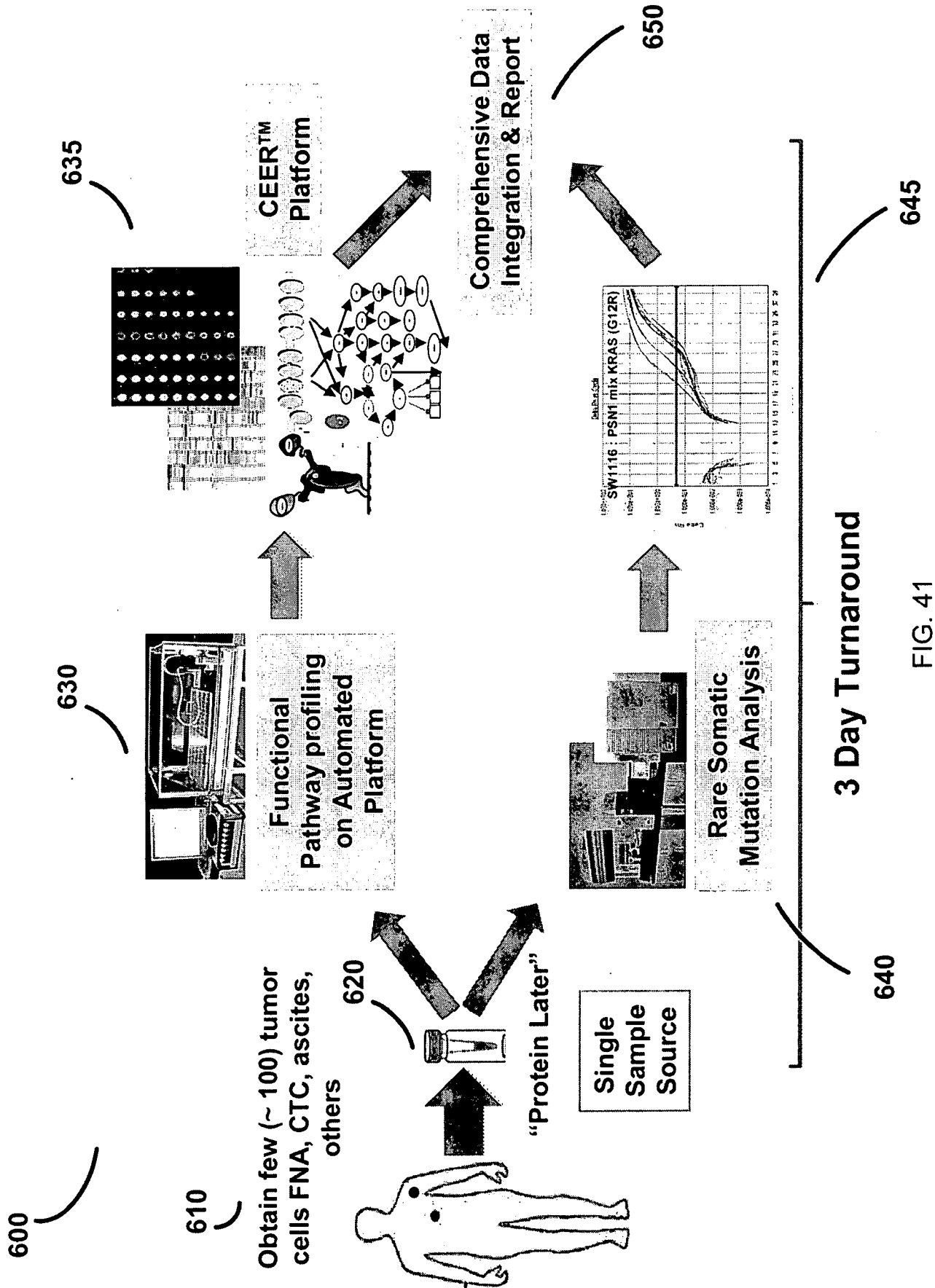
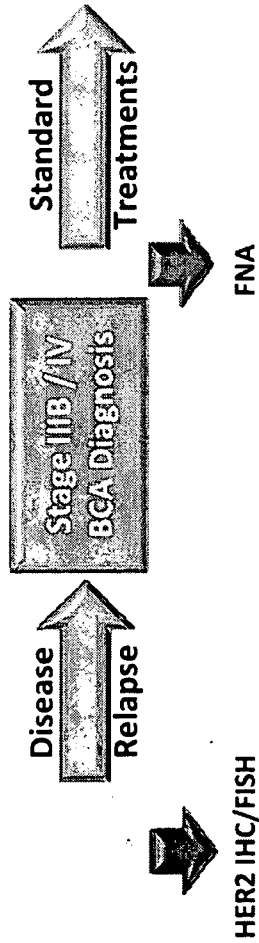


FIG. 41



- Multinational / Multicenter Study
- 124 Stage IIIB and IV Breast Cancer Patients (pts) Enrolled
- FNA collected from various metastatic sites for each patient (multiple sites if possible)
 - Sites of Mets:
 - liver, bone, axilar and other lymph nodes, lung, skin, chest wall, brain, sternal mass
- FNA collected in 100 ml of "ProteinLater" 23 gauge needle or EUS-FNA
 - FNA stored and shipped at ambient temperature
- Interim Analysis was performed on 58 patients for multiple pathway proteins

FIG. 42

- **Sufficient Materials were present in FNA-ProteinLater for multiplexed analysis.**
 - 58 out of 58 (100%) : 4 to 8 μ l (out of \sim 100 μ l) of FNA lysate was sufficient to profile RTK and down stream signal proteins (* much greater than \sim 70% success rate for RNA based analysis)
- **Proteins were well preserved for functional pathway profiling + genotyping**
 - Robust pathway expression patterns were observed
 - Phosphorylated sites were well preserved for functional analysis
 - Single sample source for both mutation / pathway profiling possible!

Markers Analyzed for FNA

- ❖ **Expression:**
HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF1R, CK
- ❖ **Phosphorylation:**
HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF1R, PI3K, SHC, AKT, ERK
- ❖ **Somatic Mutations:**
PIK3CA: E542K, E545D, E545K, H1047R

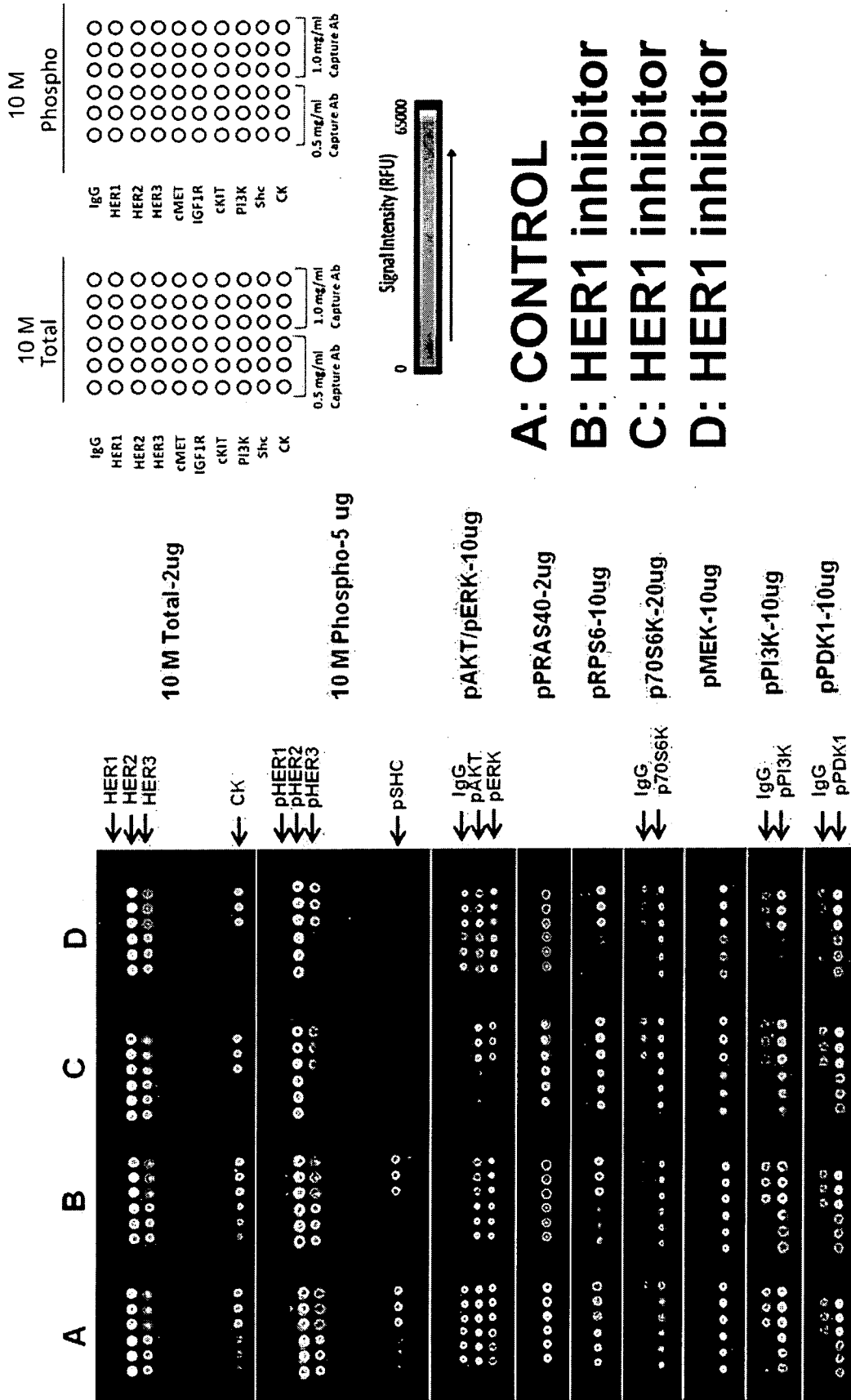
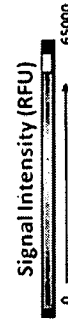
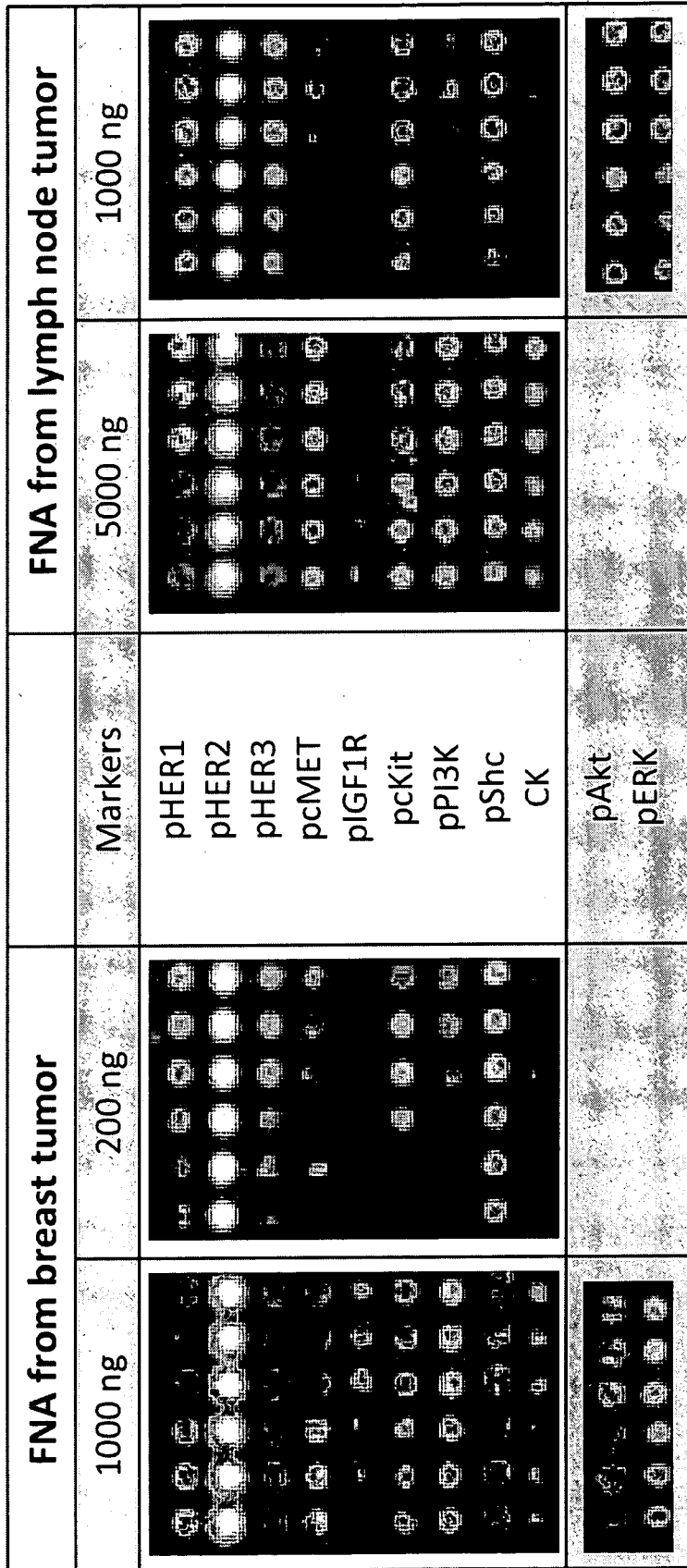


FIG. 44



FNA samples are obtained by using a 23 or 25 gauge needle from LN or from axilar region and EUS-FNA /Cores → Comprehensive data from minimal amounts of sample

FIG. 45

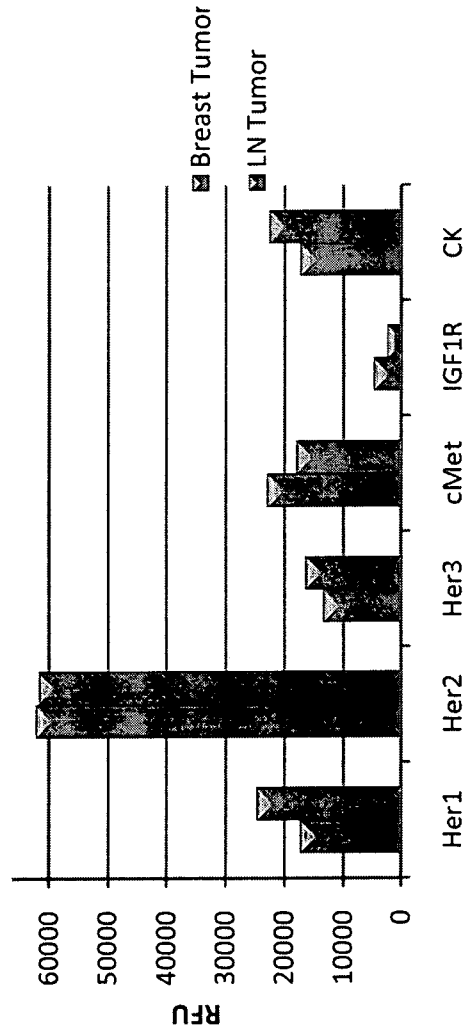
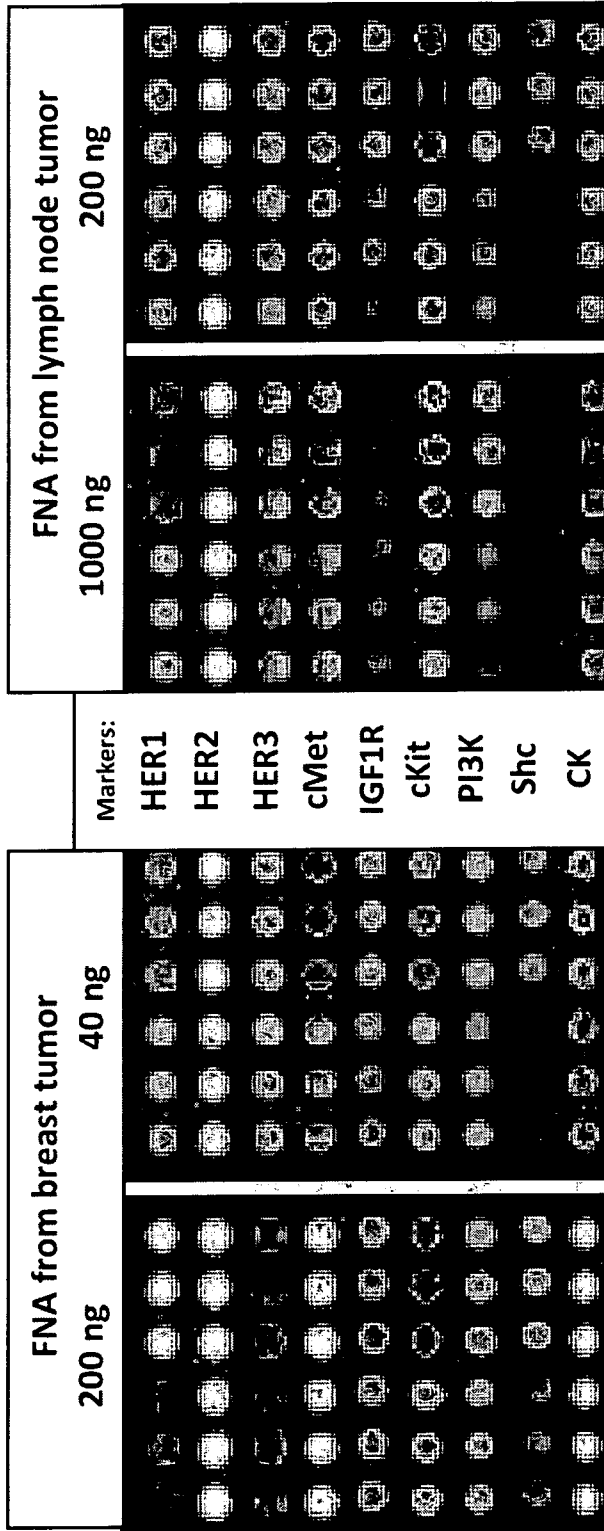


FIG. 46

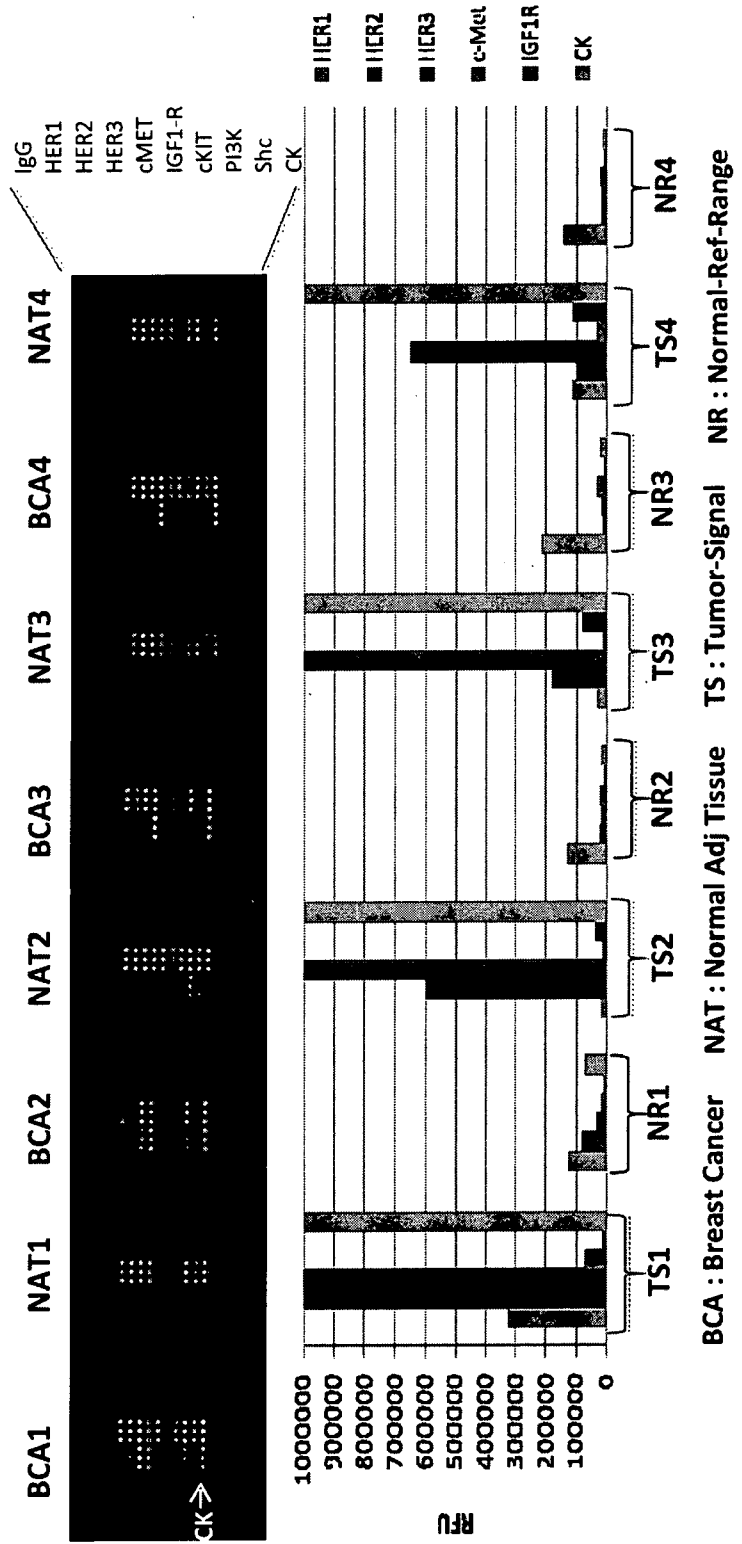
Marker 1	Marker 2	P value	% Patients
P-HER 2 in HER 2 Over-expressed (+3) patients	P-AKT	0.0031	23%
P-HER 2 in HER 2 Over-expressed (+3) patients	Activated PI3K	0.0011	20%
Activated PI3K	P-AKT	0.022	32%
Activated PI3K (Mutant)	P-AKT	0.0072	13%
P-HER 2 in HER 2 (+1 and +2) patients	Activated PI3K	0.00023	18%
P-HER 2 in HER 2 (+1 and +2) patients	P-AKT	0.019	22%
P-HER3	P-AKT	0.00007	37%
P-HER3	Activated PI3K	0.0012	20%

FIG. 47



A

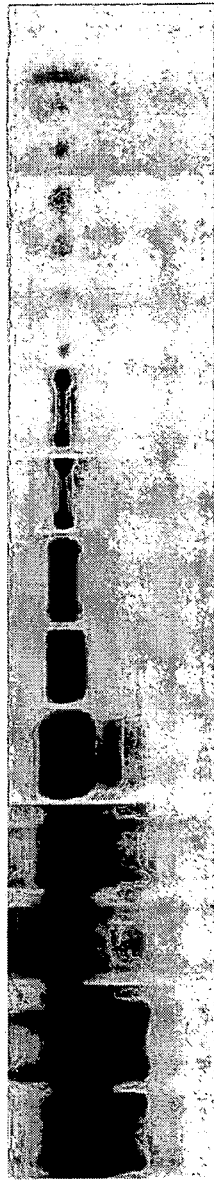
Pan CK - IHC



B

C

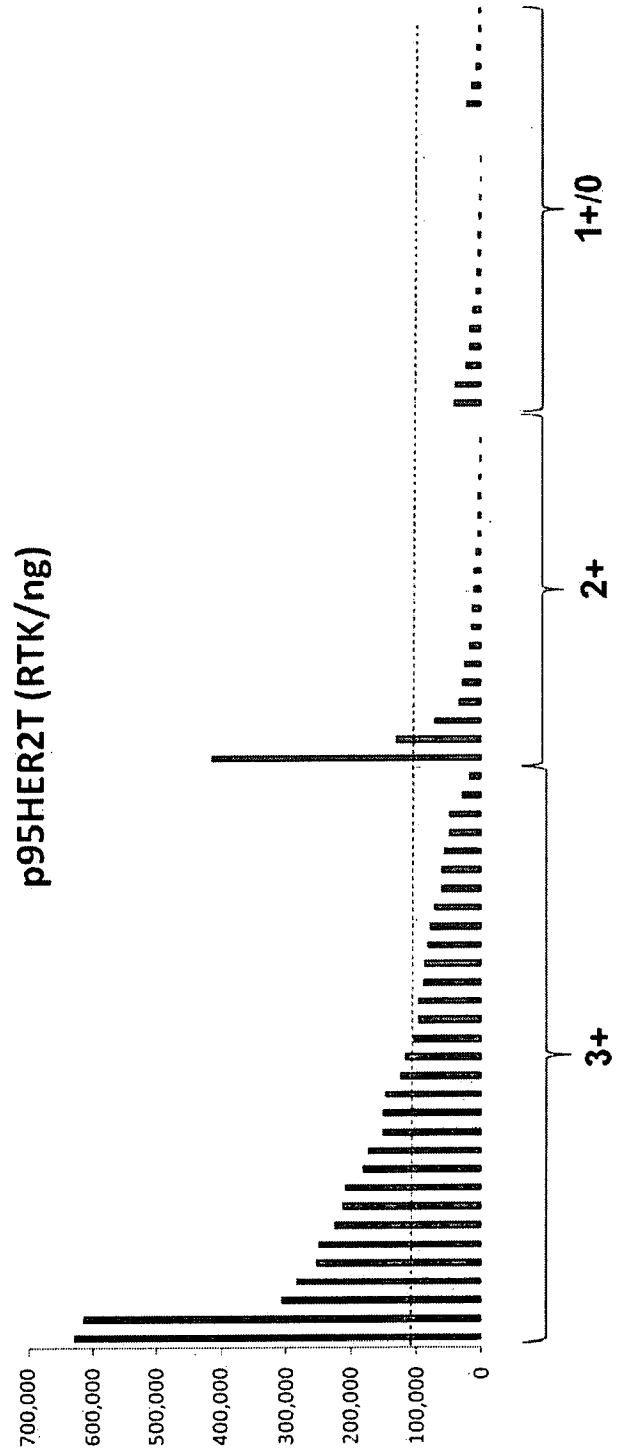
FIG. 49



A




HER2-IHC	3+	2+	1+/0
sample #	31	19	24
Total p95HER2 +	17 (55%)	2 (11%)	0
Phospho p95HER2 +	10 (32%)	2 (11%)	0

B



C

FIG. 50

	Positive (+3)	Negative (+2/+1/0)	*Primary IHC information available for final analysis
IHC (N)	6	21	27
CEER +	6	2	7
% Concordance	100%	90.5%	
% Conversion		9.5%	

- Interim analysis on 58 FNA samples performed by CEER
- 100% Concordance for IHC HER2 positive samples with CEER
- 90.5% Concordance for IHC HER2 negative tumor with CEER
- 8 specimens had PI3K (PIK3CA) mutations

FIG. 51

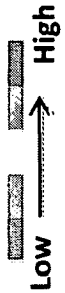


Sample_Name	T_Her1	T_Her2	T_Her3	T_cMET	T_IGFR	T_CK	P_Her1	P_Her2	P_Her3	P_cMET	P_IGFR	P_P13K
8C3-002-001A												
8C3-014-002A												
8C3-014-001A												
8C3-011-003A												
8C3-011-002A-2												
8C3-011-002A-1												
8C3-011-001A												
8C3-010-003A												
8C3-010-002A												
8C3-010-001A												
8C3-009-028A												
8C3-009-023A												
8C3-009-022A												
8C3-009-019A												
8C3-009-016A												
8C3-009-011A												
8C3-009-009A												
8C3-009-004A												
8C3-009-003A												
8C3-009-002A												
8C3-009-001A												
8C3-008-009A												
8C3-008-008A												
8C3-008-007A												
8C3-008-005A												
8C3-008-004A												
8C3-008-003A												
8C3-008-002A												
8C3-008-001A												
8C3-008-001A												
8C3-007-002A												
8C3-007-001A												
8C3-006-010A												
8C3-006-009RW												
8C3-006-008A												
8C3-006-007A												
8C3-006-006A												
8C3-006-005A												
8C3-006-004A												
8C3-006-003A												
8C3-006-002A												

Phospho
CK
Total

FIG. 52

- Sufficient Materials were present in FNA-ProteinLater for multiplexed analysis.
 - 58 out of 58 (100%): 4 to 8 µl (out of ~100 µl) of FNA lysate was sufficient to profile RTK and down stream signal proteins (* much greater than ~70% success rate for RNA based analysis)
- Proteins were well preserved for functional pathway profiling + genotyping
 - Robust pathway expression patterns were observed
 - Phosphorylated sites were well preserved for functional analysis
- Markers Analyzed for FNA
- ❖ Expression:
 - HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF1R, CK
- ❖ Phosphorylation:
 - HER1, HER2, p95HER2, HER3, cMET, IGF1R, PI3K, SHC, AKT, ERK
- ❖ Somatic Mutations
 - PIK3CA / KRAS / BRAF



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2012/053505

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G01N33/50 G01N33/542
ADD.
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
G01N
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, BIOSIS, COMPENDEX, EMBASE, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 2009/108637 A1 (PROMETHEUS LAB INC [US]; SINGH SHARAT [US]; HARVEY JEANNE [US]; KIM PH) 3 September 2009 (2009-09-03) cited in the application the whole document in particular: claims 1,21,41 paragraphs [0070], [0352], [0452] figure 19	1-58
A	WO 2005/037071 A2 (ACLARA BIOSCIENCES INC [US]; MUKHERJEE ALI [US]; TANG MENGXIANG [US];) 28 April 2005 (2005-04-28) the whole document in particular: claim 35 figure 1b page 3, line 9 - line 18	1-58

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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- "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
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- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
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Date of the actual completion of the international search
12 December 2012

Date of mailing of the international search report
04/01/2013

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Authorized officer
Tuyman, Antonin

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2012/053505

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date	
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			CA 2716826 A1	03-09-2009
			CN 102016581 A	13-04-2011
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			JP 2011514522 A	06-05-2011
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			US 2009011440 A1	08-01-2009
			WO 2005037071 A2	28-04-2005
