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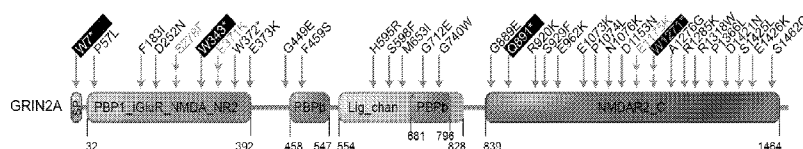
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FIG. 3A



(57) Abstract: Described herein is the identification of 68 genes with an elevated frequency of somatic mutations in melanoma. Nine genes were identified that exhibited recurring mutations in melanoma. In particular, the TRRAP gene was mutated at nucleotide 2165 (C2165T) in six different melanoma tumor samples. In addition, 16 genes were identified that were highly mutated in melanoma samples. The most highly mutated gene identified was GRIN2A, which was mutated in 34% of melanoma tumor samples. The study disclosed herein identified 34 different nonsynonymous somatic mutations in GRIN2A among 36 melanoma tumor samples. Thus, provided herein is a method of diagnosing a subject as having melanoma or susceptible to developing melanoma by detecting one or more mutations in the TRRAP or GRIN2A genes. Further provided is a method of selecting an appropriate therapy for a subject diagnosed with melanoma by detecting the presence or absence of a mutation in TRRAP or GRIN2A.

TRRAP AND GRIN2A MUTATIONS AND USE THEREOF FOR THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF MELANOMA

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/462,471, filed February 2, 2011, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

FIELD

10 This disclosure concerns diagnostic markers for melanoma. In particular, this disclosure concerns identification of mutations in the transformation/transcription domain-associated protein (TRRAP) and glutamate receptor, ionotropic, N-methyl D-aspartate 2A (GRIN2A) genes, and their use for the diagnosis and treatment of melanoma.

15

BACKGROUND

 Melanoma is the most deadly form of skin cancer. Despite years of research, metastatic melanoma disease has a dismal prognosis and is often fatal (Jemal *et al.*, *CA Cancer J Clin* 59:225-249, 2009). There are few therapeutic options for
20 melanoma patients, demonstrating a need for new clinically relevant targets. Although candidate gene analyses have been powerful in identifying melanoma driver mutations (Davies *et al.*, *Nature* 417:949-954, 2002; Curtin *et al.*, *J Clin Oncol* 24:4340-4346, 2006; Prickett *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 41:1127-1132, 2009), no comprehensive analysis of this tumor type has yet been performed.

25 Glutamate antagonists have previously been shown to inhibit proliferation of human tumor cells (Rzeski *et al.*, *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 98(11):6372-6377, 2001). Glutamate is known to activate two different types of receptors - ionotropic glutamate receptors (iGluRs) and metabotropic glutamate receptors (mGluR). iGluRs are ligand-gated ion channels that allow cations, such as calcium and
30 potassium, to pass through the plasma membrane of the cell after being bound by glutamate. iGluRs are subdivided into three receptor types according to agonist

response, one of which is *N*-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) (Hollmann and Heinemann, *Annu Rev Neurosci* 17:31-108, 1994). The glutamate receptor, ionotropic, N-methyl D-aspartate 2A (GRIN2A) gene encodes a subunit of NMDA receptors; the GRIN2A subunit contains the agonist binding site for glutamate
5 (Johnson and Ascher, *Nature* 325:529-531, 1987).

Prior studies have suggested that transformation/transcription domain-associated protein (TRRAP) may function as an oncogene in pancreatic cancer (Loukopoulos *et al.*, *Cancer Sci* 98(3):392-400, 2007; Bashyam *et al.*, *Neoplasia* 7(6):556-562, 2005). TRRAP is an adaptor protein found in various multiprotein chromatin complexes with
10 histone acetyltransferase activity, which in turn is responsible for epigenetic transcription activation. TRRAP plays a central role in the transcriptional activity of p53, c-Myc, E2F1 and other transcription factors (McMahon *et al.*, *Cell* 94:363-374, 1998; Barlev *et al.*, *Mol Cell* 8:1243-1254, 2001). TRRAP knockout mice are embryonic lethal suggesting that TRRAP is essential for cell survival (Herceg *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 29:206-
15 211, 2001).

SUMMARY

Disclosed herein are 68 human genes with an elevated mutation frequency in melanoma. This disclosure specifically describes the identification of nine genes
20 with recurring mutations in melanoma and 16 genes that are highly mutated in melanoma. In particular, disclosed herein is the identification of a recurrent mutation in human TRRAP (C2165T) found in six different melanoma samples. Also disclosed is the identification of 34 different nonsynonymous somatic mutations of human GRIN2A in melanoma samples.

25 Provided herein is a method of diagnosing a subject as having melanoma, or having a greater susceptibility to developing melanoma, by detecting at least one mutation in the TRRAP gene or the GRIN2A gene. The presence of the at least one mutation indicates the subject has melanoma or is susceptible to developing melanoma. In some embodiments, the TRRAP mutation is C2165T (numbered with
30 reference to SEQ ID NO: 1). In some embodiments, the GRIN2A mutation is a mutation that occurs in the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain, the Lig_chan

domain or the NMDAR2_C domain of GRIN2A. In particular examples, the GRIN2A mutation is selected from one or more of G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, 5 G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G (numbered with reference to SEQ ID NO: 3). In some embodiments, the subject who has the detected mutation is further treated with an anti-melanoma therapy.

Further provided is a method of selecting a therapy for a subject diagnosed 10 with melanoma by detecting the presence or absence of a C2165T mutation in the TRRAP gene (SEQ ID NO: 1). An inhibitor of TRRAP is selected if the C2165T mutation in the TRRAP gene is present. Also provided is a method of selecting a therapy for a subject diagnosed with melanoma, comprising detecting the presence or absence of at least one mutation in the GRIN2A gene disclosed herein. An 15 inhibitor of GRIN2A or a glutamate antagonist is selected for therapy if at least one mutation in GRIN2A is identified.

The present disclosure further provides synthetic oligonucleotides as probes that specifically hybridize with a nucleic acid molecule encoding human TRRAP or human GRIN2A comprising at least one of the mutations disclosed herein. Also 20 provided are arrays comprising a substrate to which are bound one or more of the oligonucleotides specific for mutant TRRAP or mutant GRIN2A. The oligonucleotides may be located at addressable locations on the array.

The foregoing and other objects, features, and advantages of the invention 25 will become more apparent from the following detailed description, which proceeds with reference to the accompanying figures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

FIG. 1 is a series of schematic illustrations showing the distribution of novel 30 nonsynonymous recurrent mutations in melanoma in TRRAP, DCC, PLCH1, NOS1, LRRN3, ZNF831 and SLC17A5. Seven novel nonsynonymous recurrent mutations

identified in the study disclosed herein are presented on relevant protein schematics. Black arrows indicate locations of recurrent mutations and conserved protein functional domains are indicated as boxes (1: Immunoglobulin I-set domain; 2: Fibronectin type III domain; 3: Neogenin C-terminus; 4: Phosphoinositide-specific phospholipase C, ehand-like; 5: Phosphatidylinositol-specific phospholipase C, X domain; 6: Phosphatidylinositol-specific phospholipase C, Y domain; 7: C2 domain; 8: PDZ domain; 9: Nitric oxide synthase, oxygenase domain; 10: Flavodoxin; 11: FAD binding domain; 12: Oxidoreductase NAD-binding domain; 13: LRRNT: Leucine rich repeat N-terminal domain; 14: Leucine Rich Repeat; 15: Immunoglobulin I-set domain; 16: Fibronectin type III domain; 17: Major Facilitator Superfamily).

FIGS. 2A-2J are a series of graphs and immunoblots showing the effect of mutant TRRAP on cell growth. FIG. 2A is a table showing mutant TRRAP induces cell transformation in NIH 3T3 cells. The table shows focus formation of NIH 3T3 cells transfected with the indicated constructs or empty vector control. KRas^{G12V} was included as a positive control for cell transformation. FIG. 2B is an immunoblot showing detection of TRRAP and KRas^{G12V} protein expression in lysates of transiently transfected NIH 3T3 cells. FIG. 2C shows an immunoblot of cell lysates from HEK 293T cells transiently transfected with either control vector or shRNAs that target TRRAP. For normalization, lysates were analyzed in parallel by anti- α -tubulin immunoblotting. FIG. 2D is an anti-TRRAP immunoblot of melanoma cells transduced with shRNA targeting TRRAP. For normalization, lysates were analyzed in parallel by anti- α -tubulin immunoblotting. FIGS. 2E-2H are graphs showing TRRAP mutation confers resistance to apoptosis. The graphs show apoptosis quantification of melanoma cell lines transduced with shRNA control or shRNAs targeting TRRAP. Cells were grown in medium containing 2.5% serum for the indicated times. Apoptosis was assessed by fluorescence microscopy of Hoechst 33258-stained cells. FIGS. 2I and 2J are immunoblots of representative melanoma lines presented in E-H using the indicated antibodies to assess PARP cleavage. WT = wild-type.

FIG. 3A is a schematic illustration showing the locations of somatic mutations in GRIN2A. Human GRIN2A protein is presented with conserved functional domains indicated (SP: Signal peptide; PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2: N-terminal leucine/isoleucine/valine-binding protein LIVBP-like domain of the NR2 subunit of NMDA receptor family; Lig_chan: Ligand-gated ion channel; NMDAR2_C: N-methyl D-aspartate receptor 2B3 C-terminus). Somatic mutations are indicated with arrows and the amino acid changes are listed. Recurrent mutations in GRIN2A are S278F, E371K and E1175K. Nonsense mutations are indicated by black boxes.

FIG. 3B is a schematic illustration showing glutamate signaling pathway mutations in melanoma. The genes that function in glutamate signaling are specified. Circled genes have somatic mutations. The number of mutations in each gene is indicated by the number adjacent to the circle (PSD complex: post synaptic density complex; NMDAR: N-methyl-D-aspartic acid (NMDA) receptor; RTK: receptor tyrosine kinase).

FIG. 4 is a graph showing mutation spectra of single base pair substitutions in melanoma whole exome sequencing. The number of each of the six classes of base substitutions resulting in nonsynonymous changes in the whole exome screen is shown.

FIG. 5 is a series of chromatograms showing a recurrent hotspot mutation in TRRAP in representative melanoma tumor samples and the commercially available A375 cell line. In each case, the top sequence chromatogram was obtained from normal tissue and the lower sequence chromatogram from the indicated tumors. Arrows indicate the location of the missense mutations. The nucleotide and amino acid alterations are indicated below the chromatograms. The sequences shown in the chromatograms are TGTCTCCCTCT (SEQ ID NO: 5) for normal tissue; TGTCTYCCTCT (SEQ ID NO: 6) for tumor samples; and TGTCTYYCTCT (SEQ ID NO: 7) for the A375 cell line.

FIG. 6 is a sequence comparison of conserved serine-722 of human TRRAP with its orthologs. The human TRRAP orthologs for 12 species were compared using the indicated NCBI accession numbers by COBALT algorithm (available

online at www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/tools/cobalt/colbat.cgi). The human TRRAP sequence (amino acids 697-747 of SEQ ID NO: 2) is compared with sequences from *Canis familiaris* (SEQ ID NO: 8), *Pan troglodytes* (SEQ ID NO: 9), *Bos Taurus* (SEQ ID NO: 10), *Rattus norvegicus* (SEQ ID NO: 11), *Gallus gallus* (SEQ ID NO: 12), *Danio rerio* (SEQ ID NO: 13), *Mus musculus* (SEQ ID NO: 14), *D. melanogaster* (SEQ ID NO: 15), *Anopheles gambiae* (SEQ ID NO: 16), *C. elegans* (SEQ ID NO: 17) and *S. cerevisiae* (SEQ ID NO: 18). The conserved serine at amino acid 722 in humans is underlined and aligned with other species. This residue is not conserved in *C. elegans* or *S. cerevisiae*.

FIG. 7 is a graph showing mutation spectra of single base pair substitutions in GRIN2A. The number of each of the six classes of base substitutions resulting in nonsynonymous changes in GRIN2A is shown.

FIG. 8 is a schematic of the whole exome capture and sequencing analysis of 14 melanoma samples.

FIG. 9 is a table showing score cutoff for determination of melanoma somatic mutations.

FIGS. 10A-10D are a series of graphs showing the effect of mutant TRRAP on cell growth. Apoptosis was quantified for melanoma cell lines transduced with shRNA control or shRNAs targeting TRRAP. Cells were grown in medium containing 10% serum for the indicated times. Apoptosis was assessed by fluorescence microscopy of Hoechst 33258-stained cells.

FIGS. 11A-11B demonstrate that melanoma cells expressing mutant forms of GRIN2A have increased ability for anchorage-independent growth. Melanoma cells (A375 cells) stably expressing GRIN1 and GRIN2A mutants, or empty vector, were seeded into soft agar in 10% serum and grown for 14 days before staining and counting (A). Also shown is a quantitative graph of colony formation of A375 cells in soft agar (B). Error bars are representative of n=3 (s.d.).

FIGS. 12A-12B are a set of graphs showing GRIN2A functions as a tumor suppressor in melanoma cells. Endogenous GRIN2A was stably depleted in melanoma cells using shRNA specific for human GRIN2A. (A) Proliferation assay of mutant expressing GRIN2A cell lines depleted of endogenous GRIN2A. Knock-

down using GRIN2A-specific shRNA (#1, #2 and #3) resulted in little to no change in proliferation for 125T or 501Mel melanoma cell lines. (B) Proliferation assay of wild-type expressing GRIN2A cell lines depleted of GRIN2A. Knock-down resulted in increased proliferation for both 31T and 39T compared to empty vector control (pLKO.1).

FIGS. 13A-13B demonstrate that somatic mutations in GRIN2A have adverse effects on receptor function and formation. (A) Influx of calcium upon NMDA stimulation of transiently transfected HEK293T cells shows decreased calcium permeability in cells expressing mutant forms of GRIN2A. (B) Mutant forms of GRIN2A bind GRIN1 with reduced affinity, thus causing decreased NMDAR complex formation. HEK293T cells were transiently transfected with WT GRIN1 and GRIN2A (WT or mutants) or empty vectors as control and immunoprecipitated with anti-GRIN1. Immunoprecipitates were probed with anti-GRIN2A and anti-GRIN1 to confirm binding. Lysates were probed with anti-GRIN2A and anti-GAPDH as a loading control.

SEQUENCE LISTING

The nucleic and amino acid sequences listed in the accompanying sequence listing are shown using standard letter abbreviations for nucleotide bases, and three letter code for amino acids, as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.822. Only one strand of each nucleic acid sequence is shown, but the complementary strand is understood as included by any reference to the displayed strand. The Sequence Listing is submitted as an ASCII text file, created on January 18, 2012, 82.6 KB, which is incorporated by reference herein. In the accompanying sequence listing:

SEQ ID NO: 1 is the nucleotide sequence of human TRRAP (CCDS ID 5659.1).

SEQ ID NO: 2 is the amino acid sequence of human TRRAP (CCDS ID 5659.1).

SEQ ID NO: 3 is the nucleotide sequence of human GRIN2A (CCDS ID 10539.1).

SEQ ID NO: 4 is the amino acid sequence of human GRIN2A (CCDS ID 10539.1).

5 **SEQ ID NOs: 5-7** are nucleotide sequences of the region surrounding the TRRAP hotspot mutation from a control sample, a tumor sample and A375 cells, respectively.

SEQ ID NOs: 8-18 are amino acid sequences of a segment of the TRRAP protein from several different species.

10 **SEQ ID NOs: 19-24** are nucleotide sequences of TRRAP primers used for recurrent mutation confirmation.

SEQ ID NOs: 25-62 are nucleotide sequences of GRIN2A primers used for PCR and sequencing.

SEQ ID NOs: 63-66 are nucleotide sequences of TRRAP mutation primers.

15 **SEQ ID NOs: 67-72** are TRRAP-specific shRNA sequences.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

I. Abbreviations

	FBS	fetal bovine serum
20	GRIN2A	glutamate receptor, ionotropic, N-methyl D-aspartate 2A
	H&E	hematoxylin and eosin
	iGluR	ionotropic glutamate receptor
	mGlu	metabotropic glutamate receptor
	NMDA	<i>N</i> -methyl-D-aspartate
25	PARP	poly-ADP ribose polymerase
	PCR	polymerase chain reaction
	RT-PCR	reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction
	shRNA	short hairpin RNA
	TRRAP	transformation/transcription domain-associated protein
30	WT	wild-type

II. Terms and Methods

Unless otherwise noted, technical terms are used according to conventional usage. Definitions of common terms in molecular biology may be found in Benjamin Lewin, *Genes V*, published by Oxford University Press, 1994 (ISBN 0-19-854287-9); Kendrew *et al.* (eds.), *The Encyclopedia of Molecular Biology*, published by Blackwell Science Ltd., 1994 (ISBN 0-632-02182-9); and Robert A. Meyers (ed.), *Molecular Biology and Biotechnology: a Comprehensive Desk Reference*, published by VCH Publishers, Inc., 1995 (ISBN 1-56081-569-8).

In order to facilitate review of the various embodiments of the disclosure, the following explanations of specific terms are provided:

Administration: The introduction of a composition into a subject by a chosen route. For example, if the chosen route is intravenous, the composition is administered by introducing the composition into a vein of the subject.

Antagonist: A molecule or compound that blocks or inhibits the activity of another molecule or compound (such as a drug that inhibits the function of a protein).

Array: An arrangement of molecules, such as biological macromolecules (such as peptides or nucleic acid molecules) or biological samples (such as tissue sections), in addressable locations on or in a substrate. A "microarray" is an array that is miniaturized so as to require or be aided by microscopic examination for evaluation or analysis. Arrays are sometimes called DNA chips or biochips.

The array of molecules ("features") makes it possible to carry out a very large number of analyses on a sample at one time. In certain example arrays, one or more molecules (such as an oligonucleotide probe) will occur on the array a plurality of times (such as twice), for instance to provide internal controls. The number of addressable locations on the array can vary, for example from at least two, at least four, at least six, to at least 9, at least 10, at least 14, at least 15, at least 20, at least 30, at least 50, at least 75, at least 100, at least 150, at least 200, at least 300, at least 500, least 550, at least 600, at least 800, at least 1000, or more. In a particular example, an array includes 2-100 addressable locations, such as 4-20 addressable locations. In particular examples, an array consists essentially of

oligonucleotide probes specific for the somatic mutations in TRRAP and/or GRIN2A disclosed herein.

In particular examples, an array includes nucleic acid molecules, such as oligonucleotide sequences that are at least 15 nucleotides in length, such as about
5 15-40 nucleotides in length.

Within an array, each arrayed sample is addressable, in that its location can be reliably and consistently determined within at least two dimensions of the array. The feature application location on an array can assume different shapes. For example, the array can be regular (such as arranged in uniform rows and columns) or irregular. Thus, in ordered arrays the location of each sample is assigned to the
10 sample at the time when it is applied to the array, and a key may be provided in order to correlate each location with the appropriate target or feature position. Often, ordered arrays are arranged in a symmetrical grid pattern, but samples could be arranged in other patterns (such as in radially distributed lines, spiral lines, or
15 ordered clusters). Addressable arrays usually are computer readable, in that a computer can be programmed to correlate a particular address on the array with information about the sample at that position (such as hybridization or binding data, including for instance signal intensity). In some examples of computer readable formats, the individual features in the array are arranged regularly, for instance in a
20 Cartesian grid pattern, which can be correlated to address information by a computer.

Clinical outcome: Refers to the health status of a patient following treatment for a disease or disorder (such as melanoma), or in the absence of treatment. Clinical outcomes include, but are not limited to, an increase in the
25 length of time until death, a decrease in the length of time until death, an increase in the chance of survival, an increase in the risk of death, survival, disease-free survival, chronic disease, metastasis, advanced or aggressive disease, disease recurrence, death, and favorable or poor response to therapy.

Decrease in survival: As used herein, “decrease in survival” refers to a
30 decrease in the length of time before death of a patient, or an increase in the risk of death for the patient. A decrease in survival also can refer to a decrease in the

average time to death in a group, such as a group of patients diagnosed with melanoma.

Diagnosing: Refers to the process of identifying the nature or cause of a disease or disorder.

5 **Glutamate antagonist:** Refers to any compound that blocks glutamate function, such as glutamate function mediated through ionotropic glutamate receptors. Thus, suitable glutamate antagonists include, for example, compounds that bind ionotropic glutamate receptors (iGluRs), including NMDA receptors (*e.g.*, GRIN2A). Compounds that bind ionotropic glutamate receptors include compounds
10 which bind α -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazole-propionate (AMPA), NMDA, or kainate receptors in a competitive manner or interact with ionotropic glutamate receptor mediated signals in a non-competitive manner. Other suitable glutamate antagonists include, for example, glutathione promoting agents, GABA stimulating agents and certain neurotransmitters. Glutamate antagonists are known in the art
15 (see, for example, U.S. Patent Application Publication Nos. 2007/0135413 and 2007/0248690). In particular examples, the glutamate antagonist is dizocilpine, GYKI52466, MK-801, AP-5 or CGS 19755 (selfotel).

GRIN2A (glutamate receptor, ionotropic, N-methyl D-aspartate 2A): A subunit of N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptors. NMDA receptors are a class
20 of ionotropic glutamate-gated ion channels. These receptors have been shown to be involved in long-term potentiation, an activity-dependent increase in the efficiency of synaptic transmission thought to underlie certain kinds of memory and learning. NMDA receptor channels are heteromeric complexes composed of the key receptor subunit NMDAR1 (GRIN1) and 1 or more of the 4 NMDAR2 subunits: NMDAR2A
25 (GRIN2A), NMDAR2B (GRIN2B), NMDAR2C (GRIN2C) and NMDAR2D (GRIN2D). GRIN2A, which is also known as NR2A and NMDAR2A, contains the antagonist binding site for glutamate.

 GRIN2A sequences are publically available. For example, GenBank Accession Nos. NM_000833 and NP_000824 are the nucleotide and amino acid
30 sequences, respectively, of human GRIN2A transcript variant 2. GenBank Accession Nos. NM_001134407 and NP_001127879 are the nucleotide and amino

acid sequences, respectively, of human GRIN2A transcript variant 1. The NCBI CCDS database also provides nucleotide and amino acid sequences for GRIN2A under CCDS ID 10539.1. The GenBank Accession numbers and CCDS ID numbers listed above and disclosed herein are incorporated by reference as they appear in the
5 database as of December 3, 2010.

Disclosed herein are somatic mutations in GRIN2A identified in melanoma tumor samples. The disclosed mutations are referred to by the location of the GRIN2A mutation with reference to SEQ ID NO: 3 (nucleotide) and SEQ ID NO: 4 (amino acid). For example, the C833T mutation refers to a cytosine to thymidine
10 substitution at nucleotide 833 (SEQ ID NO: 3), which results in a serine to phenylalanine change at amino acid 278 (S278F; SEQ ID NO: 4). Some somatic mutations result in the introduction of a stop codon (a nonsense mutation), for example, the G20A GRIN2A mutation. The corresponding amino acid change for the G20A mutation (which occurs at position 7 of SEQ ID NO: 4) is therefore
15 designated W7*.

In some embodiments of the methods disclosed herein, the GRIN2A mutation occurs in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain; a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain; or a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C
20 domain. As defined herein, the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain is encoded by nucleotides 94-1176 of SEQ ID NO: 3 and the amino acid sequence of the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain corresponds to residues 32-392 of SEQ ID NO: 4; the Lig_chan domain is encoded by nucleotides 1660-2484 of SEQ ID NO: 3 and the amino acid sequence of the Lig_chan domain corresponds to residues 554-828 of
25 SEQ ID NO: 4; and the NMDAR2_C domain is encoded by nucleotides 2515-4392 of SEQ ID NO: 3 and the amino acid sequence of the NMDAR2_C domain corresponds to residues 839-1464 of SEQ ID NO: 4. In some embodiments, the GRIN2A mutation is selected from G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T,
30 G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A,

G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G (SEQ ID NO: 3).

Inhibitor: As used herein, an “inhibitor” refers to any compound that is capable of reducing or altering the expression or activity of a target molecule (such as a nucleic acid molecule or a protein). In some embodiments, the inhibitor is an inhibitor of TRRAP or GRIN2A.

Label: An agent capable of detection, for example by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), spectrophotometry, flow cytometry or microscopy. For example, a label can be attached to a nucleic acid molecule or protein, thereby permitting detection of the nucleic acid molecule or protein. Examples of labels include, but are not limited to, radioactive isotopes, enzyme substrates, co-factors, ligands, chemiluminescent agents, fluorophores, haptens, enzymes, and combinations thereof. Methods for labeling and guidance in the choice of labels appropriate for various purposes are discussed for example in Sambrook *et al.* (Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, 1989) and Ausubel *et al.* (In Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1998).

In some embodiments, the label is a fluorophore (“fluorescent label”). Fluorophores are chemical compounds, which when excited by exposure to a particular wavelength of light, emits light (*i.e.*, fluoresces), for example at a different wavelength. Fluorophores can be described in terms of their emission profile, or “color.” Green fluorophores, for example Cy3, FITC, and Oregon GreenTM, are characterized by their emission at wavelengths generally in the range of 515-540 nm. Red fluorophores, for example Texas RedTM, Cy5 and tetramethylrhodamine, are characterized by their emission at wavelengths generally in the range of 590-690 nm.

Examples of fluorophores that may be used are provided in U.S. Patent No. 5,866,366 to Nazarenko *et al.*, and include for instance: 4-acetamido-4'-isothiocyanatostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid, acridine and derivatives such as acridine and acridine isothiocyanate, 5-(2'-aminoethyl)aminonaphthalene-1-sulfonic acid (EDANS), 4-amino-N-[3-vinylsulfonyl]phenyl]naphthalimide-3,5 disulfonate (Lucifer Yellow VS), N-(4-anilino-1-naphthyl)maleimide, anthranilamide, Brilliant

Yellow, coumarin and derivatives such as coumarin, 7-amino-4-methylcoumarin (AMC, Coumarin 120), 7-amino-4-trifluoromethylcoumarin (Coumarin 151); cyanosine; 4',6-diaminidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI); 5', 5''-dibromopyrogallol-sulfonephthalein (Bromopyrogallol Red); 7-diethylamino-3-(4'-

5 isothiocyanatophenyl)-4-methylcoumarin; diethylenetriamine pentaacetate; 4,4'-diisothiocyanatodihydro-stilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid; 4,4'-diisothiocyanatostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid; 5-[dimethylamino]naphthalene-1-sulfonyl chloride (DNS, dansyl chloride); 4-(4'-dimethylaminophenylazo)benzoic acid (DABCYL); 4-dimethylaminophenylazophenyl-4'-isothiocyanate (DABITC); eosin and derivatives

10 such as eosin and eosin isothiocyanate; erythrosin and derivatives such as erythrosin B and erythrosin isothiocyanate; ethidium; fluorescein and derivatives such as 5-carboxyfluorescein (FAM), 5-(4,6-dichlorotriazin-2-yl)aminofluorescein (DTAF), 2',7'-dimethoxy-4',5'-dichloro-6-carboxyfluorescein (JOE), fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC), and QFITC (XRITC); fluorescamine; IR144; IR1446;

15 Malachite Green isothiocyanate; 4-methylumbelliferone; ortho cresolphthalein; nitrotyrosine; pararosaniline; Phenol Red; B-phycoerythrin; o-phthalaldehyde; pyrene and derivatives such as pyrene, pyrene butyrate and succinimidyl 1-pyrene butyrate; Reactive Red 4 (CibacronTM Brilliant Red 3B-A); rhodamine and derivatives such as 6-carboxy-X-rhodamine (ROX), 6-carboxyrhodamine (R6G),

20 lissamine rhodamine B sulfonyl chloride, rhodamine (Rhod), rhodamine B, rhodamine 123, rhodamine X isothiocyanate, sulforhodamine B, sulforhodamine 101 and sulfonyl chloride derivative of sulforhodamine 101 (Texas Red); N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine (TAMRA); tetramethyl rhodamine; tetramethyl rhodamine isothiocyanate (TRITC); riboflavin; rosolic acid and terbium chelate

25 derivatives.

Other contemplated fluorophores include GFP (green fluorescent protein), LissamineTM, diethylaminocoumarin, fluorescein chlorotriazinyl, naphthofluorescein, 4,7-dichlororhodamine and xanthene and derivatives thereof. Other fluorophores known to those skilled in the art may also be used.

30 **Melanoma:** A form of cancer that originates in melanocytes (cells that make the pigment melanin). Melanocytes are found primarily in the skin, but are

also present in the bowel and eye. As used herein, “melanoma” refers to any stage of melanoma, or any subtype of melanoma, such as superficial spreading melanoma, nodular melanoma, acral lentiginous melanoma, lentigo maligna, melanoma-in-situ, mucosal melanoma and uveal melanoma.

5 **Metastasis:** Refers to the spread of cancer cells from the original tumor to other sites in the body.

Mutation: Any change of the DNA sequence within a gene or chromosome. In some instances, a mutation will alter a characteristic or trait (phenotype), but this is not always the case. Types of mutations include base substitution point mutations
10 (e.g., transitions or transversions), deletions and insertions. Missense mutations are those that introduce a different amino acid into the sequence of the encoded protein; nonsense mutations are those that introduce a new stop codon. In the case of insertions or deletions, mutations can be in-frame (not changing the frame of the overall sequence) or frame shift mutations, which may result in the misreading of a
15 large number of codons (and often leads to abnormal termination of the encoded product due to the presence of a stop codon in the alternative frame).

 This term specifically encompasses variations that arise through somatic mutation, for instance those that are found only in disease cells (such as cancer cells), but not constitutionally, in a given individual. Examples of such somatically-
20 acquired variations include the point mutations that frequently result in altered function of various genes that are involved in development of cancers. This term also encompasses DNA alterations that are present constitutionally, that alter the function of the encoded protein in a readily demonstrable manner, and that can be inherited by the children of an affected individual. In this respect, the term overlaps
25 with “polymorphism,” as discussed below, but generally refers to the subset of constitutional alterations that have arisen within the past few generations in a kindred and that are not widely disseminated in a population group.

 In some embodiments, a mutation in TRRAP refers to a nucleotide substitution in the TRRAP gene or cDNA, or an amino acid substitution in the
30 TRRAP protein. In some embodiments, a mutation in GRIN2A refers to a

nucleotide substitution in the GRIN2A gene or cDNA, or an amino acid substitution in the GRIN2A protein.

Oligonucleotide: A linear polynucleotide sequence of up to about 100 nucleotide bases in length. In some embodiments, the oligonucleotide is 15-40
5 nucleotides in length.

Patient: As used herein, the term “patient” includes human and non-human animals. The preferred patient for treatment is a human.

Pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles: The pharmaceutically acceptable carriers (vehicles) useful in this disclosure are conventional. *Remington's*
10 *Pharmaceutical Sciences*, by E. W. Martin, Mack Publishing Co., Easton, PA, 15th Edition (1975), describes compositions and formulations suitable for pharmaceutical delivery of one or more therapeutic compounds, molecules or agents.

In general, the nature of the carrier will depend on the particular mode of administration being employed. For instance, parenteral formulations usually
15 comprise injectable fluids that include pharmaceutically and physiologically acceptable fluids such as water, physiological saline, balanced salt solutions, aqueous dextrose, glycerol or the like as a vehicle. For solid compositions (for example, powder, pill, tablet, or capsule forms), conventional non-toxic solid carriers can include, for example, pharmaceutical grades of mannitol, lactose, starch,
20 or magnesium stearate. In addition to biologically-neutral carriers, pharmaceutical compositions to be administered can contain minor amounts of non-toxic auxiliary substances, such as wetting or emulsifying agents, preservatives, and pH buffering agents and the like, for example sodium acetate or sorbitan monolaurate.

Polymorphism: Variant in a sequence of a gene, or any genomic sequence,
25 usually carried from one generation to another in a population. Polymorphisms can be those variations (nucleotide sequence differences) that, while having a different nucleotide sequence, produce functionally equivalent gene products, such as those variations generally found between individuals, different ethnic groups, and geographic locations. The term polymorphism also encompasses variations that
30 produce gene products with altered function, *i.e.*, variants in the gene sequence that lead to gene products that are not functionally equivalent. This term also

encompasses variations that produce no gene product, an inactive gene product, a truncated gene product, or increased or increased activity gene product.

Polymorphisms can be referred to, for instance, by the nucleotide position at which the variation exists, by the change in amino acid sequence caused by the nucleotide variation, or by a change in some other characteristic of the nucleic acid molecule or protein that is linked to the variation (*e.g.*, an alteration of a secondary structure such as a stem-loop, or an alteration of the binding affinity of the nucleic acid for associated molecules, such as polymerases, RNAses, a change in the availability of a site for cleavage by a restriction endonuclease, either the formation of a new site, or lose of a site, and so forth).

Polypeptide: A polymer in which the monomers are amino acid residues which are joined together through amide bonds. When the amino acids are alpha-amino acids, either the L-optical isomer or the D-optical isomer can be used. The terms “polypeptide” or “protein” as used herein are intended to encompass any amino acid sequence and include modified sequences such as glycoproteins. The term “polypeptide” is specifically intended to cover naturally occurring proteins, as well as those which are recombinantly or synthetically produced.

The term “residue” or “amino acid residue” includes reference to an amino acid that is incorporated into a protein, polypeptide, or peptide.

Conservative amino acid substitutions are those substitutions that, when made, least interfere with the properties of the original protein, that is, the structure and especially the function of the protein is conserved and not significantly changed by such substitutions. Examples of conservative substitutions are shown in the following table.

25	Original Residue	Conservative Substitutions
30	Ala Arg Asn Asp Cys Gln Glu His	Ser Lys Gln, His Glu Ser Asn Asp Asn; Gln

	Ile	Leu, Val
	Leu	Ile; Val
	Lys	Arg; Gln; Glu
	Met	Leu; Ile
5	Phe	Met; Leu; Tyr
	Ser	Thr
	Thr	Ser
	Trp	Tyr
	Tyr	Trp; Phe
10	Val	Ile; Leu

Conservative substitutions generally maintain (a) the structure of the polypeptide backbone in the area of the substitution, for example, as a sheet or helical conformation, (b) the charge or hydrophobicity of the molecule at the target site, or (c) the bulk of the side chain.

The substitutions which in general are expected to produce the greatest changes in protein properties will be non-conservative, for instance changes in which (a) a hydrophilic residue, for example, seryl or threonyl, is substituted for (or by) a hydrophobic residue, for example, leucyl, isoleucyl, phenylalanyl, valyl or alanyl; (b) a cysteine or proline is substituted for (or by) any other residue; (c) a residue having an electropositive side chain, for example, lysyl, arginyl, or histadyl, is substituted for (or by) an electronegative residue, for example, glutamyl or aspartyl; or (d) a residue having a bulky side chain, for example, phenylalanine, is substituted for (or by) one not having a side chain, for example, glycine.

Preventing, treating or ameliorating a disease: “Preventing” or “inhibiting” a disease (such as melanoma) refers to inhibiting the full development of a disease. “Treating” refers to a therapeutic intervention that ameliorates a sign or symptom of a disease or pathological condition after it has begun to develop. “Ameliorating” refers to the reduction in the number or severity of signs or symptoms of a disease.

Probes and primers: A probe comprises an isolated nucleic acid capable of hybridizing to a target nucleic acid. A detectable label or reporter molecule can be attached to a probe or primer. Typical labels include radioactive isotopes, enzyme substrates, co-factors, ligands, chemiluminescent or fluorescent agents, haptens, and enzymes. Methods for labeling and guidance in the choice of labels appropriate for

various purposes are discussed, for example in Sambrook *et al.* (In *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, CSHL, New York, 1989) and Ausubel *et al.* (In *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1998). In some embodiments, an “oligonucleotide” is a probe or primer.

5 In a particular example, a probe includes at least one fluorophore, such as an acceptor fluorophore or donor fluorophore. For example, a fluorophore can be attached at the 5'- or 3'-end of the probe. In specific examples, the fluorophore is attached to the base at the 5'-end of the probe, the base at its 3'-end, the phosphate group at its 5'-end or a modified base, such as a T internal to the probe.

10 Probes are generally at least 15 nucleotides in length, such as at least 15, at least 16, at least 17, at least 18, at least 19, at least 20, at least 21, at least 22, at least 23, at least 24, at least 25, at least 26, at least 27, at least 28, at least 29, at least 30, at least 31, at least 32, at least 33, at least 34, at least 35, at least 36, at least 37, at least 38, at least 39, at least 40, at least 41, at least 42, at least 43, at least 44, at least 15 45, at least 46, at least 47, at least 48, at least 49, at least 50 at least 51, at least 52, at least 53, at least 54, at least 55, at least 56, at least 57, at least 58, at least 59, at least 60, at least 61, at least 62, at least 63, at least 64, at least 65, at least 66, at least 67, at least 68, at least 69, at least 70, or more contiguous nucleotides complementary to the target nucleic acid molecule, such as 15-70 nucleotides, 15-60 nucleotides, 15-50 20 nucleotides, 15-40 nucleotides, or 15-30 nucleotides.

 Primers are short nucleic acid molecules, for instance DNA oligonucleotides 15 nucleotides or more in length, which can be annealed to a complementary target nucleic acid molecule by nucleic acid hybridization to form a hybrid between the primer and the target nucleic acid strand. A primer can be extended along the target 25 nucleic acid molecule by a polymerase enzyme. Therefore, primers can be used to amplify a target nucleic acid molecule.

 The specificity of a primer increases with its length. Thus, for example, a primer that includes 30 consecutive nucleotides will anneal to a target sequence with a higher specificity than a corresponding primer of only 15 nucleotides. Thus, to obtain 30 greater specificity, probes and primers can be selected that include at least 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 or more consecutive nucleotides. In particular

examples, a primer is at least 15 nucleotides in length, such as at least 15 contiguous nucleotides complementary to a target nucleic acid molecule. Particular lengths of primers that can be used to practice the methods of the present disclosure include primers having at least 15, at least 16, at least 17, at least 18, at least 19, at least 20, at
5 least 21, at least 22, at least 23, at least 24, at least 25, at least 26, at least 27, at least 28, at least 29, at least 30, at least 31, at least 32, at least 33, at least 34, at least 35, at least 36, at least 37, at least 38, at least 39, at least 40, at least 45, at least 50, at least 55, at least 60, at least 65, at least 70, or more contiguous nucleotides complementary to the target nucleic acid molecule to be amplified, such as a primer of 15-70
10 nucleotides, 15-60 nucleotides, 15-50 nucleotides, 15-40 nucleotides or 15-30 nucleotides.

Primer pairs can be used for amplification of a nucleic acid sequence, for example, by PCR, real-time PCR, or other nucleic-acid amplification methods known in the art. An “upstream” or “forward” primer is a primer 5' to a reference point on a
15 nucleic acid sequence. A “downstream” or “reverse” primer is a primer 3' to a reference point on a nucleic acid sequence. In general, at least one forward and one reverse primer are included in an amplification reaction.

Nucleic acid probes and primers can be readily prepared based on the nucleic acid molecules provided herein. It is also appropriate to generate probes
20 and primers based on fragments or portions of these disclosed nucleic acid molecules, for instance regions that encompass the identified mutations of interest. PCR primer pairs can be derived from a known sequence by using computer programs intended for that purpose such as Primer (Version 0.5, © 1991, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Cambridge, MA) or PRIMER EXPRESS®
25 Software (Applied Biosystems, AB, Foster City, CA).

Prognosis: The likelihood of the clinical outcome for a subject afflicted with a specific disease or disorder. With regard to cancer, the prognosis is a representation of the likelihood (probability) that the subject will survive (such as for one, two, three, four or five years) and/or respond to anti-melanoma treatment,
30 and/or the likelihood (probability) that the tumor will metastasize. A “poor prognosis” indicates a greater than 50% chance that the subject will not survive to a

specified time point (such as one, two, three, four or five years), and/or a greater than 50% chance that the tumor will metastasize. In several examples, a poor prognosis indicates that there is a greater than 60%, 70%, 80%, or 90% chance that the subject will not survive and/or a greater than 60%, 70%, 80% or 90% chance
5 that the tumor will metastasize. Conversely, a “good prognosis” indicates a greater than 50% chance that the subject will survive to a specified time point (such as one, two, three, four or five years), and/or a greater than 50% chance that the tumor will not metastasize. In several examples, a good prognosis indicates that there is a greater than 60%, 70%, 80%, or 90% chance that the subject will survive and/or a
10 greater than 60%, 70%, 80% or 90% chance that the tumor will not metastasize.

Sample: A biological specimen containing genomic DNA, RNA, protein, or combinations thereof, obtained from a subject. Examples include, but are not limited to, peripheral blood, urine, saliva, tissue biopsy (such as skin tissue), surgical specimen, and autopsy material. In one example, a sample includes a biopsy of a
15 melanoma tumor or a sample of normal tissue, such as skin tissue (from a subject not afflicted with a known disease or disorder, such as a cancer-free subject).

Specific hybridization: Specific hybridization refers to the binding, duplexing, or hybridizing of a molecule only or substantially only to a particular nucleotide sequence when that sequence is present in a complex mixture (*e.g.* total
20 cellular DNA or RNA). Specific hybridization may also occur under conditions of varying stringency.

Hybridization conditions resulting in particular degrees of stringency will vary depending upon the nature of the hybridization method of choice and the composition and length of the hybridizing DNA used. Generally, the temperature of
25 hybridization and the ionic strength (especially the Na⁺ concentration) of the hybridization buffer will determine the stringency of hybridization. Calculations regarding hybridization conditions required for attaining particular degrees of stringency are discussed by Sambrook *et al.* (In: *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, 1989 ch. 9 and 11). By way of illustration
30 only, a hybridization experiment may be performed by hybridization of a DNA molecule to a target DNA molecule which has been electrophoresed in an agarose

gel and transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane by Southern blotting (Southern, *J. Mol. Biol.* 98:503, 1975), a technique well known in the art and described in Sambrook *et al.* (*Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, 1989).

- 5 Stringent conditions may be defined as those under which DNA molecules with more than 25%, 15%, 10%, 6% or 2% sequence variation (also termed "mismatch") will not hybridize. Stringent conditions are sequence dependent and are different in different circumstances. Longer sequences hybridize specifically at higher temperatures. Generally, stringent conditions are selected to be about 5°C
- 10 lower than the thermal melting point T_m for the specific sequence at a defined ionic strength and pH. An example of stringent conditions is a salt concentration of at least about 0.01 to 1.0 M Na ion concentration (or other salts) at pH 7.0 to 8.3 and a temperature of at least about 30°C for short probes (*e.g.* 10 to 50 nucleotides). Stringent conditions can also be achieved with the addition of destabilizing agents
- 15 such as formamide. For example, conditions of 5 X SSPE (750 mM NaCl, 50 mM Na Phosphate, 5 mM EDTA, pH 7.4) and a temperature of 25-30°C are suitable for allele-specific probe hybridizations.

The following is an exemplary set of hybridization conditions and is not meant to be limiting:

- 20 Very High Stringency (detects sequences that share 90% identity)
 Hybridization: 5x SSC at 65°C for 16 hours
 Wash twice: 2x SSC at room temperature (RT) for 15 minutes each
 Wash twice: 0.5x SSC at 65°C for 20 minutes each
- 25 High Stringency (detects sequences that share 80% identity or greater)
 Hybridization: 5x-6x SSC at 65°C-70°C for 16-20 hours
 Wash twice: 2x SSC at RT for 5-20 minutes each
 Wash twice: 1x SSC at 55°C-70°C for 30 minutes each
- 30 Low Stringency (detects sequences that share greater than 50% identity)
 Hybridization: 6x SSC at RT to 55°C for 16-20 hours
 Wash at least twice: 2x-3x SSC at RT to 55°C for 20-30 minutes each.

- A perfectly matched probe has a sequence perfectly complementary to a
- 35 particular target sequence. The test probe is typically perfectly complementary to a

portion (subsequence) of the target sequence. The term “mismatch probe” refers to probes whose sequence is deliberately selected not to be perfectly complementary to a particular target sequence.

Somatic mutation: An acquired mutation that occurs in a somatic cell (as
5 opposed to a germ cell).

Subject: Living multi-cellular vertebrate organisms, a category that includes both human and non-human mammals. In some embodiments, the subject is a human subject.

Therapeutic agent: A chemical compound, small molecule, or other
10 composition, such as an antisense compound, antibody, peptide or nucleic acid molecule capable of inducing a desired therapeutic or prophylactic effect when properly administered to a subject. For example, therapeutic agents for melanoma include agents that prevent or inhibit development or metastasis of melanoma. In some embodiments, the therapeutic agent is an inhibitor of TRRAP, an inhibitor of
15 GRIN2A or a glutamate antagonist.

Therapeutically effective amount: A quantity of a specific substance sufficient to achieve a desired effect in a subject being treated. For example, a therapeutically effective amount of a therapeutic agent to treat melanoma can refer to the amount necessary to inhibit tumor growth, decrease tumor volume, inhibit
20 tumor metastasis, or prolong survival.

Therapy: The mode of treatment or care of a patient. In some cases, therapy refers to administration of a therapeutic agent. In some embodiments herein, therapy includes administration of an inhibitor of TRRAP, an inhibitor of GRIN2A or a glutamate antagonist. In other examples, therapy includes surgery, such as surgical
25 resection of a melanoma tumor, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, administration of a second therapeutic agent, or any combination thereof.

TRRAP (transformation/transcription domain-associated protein): An adaptor protein found in various multiprotein chromatin complexes with histone acetyltransferase activity, which in turn is responsible for epigenetic transcription
30 activation. TRRAP plays a central role in the transcriptional activity of p53, c-Myc, E2F1 and other transcription factors (McMahon *et al.*, *Cell* 94:363-74, 1998; Barlev *et*

al., *Mol Cell* 8:1243-1254, 2001). TRRAP knockout mice are embryonic lethal suggesting that TRRAP is essential for cell survival (Herceg *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 29:206-11, 2001). Prior studies have suggested that TRRAP may function as an oncogene in pancreatic cancer (Loukopoulos *et al.*, *Cancer Sci* 98(3):392-400, 2007; Bashyam *et al.*,
5 *Neoplasia* 7(6):556-562, 2005).

TRRAP sequences are publically available. For example, GenBank Accession Nos. NM_003496 and NP_003487 are the nucleotide and amino acid sequences, respectively, of human TRRAP. The NCBI CCDS database also provides nucleotide and amino acid sequences for human TRRAP under CCDS ID
10 5659.1. The GenBank Accession numbers and CCDS ID numbers listed above and disclosed herein are incorporated by reference as they appear in the database as of December 3, 2010.

Disclosed herein is a recurrent somatic mutation in TRRAP identified in melanoma tumor samples. The disclosed mutation is referred to by the location of the
15 TRRAP mutation with reference to SEQ ID NO: 1 (nucleotide) and SEQ ID NO: 2 (amino acid). Thus, the C2165T mutation refers to a cytosine to thymidine substitution at nucleotide 2165 (SEQ ID NO: 1), which results in a serine to phenylalanine change at amino acid 722 (S722F; SEQ ID NO: 2).

Tumor, neoplasia, malignancy or cancer: A neoplasm is an abnormal
20 growth of tissue or cells that results from excessive cell division. Neoplastic growth can produce a tumor. The amount of a tumor in an individual is the “**tumor burden**” which can be measured as the number, volume, or weight of the tumor. A tumor that does not metastasize is referred to as “**benign**.” A tumor that invades the surrounding tissue and/or can metastasize is referred to as “**malignant**.” A “**non-**
25 **cancerous tissue**” is a tissue from the same organ wherein the malignant neoplasm formed, but does not have the characteristic pathology of the neoplasm. Generally, noncancerous tissue appears histologically normal. A “**normal tissue**” is tissue from an organ, wherein the organ is not affected by cancer or another disease or disorder of that organ. A “**cancer-free**” subject has not been diagnosed with a
30 cancer of that organ and does not have detectable cancer.

Unless otherwise explained, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this disclosure belongs. The singular terms “a,” “an,” and “the” include plural referents unless context clearly indicates otherwise. Similarly, the word “or” is intended to include “and” unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Hence “comprising A or B” means including A, or B, or A and B. It is further to be understood that all base sizes or amino acid sizes, and all molecular weight or molecular mass values, given for nucleic acids or polypeptides are approximate, and are provided for description. Although methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used in the practice or testing of the present disclosure, suitable methods and materials are described below. All publications, patent applications, patents, GenBank Accession numbers and other references mentioned herein are incorporated by reference in their entirety. In case of conflict, the present specification, including explanations of terms, will control. In addition, the materials, methods, and examples are illustrative only and not intended to be limiting.

III. Overview of Several Embodiments

Described herein is the identification of 68 human genes with an elevated frequency of somatic mutations in melanoma. Nine genes were identified that exhibited recurring mutations in melanoma. In particular, the TRRAP gene was mutated at nucleotide 2165 (C2165T) in six different melanoma tumor samples. In addition, 16 genes were identified that were highly mutated in melanoma samples. The most highly mutated gene identified was GRIN2A, which was mutated in 34% of melanoma tumor samples. The study disclosed herein identified 34 different nonsynonymous somatic mutations in GRIN2A among 36 melanoma tumor samples.

Provided herein is a method of diagnosing a subject as having melanoma, or susceptible to developing melanoma, by detecting at least one mutation in the TRRAP gene or the GRIN2A gene. The presence of the at least one mutation indicates the subject has melanoma or is susceptible to developing melanoma.

In some embodiments, the at least one mutation is in the human TRRAP gene (SEQ ID NO: 1). In particular examples, the mutation is the C2165T mutation in human TRRAP.

In some embodiments, the at least one mutation is in the human GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3). In some examples, the mutation occurs in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain, the Lig_chan domain or the NMDAR2_C domain of human GRIN2A. In other examples, the at least one mutation is G20A, G1346A or T1376C in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3). In particular examples, the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain is C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A or G1117A (SEQ ID NO: 3). In other particular examples, the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain is A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A or G2218A (SEQ ID NO: 3). In yet other examples, the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C domain is G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A or C4385G (SEQ ID NO: 3).

In some embodiments, the at least one mutation is selected from G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G in human GRIN2A (SEQ ID NO: 3). In specific examples, the mutation is a recurring mutation in GRIN2A identified herein, such as C833T, G1111A, G3523A or G3812A (SEQ ID NO: 3).

In some embodiments of the diagnosis methods, detecting the presence or absence of the at least one mutation comprises detecting the presence or absence of the mutation in a skin sample obtained from the subject.

In some embodiments, the method further includes providing a test output (*i.e.*, the result of the test to detect mutations in TRRAP or GRIN2A) to a user (such as a physician or health care worker, the patient or laboratory personnel). In

particular examples, the output includes the presence or absence of the at least one mutation, a diagnosis, a treatment recommendation, or any combination thereof. Examples of such output include a printout or display screen that reports the output by displaying it to a clinician to technician. Other examples are electronic medical
5 record reports or other records that include the output in a form discernible to the clinician or technician.

In some embodiments, the subject is further treated with an appropriate therapy, such as with a TRRAP inhibitor (if a mutation in TRRAP is identified), or a GRIN2A inhibitor or glutamate antagonist (if a mutation in GRIN2A is identified).
10 Alternatively or in addition, the appropriate therapy can include administration of a second therapeutic agent known to be effective for the treatment of melanoma, removal of tumor tissue, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or any combination thereof.

Further provided is a method of selecting a therapy for a subject diagnosed
15 with melanoma by detecting the presence or absence of a C2165T mutation in the TRRAP gene (SEQ ID NO: 1). An inhibitor of TRRAP is selected if the C2165T mutation in the TRRAP gene is present.

Also provided is a method of selecting a therapy for a subject diagnosed with melanoma by detecting the presence or absence of at least one mutation in the
20 GRIN2A gene. An inhibitor of GRIN2A or a glutamate antagonist is selected for therapy if the at least one mutation in GRIN2A is present. In some embodiments, the at least one mutation is (i) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain (nucleotides 94-1176 of SEQ ID NO: 3); (ii) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan
25 domain (nucleotides 1660-2484 of SEQ ID NO: 3); (iii) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C domain (nucleotides 2515-4392 of SEQ ID NO: 3); (iv) G20A in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3); (v) G1346A in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3); or (vi) T1376C in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3). In some examples, the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that
30 encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain is C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A or G1117A (SEQ ID NO: 3). In some examples, the

mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain is A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A or G2218A (SEQ ID NO: 3). In some examples, the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C domain is G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A or C4385G (SEQ ID NO: 3).

In some embodiments, the method further includes administering the selected therapy. In some instances, the subject is further treated by administration of a second therapeutic agent, surgical removal of tumor tissue, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or any combination of thereof.

Also provided herein is a method of predicting the prognosis of a subject diagnosed with melanoma by detecting the presence or absence of at least one mutation in the TRRAP gene or the GRIN2A gene. The presence of the at least one mutation indicates the subject has a poor prognosis. In some embodiments, the at least one mutation is selected from C2165T in human TRRAP (SEQ ID NO: 1), or G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G in human GRIN2A (SEQ ID NO: 3). A poor prognosis refers to any negative clinical outcome. For example, in some embodiments, a poor prognosis is an increase in the likelihood of death. In some embodiments, a poor prognosis is an increase in the likelihood of metastasis of the melanoma. In other embodiments, a poor prognosis refers to failure to respond to therapy. The sample can be any appropriate sample from the patient, such as a tissue sample or bodily fluid sample. In particular examples, the sample is a melanoma tumor sample from the subject.

Although mutations in TRRAP and GRIN2A for the diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of melanoma are exemplified herein, the present disclosure contemplates the use of mutations in any of the genes identified herein as mutated in melanoma (see Tables 1-4, 6 and 7 for a list of genes). Thus, in some embodiments

of the methods disclosed herein, the method includes detecting at least one mutation selected from any one of the mutations listed in Table 1 or Table 3.

For detection of TRRAP or GRIN2A mutations (or mutations in any other gene mutated in melanoma), nucleic acid (such as DNA or RNA) can be isolated
5 from a biological sample according to well-known methods. In some embodiments, the biological sample is a tissue sample, such as a skin sample or a tumor tissue sample. In other embodiments, the biological sample is a fluid sample, such as blood. For example, nucleic acid can be isolated from cells obtained from a blood sample. In some embodiments, the biological sample is obtained from a patient
10 diagnosed with melanoma or at risk for developing melanoma. In some embodiments, the biological sample is obtained from a control subject.

Methods of detecting mutations in a gene are well known in the art. Detection of one or more mutations in the TRRAP or GRIN2A gene (or any other gene mutated in melanoma) can be accomplished using any suitable technique, such
15 as those described in detail below. For example, TRRAP- or GRIN2A-specific primers can be used to amplify nucleic acid from a biological sample (such as a skin sample, tumor tissue sample or blood sample). The amplified molecule can then be sequenced and compared to a reference TRRAP sequence (such as SEQ ID NO: 1) or a reference GRIN2A sequence (such as SEQ ID NO: 3). Alternatively, the
20 sequence of the amplified molecule can be compared with TRRAP or GRIN2A from a control sample such as a non-cancerous tissue sample. TRRAP and GRIN2A amplification primers and sequencing primers can be designed according to well-known methods. Examples of TRRAP and GRIN2A primers are shown in Table 6 and Table 7. Other suitable primers can be designed using publically available
25 TRRAP or GRIN2A nucleic acid sequences, according to well-known procedures.

Mutations in TRRAP or GRIN2A can also be detected using oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize with a particular mutation. Hybridization of such oligonucleotides can be detected by labeling the oligonucleotide with a detectable marker, such as a fluorescent marker, enzymatic
30 marker or radioisotope. Appropriate output devices for obtaining nucleic acid

sequence information or for detecting the presence of a fluorescent or radioactive signal are well known in the art.

Thus, provided herein is an oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes with a mutant TRRAP nucleic acid molecule or a mutant GRIN2A nucleic acid molecule.

5 In some embodiments, the nucleic acid molecule comprises a mutation selected from (i) C2165T in human TRRAP (SEQ ID NO: 1); and (ii) G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, 10 C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G in human GRIN2A (SEQ ID NO: 3).

The oligonucleotide can be any suitable length to allow for specific hybridization to a target nucleic acid molecule. In some embodiments, the oligonucleotide is about 12 to about 50, about 15 to about 40, about 18 to about 30 15 or about 20 to about 25 nucleotides in length. In particular examples, the oligonucleotide is about 15 to about 40 nucleotides in length. In some embodiments, the oligonucleotide includes a label, such as a fluorescent label, an enzymatic label or a radioisotope.

Further provided is an addressable array including an oligonucleotide that 20 specifically hybridizes with a mutant TRRAP nucleic acid molecule disclosed herein or a mutant GRIN2A nucleic acid molecule disclosed herein. In some embodiments, the array includes two or more oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize with a TRRAP nucleic acid comprising a C2165T mutation or with a GRIN2A nucleic acid molecule comprising a mutation selected from G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, 25 C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G in human GRIN2A (SEQ ID NO: 3). In particular examples, the array comprises a plurality of 30 oligonucleotides such that the array comprises at least one oligonucleotide that

specifically hybridizes to each of the above listed mutations in TRRAP and GRIN2A. In some examples, the array is a microarray.

IV. Methods of Detecting GRIN2A and TRRAP Mutations

- 5 Methods of detecting mutations in genes of interest are known in the art and exemplary methods are described below. Although detection of mutations in the GRIN2A and TRRAP genes is exemplified herein, the techniques described can be applied to other genes and proteins, including other genes identified as mutated in melanoma and disclosed herein (such as those listed in Tables 1-4, 6 and 7).
- 10 Detecting mutations in GRIN2A and TRRAP can be accomplished using any technique known in the art. For example, the presence or absence of a GRIN2A or TRRAP mutation can be determined by conventional methods such as gene or RNA detection methods (for example, DNA sequencing, oligonucleotide hybridization, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification with primers specific to the
- 15 mutation), or protein detection methods (for example, immunoassays or biochemical assays to identify a mutated GRIN2A or TRRAP protein. Generally, the nucleic acid sequence of the GRIN2A or TRRAP gene or RNA in a sample can be detected by any suitable method or technique of detecting gene sequence. Such methods include, but are not limited to, PCR, reverse transcriptase-PCR (RT-PCR), *in situ*
- 20 PCR, *in situ* hybridization, Southern blot, Northern blot, sequence analysis, microarray analysis, or other DNA/RNA hybridization platforms.
- Detection of point mutations in target nucleic acids can be accomplished by molecular cloning of the target nucleic acid molecules and sequencing the nucleic acid molecules using techniques well known in the art. Alternatively, amplification
- 25 techniques such as PCR can be used to amplify target nucleic acid sequences directly from a genomic DNA preparation from a tumor tissue or cell sample. The nucleic acid sequence of the amplified molecules can then be determined to identify mutations. Representative primer pairs that can be used to amplify GRIN2A or TRRAP nucleic acid from a biological sample are listed in Tables 6 and 7.
- 30 However, design and selection of appropriate primers is well within the abilities of one of ordinary skill in the art.

Ligase chain reaction (Wu *et al.*, *Genomics* 4:560-569, 1989) and allele-specific PCR (Ruano and Kidd, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 17:8392, 1989) can also be used to amplify target nucleic acid sequences. Amplification by allele-specific PCR uses primers that hybridize at their 3' ends to a particular target nucleic acid mutation. If the particular mutation is not present, an amplification product is not observed. Amplification Refractory Mutation System can also be used to detect mutations in nucleic acid sequences (U.S. Patent No. 5,595,890; Newton *et al.*, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 17:2503-2516, 1989). Insertions and deletions of genes can also be detected by cloning, sequencing and amplification. In addition, restriction fragment length polymorphism probes for the gene or surrounding marker genes can be used to score alteration of an allele or an insertion in a polymorphic fragment. Single stranded conformation polymorphism analysis can also be used to detect base change variants of an allele (Orita *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 86:2766-2770, 1989). Other known techniques for detecting insertions and deletions can also be used with the claimed methods.

Mismatch detection can be used to detect point mutations in a target nucleic acid molecule, such as GRIN2A or TRRAP. Mismatches are hybridized nucleic acid duplexes which are not 100% complementary. The lack of total complementarity can be due to deletions, insertions, inversions, substitutions or frameshift mutations. An example of a mismatch cleavage technique is the RNase protection method, which is described in detail in Winter *et al.* (*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 82:7575-7579, 1985) and Myers *et al.* (*Science* 230:1242-1246, 1985). For example, detection of mutations in GRIN2A or TRRAP can involve the use of a labeled riboprobe that is complementary to wild-type GRIN2A or TRRAP. The riboprobe and nucleic acid molecule to be tested (for example, obtained from a tumor sample) are annealed (hybridized) together and subsequently digested with the enzyme RNase A, which is able to detect mismatches in a duplex RNA structure. If a mismatch is detected by RNase A, it cleaves at the site of the mismatch. Thus, when the annealed RNA preparation is separated on an electrophoretic gel matrix, if a mismatch has been detected and cleaved by RNase A, an RNA product will be seen which is smaller than the full-length duplex RNA for the riboprobe and the

mRNA or DNA. The riboprobe need not be the full length of the target nucleic acid mRNA or gene, but can a portion of the target nucleic acid, provided it encompasses the position suspected of being mutated. If the riboprobe comprises only a segment of the target nucleic acid mRNA or gene, it may be desirable to use a number of
5 these probes to screen the whole target nucleic acid sequence for mismatches if desired.

In a similar manner, DNA probes can be used to detect mismatches, for example through enzymatic or chemical cleavage (Cotton *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 85: 4397, 1988; Shenk *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 72:989, 1975).
10 Alternatively, mismatches can be detected by shifts in the electrophoretic mobility of mismatched duplexes relative to matched duplexes (Cariello, *Human Genetics* 42:726, 1988). With riboprobes or DNA probes, the target nucleic acid mRNA or DNA which may contain a mutation can be amplified before hybridization. Changes in target nucleic acid DNA can also be detected using Southern
15 hybridization, especially if the changes are gross rearrangements, such as deletions and insertions.

Amplified nucleic acid sequences can also be screened using allele-specific probes. These probes are nucleic acid oligomers, each of which contains a region of the target nucleic acid gene harboring a known mutation. For example, one
20 oligomer may be about 30 nucleotides in length, corresponding to a portion of the target gene sequence. By use of a battery of such allele-specific probes, target nucleic acid amplification products can be screened to identify the presence of a previously identified mutation in the target gene. Hybridization of allele-specific probes with amplified target nucleic acid sequences can be performed, for example,
25 on a nylon filter. Hybridization to a particular probe under stringent hybridization conditions indicates the presence of the same mutation in the tumor tissue as in the allele-specific probe.

Gene-specific primers are useful for determination of the nucleotide sequence of a target nucleic acid molecule using nucleic acid amplification
30 techniques such as the polymerase chain reaction. Pairs of single stranded DNA primers can be annealed to sequences within or surrounding the target nucleic acid

sequence in order to prime amplification of the target sequence. Allele-specific primers can also be used. Such primers anneal only to particular mutant target sequence, and thus will only amplify a product in the presence of the mutant target sequence as a template. In order to facilitate subsequent cloning of amplified
5 sequences, primers may have restriction enzyme site sequences appended to their ends. Such enzymes and sites are well known in the art. The primers themselves can be synthesized using techniques which are well known in the art. Generally, the primers can be made using oligonucleotide synthesizing machines which are commercially available. Design of particular primers is well within the skill of the
10 art. In addition, exemplary GRIN2A and TRRAP primers are provided in Tables 6 and 7.

Nucleic acid probes that hybridize with a GRIN2A or TRRAP nucleic acid molecule, such as a wild-type GRIN2A or TRRAP nucleic acid molecule or a mutant GRIN2A or TRRAP nucleic acid molecule described herein, are useful for a
15 number of purposes. They can be used in Southern hybridization to genomic DNA and in RNase protection assays for detecting point mutations. The probes can also be used to detect target nucleic acid amplification products. GRIN2A or TRRAP probes can also be used to detect mismatches with the wild type gene or mRNA using other techniques. Mismatches can be detected using either enzymes (*e.g.*, S1
20 nuclease), chemicals (*e.g.*, hydroxylamine or osmium tetroxide and piperidine), or changes in electrophoretic mobility of mismatched hybrids as compared to totally matched hybrids (Novack *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 83:586, 1986).

Mutations in nucleic acid molecules can also be detected by screening for alterations of the corresponding protein. For example, monoclonal antibodies
25 immunoreactive with a target gene product can be used to screen a tissue, for example an antibody that is known to bind to a particular mutated position of the gene product (protein). For example, a suitable antibody may be one that binds to a deleted exon or that binds to a conformational epitope comprising a deleted portion of the target protein. Lack of cognate antigen would indicate a mutation. Such
30 immunological assays can be accomplished using any convenient format known in the art, such as Western blot, immunohistochemical assay and ELISA. In some

embodiments, the GRIN2A amino acid mutation is selected from W7*, P57L, F183I, D252N, S278F, W343*, E371K, W372*, E373K, G449E, F459S, H595R, S598F, M653I, G712E, G740W, G889E, Q891*, R920K, S929F, E962K, E1073K, P1074L, D1153N, E1175K, W1271*, A1276G, R1285K, R1318W, P1366L, D1421N, S1425L, E1426K and S1462C (SEQ ID NO: 4). In some embodiments, the TRRAP amino acid mutation is S722F (SEQ ID NO: 2).

Mutations in a gene or encoded protein can be evaluated using any technique described above, or any other method known in the art. For example, mutations in a gene or corresponding mRNA can be detected by direct sequencing of a nucleic acid molecule, detection of an amplification product, microarray analysis or any other DNA/RNA hybridization platform. For detection of mutant proteins, an immunoassay, biochemical assay or microarray can be used.

Any suitable output device or format can be used to transmit the information obtained from the technique used to detect gene or protein mutations. For example, the output device can be a visual output device, such as a computer screen, a printed piece of paper or a written piece of paper. In other examples, the output device can be an auditory output device, such as a speaker. In other examples, the output device is a printer. In some cases, the data is recorded in a patient's electronic medical record. In some embodiments, the results of the test used to identify a mutation are provided to a user (such as a clinician or other health care worker, laboratory personnel, or patient) in a perceivable output that provides information about the results of the test. In some examples, the output is communicated to the user, for example by providing an output via physical, audible or electronic means (for example, by mail, telephone, facsimile transmission, e-mail or communication to an electronic medical record).

In some examples, the output is accompanied by guidelines for interpreting the data, for example, an indication of the likelihood of diagnosis of melanoma. The guidelines need not specify whether melanoma is present or absent, although it may include such a diagnosis. In other examples, the output can provide a recommended therapeutic regimen. For instance, based on the presence of a mutation in the GRIN2A gene, the output can recommend treatment with a GRIN2A inhibitor, or a

glutamate antagonist, alone or in combination with other standard cancer treatments, such as surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or any combination thereof.

Similarly, based on the presence of the C2165T mutation in TRRAP, the output can recommend treatment with a TRRAP inhibitor, alone or in combination with any

- 5 other type of treatment. In some examples, the test may include determination of other clinical information (such as determining the presence or absence of mutations in other genes).

V. Oligonucleotides and Arrays

- 10 Provided herein are oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize to a nucleic acid molecule encoding TRRAP or GRIN2A having one or more of the melanoma-associated mutations disclosed herein. Oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize with a TRRAP or GRIN2A nucleic acid comprising a mutation do not hybridize to wild-type (WT) TRRAP or GRIN2A, or hybridization of the oligonucleotide to WT
- 15 TRRAP or GRIN2A is significantly weaker than hybridization to the mutant TRRAP or GRIN2A. The oligonucleotides described herein can be used, for example, as probes to identify the presence of a mutation in TRRAP or GRIN2A in a sample obtained from a subject suspected of having melanoma. The oligonucleotide probes can further include one or more detectable labels, to permit
- 20 detection of hybridization signals between the probe and target sequence (such as one of the mutant GRIN2A nucleic acid molecules).

In particular embodiments provided herein, arrays comprising the mutation-specific oligonucleotides as described herein can be used to evaluate the presence or absence of mutations in GRIN2A or TRRAP (or other genes mutated in melanoma).

- 25 In some examples, the array comprises an oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes with a TRRAP nucleic acid molecule comprising the C2165T mutation (SEQ ID NO: 1). In some examples, the array comprises an oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes with a GRIN2A nucleic acid molecule comprising a mutation selected from G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A,
- 30 G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A,

G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G in GRIN2A (SEQ ID NO: 3). In particular examples, the array comprises (or further comprises) oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize with additional mutations in GRIN2A or TRRAP. In further examples, the array

5 comprises oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize with mutations in other genes, including those listed in Tables 1-4, 6 and 7. In particular examples, the array contains oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize with each mutation in GRIN2A (G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A,

10 C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G), and may further contain at least one oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes with the C2165T mutation in TRRAP.

In yet further examples, the array comprises one or more oligonucleotides

15 that specifically hybridize with a mutation in TRRAP and/or GRIN2A and further comprises at least one oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes with another melanoma-associated gene identified herein, such as one or more of the genes listed in Tables 1-4, 6 and 7. In particular, the array may include one or more oligonucleotides to specifically hybridize to one or more of the mutations identified

20 in Table 1 or Table 3.

In some embodiments of the arrays disclosed herein, the array further comprises other oligonucleotides, such as control oligonucleotides or oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize with WT TRRAP or WT GRIN2A. Exemplary control oligonucleotide probes include GAPDH, actin, and YWHAZ, or

25 any probes specific for housekeeping genes.

Array substrates

The solid support of the array can be formed from an organic polymer. Suitable materials for the solid support include, but are not limited to: polypropylene, polyethylene, polybutylene, polyisobutylene, polybutadiene,

30 polyisoprene, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polytetrafluoroethylene, polyvinylidene difluoride, polyfluoroethylene-propylene, polyethylenevinyl alcohol,

polymethylpentene, polychlorotrifluoroethylene, polysulfones, hydroxylated biaxially oriented polypropylene, aminated biaxially oriented polypropylene, thiolated biaxially oriented polypropylene, ethyleneacrylic acid, thylene methacrylic acid, and blends of copolymers thereof (see U.S. Patent No. 5,985,567).

5 In general, suitable characteristics of the material that can be used to form the solid support surface include: being amenable to surface activation such that upon activation, the surface of the support is capable of covalently attaching a biomolecule such as an oligonucleotide thereto; amenability to “in situ” synthesis of biomolecules; being chemically inert such that the areas on the support not occupied
10 by the oligonucleotides are not amenable to non-specific binding, or when non-specific binding occurs, such materials can be readily removed from the surface without removing the oligonucleotides.

 In one example, the solid support surface is polypropylene. Polypropylene is chemically inert and hydrophobic. Non-specific binding is generally avoidable, and
15 detection sensitivity is improved. Polypropylene has good chemical resistance to a variety of organic acids (such as formic acid), organic agents (such as acetone or ethanol), bases (such as sodium hydroxide), salts (such as sodium chloride), oxidizing agents (such as peracetic acid), and mineral acids (such as hydrochloric acid). Polypropylene also provides a low fluorescence background, which
20 minimizes background interference and increases the sensitivity of the signal of interest.

 In another example, a surface activated organic polymer is used as the solid support surface. One example of a surface activated organic polymer is a polypropylene material aminated via radio frequency plasma discharge. Such
25 materials are easily utilized for the attachment of nucleotide molecules. The amine groups on the activated organic polymers are reactive with nucleotide molecules such that the nucleotide molecules can be bound to the polymers. Other reactive groups can also be used, such as carboxylated, hydroxylated, thiolated, or active ester groups.

Array formats

A wide variety of array formats can be employed in accordance with the present disclosure. One example includes a linear array of oligonucleotide bands, generally referred to in the art as a dipstick. Another suitable format includes a two-dimensional pattern of discrete cells (such as 4096 squares in a 64 by 64 array). As is appreciated by those skilled in the art, other array formats including, but not limited to slot (rectangular) and circular arrays are equally suitable for use (see U.S. Patent No. 5,981,185). In some examples, the array is a multi-well plate. In one example, the array is formed on a polymer medium, which is a thread, membrane or film. An example of an organic polymer medium is a polypropylene sheet having a thickness on the order of about 1 mil. (0.001 inch) to about 20 mil., although the thickness of the film is not critical and can be varied over a fairly broad range. The array can include biaxially oriented polypropylene (BOPP) films, which in addition to their durability, exhibit a low background fluorescence.

The array formats of the present disclosure can be included in a variety of different types of formats. A “format” includes any format to which the solid support can be affixed, such as microtiter plates (*e.g.* multi-well plates), test tubes, inorganic sheets, dipsticks, and the like. For example, when the solid support is a polypropylene thread, one or more polypropylene threads can be affixed to a plastic dipstick-type device; polypropylene membranes can be affixed to glass slides. The particular format is, in and of itself, unimportant. All that is necessary is that the solid support can be affixed thereto without affecting the functional behavior of the solid support or any biopolymer absorbed thereon, and that the format (such as the dipstick or slide) is stable to any materials into which the device is introduced (such as clinical samples and hybridization solutions).

The arrays of the present disclosure can be prepared by a variety of approaches. In one example, oligonucleotide sequences are synthesized separately and then attached to a solid support (see U.S. Patent No. 6,013,789). In another example, sequences are synthesized directly onto the support to provide the desired array (see U.S. Patent No. 5,554,501). Suitable methods for covalently coupling oligonucleotides to a solid support and for directly synthesizing the oligonucleotides

onto the support are known to those working in the field; a summary of suitable methods can be found in Matson *et al.* (*Anal. Biochem.* 217:306-10, 1994). In one example, the oligonucleotides are synthesized onto the support using conventional chemical techniques for preparing oligonucleotides on solid supports (such as see
5 PCT publications WO 85/01051 and WO 89/10977, or U.S. Patent No. 5,554,501).

A suitable array can be produced using automated means to synthesize oligonucleotides in the cells of the array by laying down the precursors for the four bases in a predetermined pattern. Briefly, a multiple-channel automated chemical delivery system is employed to create oligonucleotide probe populations in parallel
10 rows (corresponding in number to the number of channels in the delivery system) across the substrate. Following completion of oligonucleotide synthesis in a first direction, the substrate can then be rotated by 90° to permit synthesis to proceed within a second (2°) set of rows that are now perpendicular to the first set. This process creates a multiple-channel array whose intersection generates a plurality of
15 discrete cells.

The oligonucleotides can be bound to the polypropylene support by either the 3' end of the oligonucleotide or by the 5' end of the oligonucleotide. In one example, the oligonucleotides are bound to the solid support by the 3' end. However, one of skill in the art can determine whether the use of the 3' end or the 5'
20 end of the oligonucleotide is suitable for bonding to the solid support. In general, the internal complementarity of an oligonucleotide probe in the region of the 3' end and the 5' end determines binding to the support.

In particular examples, the oligonucleotide probes on the array include one or more labels, that permit detection of oligonucleotide probe:target sequence
25 hybridization complexes.

VI. Use of GRIN2A and TRRAP for Diagnosis and Treatment of Melanoma

Using whole exome sequencing of melanoma tumor samples and matched controls, 68 genes were identified with an elevated frequency of somatic mutations
30 in melanoma. In particular, nine genes were identified that exhibited recurring mutations in melanoma (see Table 1). For example, the TRRAP gene was mutated

at nucleotide 2165 (C2165T) in six different melanoma tumor samples. In another aspect of the study disclosed herein, 16 genes were identified that were highly mutated in melanoma samples (see Table 3). The most highly mutated gene identified was GRIN2A, which was mutated in 34% of melanoma tumor samples.

- 5 In total, 34 different nonsynonymous somatic mutations in GRIN2A were identified (FIG. 3A) among 36 melanoma tumor samples.

In light of these findings, disclosed herein is a method of diagnosing melanoma in a subject (or diagnosing a subject as susceptible to developing melanoma) by detecting one or more mutations in the TRRAP gene or the GRIN2A
10 gene. In some embodiments, the at least one mutation is selected from: (i) C2165T in the TRRAP gene (SEQ ID NO: 1); (ii) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain (nucleotides 94-1176 of SEQ ID NO: 3); (iii) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain (nucleotides 1660-2484 of SEQ ID NO: 3); (iv) a mutation in a
15 portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C domain (nucleotides 2515-4392 of SEQ ID NO: 3); (v) G20A in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3); (vi) G1346A in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3); and (vii) T1376C in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3). The presence of the at least one mutation indicates the subject has melanoma or has increased susceptibility to developing melanoma as
20 compared to the general population.

In some examples, the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain is C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A or G1117A (SEQ ID NO: 3). In particular examples, the mutation is a recurring mutation identified herein, such as C833T or G1111A
25 (SEQ ID NO: 3).

In other examples, the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain is A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A or G2218A (SEQ ID NO: 3).

In yet other examples, the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that
30 encodes the NMDAR2_C domain is G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T,

C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A or C4385G (SEQ ID NO: 3). In particular examples, the mutation is a recurring mutation identified herein, such as G3523A or G3812A (SEQ ID NO: 3).

In some embodiments, the subject is further treated with an appropriate therapy, such as with a TRRAP inhibitor (if a mutation in TRRAP is identified), or a GRIN2A inhibitor or glutamate antagonist (if a mutation in GRIN2A is identified).

Also provided are a method of treating a subject with melanoma harboring a mutation in the TRRAP gene by administering an inhibitor of TRRAP, and a method of treating a subject with melanoma harboring a mutation in the GRIN2A gene by administering an inhibitor of GRIN2A or a glutamate antagonist. Further provided is a method of selecting a patient with melanoma as a candidate for treatment with a TRRAP inhibitor by detecting the C2165T mutation in the patient. Also provided is a method of selecting a patient with melanoma as a candidate for treatment with a GRIN2A inhibitor or glutamate antagonist by detecting the G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A or C4385G GRIN2A mutation in the patient. A method of predicting the prognosis of a subject with melanoma by detecting one or more mutations in GRIN2A or TRRAP is also provided.

In some embodiments disclosed herein, the detection of the C2165T TRRAP mutation and/or one or more GRIN2A mutations selected from G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G (SEQ ID NO: 3) can be used as a clinical tool to diagnose a patient that has already developed melanoma, or who has an increased risk of developing melanoma. Detection of one or more of the above-listed mutations can also be used to determine the prognosis of a patient previously diagnosed with melanoma. The presence of one or more of the

disclosed mutations indicates a subject has already developed melanoma or is susceptible to developing melanoma.

Detection of one or more of the disclosed mutations in TRRAP and GRIN2A can also be used as a tool for determining an appropriate therapy for a subject with melanoma. The presence of one or mutations in GRIN2A indicates the subject is a candidate for treatment with a GRIN2A inhibitor or a glutamate antagonist. The presence of the C2165T mutation in TRRAP indicates the subject is a candidate for treatment with a TRRAP inhibitor.

Subjects diagnosed with melanoma and treated with a TRRAP inhibitor, a GRIN2A inhibitor or glutamate antagonist can further be treated with a second therapeutic agent known to be effective for the treatment of melanoma. Alternatively, or in addition, the subject with melanoma can be further treated by surgical removal of tumor tissue, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or any combination thereof.

The following examples are provided to illustrate certain particular features and/or embodiments. These examples should not be construed to limit the disclosure to the particular features or embodiments described.

EXAMPLES

Example 1: Materials and Methods

This example describes the experimental procedures for the studies described in Example 2.

Tumor tissues

The tissue and melanoma cell lines used for the Discovery and Prevalence Screen in this study were described previously (Palavalli *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 41:518-520, 2009). Tissues used for Validation set 1 were fresh frozen melanoma tumors obtained from the University of Colorado Denver Skin Cancer Biorepository, Division of Medical Oncology. Tissue was collected at University of Colorado

Hospital, Anschutz Medical Campus, under Institutional Review Board protocols. Macrodissection was conducted using a dissection microscope. Isolation of DNA from tumor enriched isolates has been previously described online at <http://www.riedlab.nci.nih.gov>. Tissue processing and storage were previously
5 described by Morente *et al.* (*Eur J Cancer* 42:2684-2691, 2006). Tissues used for Validation set 2 were obtained from Optimum Cutting Temperature (OCT)–embedded frozen clinical specimens from the Melanoma Informatics, Tissue Resource, and Pathology Core (MelCore) at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center under Institutional Review Board-approved protocols. H&E-guided
10 dissection and isolation of DNA from the tumor-enriched isolates has been described previously (Davies *et al.*, *Clin Cancer Res* 15:7538-7546, 2009). The clinical information associated with the melanoma tumors used in this study is provided in Table 5.

15 Exome Capture

Exome capture was performed using the SureSelect™ Human All Exon System (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA). The manufacturer's protocol for SureSelect™ Human All Exon System (Illumina Paired-End Sequencing Library Prep) version 1.0.1 was used, with the modifications listed below. Bioanalyzer steps
20 were either performed using agarose gel or omitted. In the sample preparation step 9, samples were purified using AMPure™ XP beads (Agencourt/Beckman Coulter Genomics, Danvers, MA) according to the manufacturer's protocols. In step 12, samples were purified with the QIAquick™ MinElute™ kit (Qiagen Inc., Valencia, CA). One column was used for each sample – the four 250µL post-amplification
25 aliquots were pooled, and passed over the column in several spin steps. Samples were eluted in 12 µL buffer EB, and quantitated using the QUBIT™ dsDNA BR Assay kit (Invitrogen Corp, Carlsbad, CA). In the post-hybridization amplification step 2, samples were purified with AMPure™ XP beads as described above. Samples were then eluted in 30 µL buffer EB.

30

Illumina Sequencing

Sequencing was performed on the Illumina GAIIx platform according to the manufacturer's instructions. 76 base paired-end reads were generated.

5 Read mapping and variant analysis

Reads were initially aligned using ELAND (Illumina Inc, San Diego, CA). ELAND alignments were used to place reads in bins of about 5 million base pairs. Unmapped reads were placed in the bin of the mate pair if the mate was mapped. Cross_match (a general purpose program for comparing any two DNA sequence
10 sets; see www.phrap.org) was utilized to align the reads assigned to each bin to the corresponding ~5Mb of genomic sequence. Cross_match alignments were converted to the SamTools bam format, and then genotypes were called using bam2mpg (Teer *et al.*, *Genome Res* 20(10):1420-1431, 2010; see website research.nhgri.nih.gov/software/bam2mpg). Bam2mpg was used to implement the
15 Most Probable Genotype (MPG) algorithm, a Bayesian based method to determine the probability of each genotype given the data observed at that position. The quality score represents the difference of the log likelihoods of the most and second most probable genotype. The MPG was divided by the coverage at each position to calculate the MPG/coverage ratio.

20 To eliminate common germline mutations from consideration, alterations observed in dbSNP130 or in a high quality set of common variants from the 1000 genomes 11_2010 data release project were removed. To perform the 1000 genomes project filtering, low coverage genome data from 629 individuals was obtained from the November 2010 data release of the 1000 genomes project
25 (ftp://ftp.trace.ncbi.nih.gov/1000genomes/ftp/release/2010_11/ALL.2of4intersection.20100804.sites.vcf.gz). From this list of variants, those positions called by at least 3 of the 4 analysis methods used by the project were included. The list was further limited to those variants above 5% minor allele frequency. Polymorphisms were further
30 removed by examination of the sequence of the gene in genomic DNA from matched normal tissue. Genotypes were annotated as described in Biesecker *et al.*

(*Genome Res* 19:1665-1674, 2009). “Type of Mutation” definitions are as follows:
synonymous: in a protein coding region, but does not change the amino acid; non-
synonymous: in a protein coding region; missense variant: changes amino acid;
nonsense variant, stop: introduces a stop codon; DIV-c: an in-frame
5 deletion/insertion variant in a coding region; and DIV-fs: a frameshifting
deletion/insertion variant in a coding region.

Statistical analysis of mutated genes

To determine which of the genes in the Discovery Screen were more likely
10 to be drivers, two metrics were calculated to assess the frequency and probability of
mutations. The first method considered the frequency of mutations in the Discovery
Screen, which was calculated by dividing the total number of nonsynonymous
mutations observed by the total number of base pairs sequenced. The second
method fit a binomial distribution based on the number of base pairs sequenced for
15 the gene of interest, the number of mutations observed, and the background rate of
mutation. For the background rate, the observed rate in the exome screen was used,
11.2 mutations per megabase. Based on these methods, 16 genes were selected for
validation.

20 PCR, sequencing and mutational analysis of melanoma samples

Genes identified to harbor recurrent mutations were confirmed and further
screened using two primer sets listed in Table 6 in an additional 153 melanoma
samples. A subset of 16 genes which were mutated in the Discovery Screen was
selected for analysis in the Prevalence Screen using criteria described herein. These
25 genes were amplified and sequenced in an additional 38 melanoma samples using
the primers listed in Table 6 and Table 7. BRAF was only evaluated for the V600E
alteration. Mutational analysis, confirmation and determination of somatic status
were carried out as previously described (Prickett *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 41:1127-1132,
2009; Palavalli *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 41:518-520, 2009; Vilorio *et al.*, *Cancer Res*
30 69:4926-4934, 2009). Sequence traces of the Validation Screen were analyzed

using the Mutation Surveyor software package and all genes had 93% coverage or above (SoftGenetics, State College, PA).

Plasmid cloning

5 A TRRAP expressing construct in C β SBS vector was used. Mutant TRRAP was generated using an overlapping two-fragment PCR mediated strategy using PhusionTM High-Fidelity polymerase (New England Biolabs, Ipswich, MA). Forward and reverse CDS mutation-containing oligonucleotides of 21-26 bp in length were designed with the corresponding mutation centrally located within the
10 oligonucleotide. These primer pairs were used in two independent PCR reactions with wild-type TRRAP plasmid as a template as follows:

(1) TRRAP-F(3+) – CAGATGGTGAAAGGAATGCTC (SEQ ID NO: 63)
Mutation-R – GCAAAGAGGAAGACAGAGCCAAAG (SEQ ID NO: 64)

(2) Mutation-F – CTTTGGCTCTGTCTTCCTCTTTGC (SEQ ID NO: 65)

15 TRRAP-R(7-) – GTTCATAACAACATGCACACAG (SEQ ID NO: 66)

PCR products purified by gel purification were used as a template for PCR using TRRAP-F and -R primer pairs to generate a TRRAP mutation bearing product. The TRRAP mutation bearing PCR product was cut with BbvC1 and KasI restriction enzymes and was inserted in the TRRAP-C β SBS plasmid. Sequence
20 verified mutant TRRAP was subsequently used in various experiments.

Cell culture and transient expression

Metastatic melanoma tumor lines were maintained as previously described. HEK 293T cells were purchased from ATCC (Manassas, VA) and maintained in
25 complete Dulbecco's Modified Eagles Medium supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS), 1X non-essential amino acids, 2 mM L-glutamine, and 0.75% sodium bicarbonate. Sk-Mel-28 and A375 cells were purchased from the National Cancer Institute, Division of Cancer Treatment, Developmental Therapeutics Program (Frederick, MD) and maintained in RPMI-1640 and supplemented with 10% FBS.

30

Western blotting

Transfected cells or stable pooled clones were gently washed 3X in PBS and then lysed using 0.5-1.0 ml 1% NP-40 lysis buffer (1% NP-40, 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, complete protease inhibitor tablet, EDTA-free (Roche, Indianapolis, IN), 1 μ M sodium orthovanadate, 1 mM sodium fluoride, and 0.1% β -mercaptoethanol) per T-75 flask for 20 minutes on ice. Lysed cells were scraped and transferred into a 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube followed by brief sonication. Whole cell extracts lysed with 2X SDS sample buffer were subjected to SDS-PAGE and western blotted for TRRAP expression. Primary antibodies used in the analysis were anti-TRRAP antibody (Cell Signaling, Cat. No. 3966S), anti-PARP antibody (Cell Signaling, Cat. No. 9542) and anti-alpha-tubulin antibody (Calbiochem-EMD Biosciences, Cat. No. 555627).

Lentiviral shRNA

Constructs for stable depletion of TRRAP (Catalog Number RHS4533, Construct Numbers TRCN0000005361, TRCN0000005362) were obtained from Open Biosystems (Huntsville, AL) and were confirmed to efficiently knockdown TRRAP at the protein level. Lentiviral stocks were prepared as previously described (Prickett *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 41:1127-1132, 2009). Melanoma cell lines (63T, 17T, A375, and Sk-Mel-28) were infected with shRNA lentiviruses for each condition (vector and a TRRAP specific shRNA). Selection and growth were performed as described above. Hairpin sequence for TRCN0000005361 was CCGGCGTGTAAGAAAGGGAGAATATCTCGAGATATTCTCCCTTTCTTACACGTTTTT (SEQ ID NO: 67), mature sense for TRCN0000005361 was CGTGTAAGAAAGGGAGAATAT (SEQ ID NO: 68), mature antisense for TRCN0000005361 was ATATTCTCCCTTTCTTACACG (SEQ ID NO: 69); hairpin sequence for TRCN0000005362 was CCGGGCCCTGTTCTTTTCGCTTTGTACTCGAGTACAAAGCGAAAGAACAGGGCTTTTT (SEQ ID NO: 70), mature sense for TRCN0000005362 was GCCCTGTTCTTTTCGCTTTGTA (SEQ ID NO: 71), mature antisense for TRCN0000005362 was TACAAAGCGAAAGAACAGGGC (SEQ ID NO: 72).

Apoptosis measurement

Cells were collected by incubation in trypsin/EDTA followed by centrifugation and were fixed in a solution containing 3.7% formaldehyde, 0.5% NP40, and 10 µg/ml Hoechst 33258 in PBS. Apoptotic indices were determined by visual scoring of at least 300 nuclei.

NIH 3T3 transformation assay

For each plasmid (CβSBS, CβSBS -TRRAP (wt), CβSBS -TRRAP (S722F), and Ras^{G12V}), 3 µg of plasmid was transfected using the calcium phosphate precipitation method into NIH 3T3 cells cultured in T25 flasks. Twenty-four hours after transfection, 1-5% of transfected cells were seeded into T25 flasks and cultured in normal growth medium containing 2.5% FBS for 14-20 days. The flasks were scored by visually scoring under a microscope for foci formation.

Pathway analysis

In order to explore the combined effects of groups of genes that were mutated in the melanoma exome analysis, group and pathways analysis was performed on different sets of genes. Three sources of gene sets were selected, including Gene Ontology (www.geneontology.org), Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (www.genome.jp/kegg), and MSigDB (www.broadinstitute.org/gsea/msigdb), containing 10147, 214, and 1892 groups respectively, when these studies were performed. The sets included groups based on molecular function, cellular localization, biological processes, and signaling pathways. For each of the group of genes, the respective genes in the exome analysis were examined and it was assessed whether mutations were observed. Several different statistics were then calculated to accentuate different aspects of the analysis. First, the number of genes that were successfully sequenced in the study was compared to the number that was mutated. This proportion was then compared to the background rate of 3308 genes mutated in the total of 16,768 genes using a hypergeometric distribution. As the purpose was for ranking, no multiple

comparison correction was implemented. Second, the average number of nonsynonymous mutations observed for the mutated genes was examined by dividing the total number of nonsynonymous mutations into the total number of genes observed to be mutated. Third, a binomial calculation was used. For each group of genes the total number of mutations observed and the number of base pairs that were successfully sequenced was determined. The P-value was calculated as the probability of a group having at least as many mutations as were observed, given the numbers of base pairs sequenced and the background passenger frequencies, using the binomial distribution in R (www.r-project.org). The background passenger frequencies were conservatively estimated as the total numbers of mutations observed the whole exome study divided by the total number of base pairs sequenced in the study (i.e., assuming that all of the mutations observed were passengers).

Example 2: Whole exome sequencing identifies TRRAP hotspot mutations and GRIN2A as frequently mutated in melanoma

An exome re-sequencing was conducted of 14 matched normal and metastatic tumor DNAs from untreated melanoma patients. Exonic sequences were enriched with Agilent's SureSelectTM technology for targeted exon capture (Gnirke *et al.*, *Nat Biotechnol* 27:182-189, 2009), targeting 37Mb of sequence from exons and flanking regions in nearly 20,000 genes. Sequencing was performed with the Illumina GAii platform, and reads were aligned by using ELAND (Illumina, Inc. San Diego CA) followed by cross_match (www.phrap.org) to the reference human genome (Build 36.1). On average, 12 Gb of sequence was generated per sample to a mean depth of 180X or greater to achieve exome builds with at least 90% of the exons covered by high quality genotype calls. To eliminate common germline mutations from consideration, any potential somatic mutation that was observed in dbSNP130, or in a high quality set of common variants from the 1000 genomes project, was removed. To determine which of these alterations were somatic (i.e. tumor-specific), the particular gene in the whole exome sequence derived from genomic DNA from the matched normal tissue was examined. From these putative

alterations, 5161 potential somatic mutations in 3568 different genes were identified in the fourteen samples sequenced.

A major challenge of such studies is discriminating true mutations from the large number of possible sequence alterations identified. Several bioinformatic and experimental steps were used to discriminate between these possibilities. A previously described Bayesian genotype caller, MPG, was used to call genotypes (available online at research.nhgri.nih.gov/software/bam2mpg) (Teer *et al.*, *Genome Res* 20(10):1420-1431, 2010). Empirical testing against Sanger-based sequencing was employed to set a score cutoff above which the alterations could be trusted. A total of 91 regions were amplified by PCR from the relevant melanoma genomic DNA sample using specific primers and directly sequenced with dye-terminator chemistry. It was determined whether a mutation was somatic by examining the sequence of the gene in genomic DNA from matched normal tissue. From the 91 sequences obtained, 47 were confirmed and 44 were not. Looking for differences between matched tissue samples will select for both somatic variants, and sequencing errors, resulting in a higher non-confirmation rate.

The analysis was further refined by examining the relationship between the MPG quality score and depth of coverage at each position. The quality score should rise with increasing amounts of sequence covering a given position. When the score does not rise with increasing depth of coverage, this suggests a false genotype call. As indicated in FIG. 9, all the confirmed alterations correlated with a MPG/coverage ratio of 0.5 or above in both the tumor and matched normal samples, with only one exception. In contrast, 91% of the alterations that were not confirmed by Sanger sequencing, had a MPG/coverage ratio below 0.5 in either the tumor or the normal or both. Thus, of the 91 assessed alterations, using 0.5 as a cutoff, 46 somatic mutations out of 47 were identified by conventional sequencing, indicating a 97.9% coverage rate and a 2.4% false negative rate. All of the future analyses therefore relate to alterations that obtained a MPG/coverage ratio of 0.5 or above in both the tumor and normal samples. Using the 0.5 ratio cutoff, of 47 somatic substitutions that were discovered prior to this study in these samples, 38 were present in the whole exome study, giving a sensitivity of 81%.

The analysis tools described above removed ~18% of the alterations, leaving 4228 somatic base substitutions for further scrutiny. A total of 3872 were heterozygous alterations and 356 changes were loss of heterozygosity. Of these alterations, 2813 caused amino acid changes (nonsynonymous), including 2589 that were missense, 175 nonsense and 49 occurred at splice sites. There were 1387 silent (synonymous) substitutions. A total of 19 small deletions and 9 insertions were observed.

The observed somatic mutations could either be 'driver' mutations that have a role in melanoma neoplasia or functionally inert 'passenger' changes. In this whole exome screen, 2813 nonsynonymous and 1387 synonymous mutations were identified, yielding a ratio of nonsynonymous to synonymous changes (N/S ratio) of 2.0:1; which is not higher than the N/S ratio of 2.5:1 predicted for nonselected passenger mutations (Sjoberg *et al.*, *Science* 314:268-274, 2006), suggesting that most of these alterations are likely to be 'passenger' mutations. The number of C>T mutations was significantly greater than the numbers of other nucleotide substitutions, resulting in a high prevalence of C>T/G>A transitions ($P < 0.001$; FIG. 9). Finally, a total of 116 dinucleotide substitutions were observed, of these, 59 were CC>TT/GG>AA changes, all consistent with the previously documented ultraviolet light exposure signature (Greenman *et al.*, *Nature* 446:153-158, 2007).

To search for novel recurrent mutations, alterations that occurred in two or more of the fourteen samples subjected to whole exome sequencing were examined. From this analysis, as expected, the BRAF V600E alteration was captured in 7 out of the fourteen samples. In addition to BRAF, nine more genes were found to harbor a recurrent mutation. Seven of the novel recurrent mutations were nonsynonymous and two were synonymous (Table 1). Further screening of the novel hotspot mutations in an additional 153 melanomas identified DCC and ZNF831 to have a third recurring mutation each. Strikingly, TRRAP, encoding the transformation/transcription domain-associated protein, contained four additional cases that harbored the recurrent mutation (FIG. 1 and FIG. 5), one of which was found in the commercially available cell line, A375. All 6 nonsynonymous alterations in TRRAP had the same point mutation, a change of a cytosine to a

thymine at position 2165 of the TRRAP transcript (uc003upp.1), leading to the replacement of a serine with a phenylalanine at amino acid residue 722 of the protein (S722F).

Subsequent sequence analysis of all coding exons of TRRAP in 25 additional
5 melanomas revealed no additional nonsynonymous alterations. The positions of the mutations in TRRAP imply that they are likely to be oncogenic as no truncating mutations were observed and 100% of the alterations occurred in one location. In addition, the affected residue is highly conserved evolutionarily (FIG. 6) and SIFT (sorting intolerant from tolerant) analysis (Ng and Henikoff, *Nucleic Acids Res*
10 31:3812-3814, 2003) of the TRRAP mutation gave it a score of 0.00 (median information content 2.71), predicting that the mutation alters protein function. The clustering of somatic missense mutations is similar to that observed for activating mutations, such as RAS (Bos *et al.*, *Nature* 327:293-297, 1987), BRAF (Davies *et al.*, *Nature* 417:949-954, 2002), and PIK3CA (Samuels *et al.*, *Science* 304:554,
15 2004), suggesting that TRRAP may be a novel oncogene.

TRRAP functions as part of a multiprotein co-activator complex possessing histone acetyltransferase activity that is central for the transcriptional activity of p53, c-Myc, E2F1 and other transcription factors (McMahon *et al.*, *Cell* 94:363-374, 1998; Barlev *et al.*, *Mol Cell* 8:1243-1254, 2001). TRRAP knockout mice are
20 embryonic lethal indicating that TRRAP is essential for cell survival (Herceg *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 29:206-211, 2001).

To assess if melanoma cells harboring endogenous *TRRAP* mutations are dependent on *TRRAP* for survival, short hairpin RNA (shRNA) was used to stably knock-down TRRAP protein levels in melanoma cells harboring either wild-type
25 *TRRAP* (SK-Mel28 and 17T) or mutant *TRRAP* (63T and A375). Specific targeting of *TRRAP* was confirmed by TRRAP immunoblotting of transiently transfected HEK293T cells as well as one of the melanoma cell lines (FIGS. 2C and 2D). The various cell clones were grown in 10% or 2.5% serum to test cell viability. The unique shRNA constructs targeting TRRAP had minimal effect on the survival of
30 cells expressing wild-type *TRRAP* but substantially increased apoptosis rates of melanoma lines carrying mutant *TRRAP*, particularly when the clones were grown in

low serum conditions (FIGS. 2E-2H and FIG. 10). These results were further corroborated by western blot analysis of cell lysates from the analyzed cells showing increased levels of cleaved PARP specifically in mutant cells that have been knocked down for TRRAP compared to vector control as well as TRRAP wild-type cells (FIGS. 2I-2J). Thus, mutant TRRAP is essential for melanoma cell survival which is consistent with previous results showing that TRRAP has a role in cell viability (Herceg *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 29:206-211, 2001; Ard *et al.*, *Mol Cell Biol* 22:5650-5661, 2002).

To further demonstrate the prevalence and spectrum of somatic mutations in genes identified in the whole exome Discovery Screen, genes were selected that had more mutations than expected using the observed mutation rate (binomial p-value < 0.05) and were mutated in more than two Discovery Screen samples. Sixteen such genes were identified and analyzed for mutations in an additional 38 melanoma samples using PCR amplification and Sanger sequencing. Gene coverage in the Prevalence Screen was 93% and above. This effort involved 9165 PCR and sequencing reactions encompassing 5.4 Mb of tumor DNA. A total of 65 putative changes were identified in the Prevalence Screen (Table 2).

This list of sixteen genes, which, except for BRAF, had not previously been identified as playing a role in melanoma, was found to scale up and harbor an increasing number of somatic mutations in the Prevalence Screen which correlated with the initial frequency identified in the Discovery Screen (Table 2 and Table 3).

The most highly mutated genes out the 16 validated genes were GRIN2A (33%), TMEM132B (17.3%), ZNF831 (17.3%) and PLCB4 (15.4%). The transmembrane protein TMEM132B, as well as the Zinc Finger protein ZNF831 whose functions have as yet not been determined, contained only heterozygous mutations and harbored recurrent mutations G822E and S1474F, respectively. PLCB4, which encodes phosphoinositide phospholipase C-beta-4 that catalyzes the formation of inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate and diacylglycerol from phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate using calcium as a cofactor, is known to play an important role in the intracellular transduction of multiple extracellular signals in response to activation of G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) (Rebecchi and

Pentyala, *Physiol Rev* 80:1291-1335, 2000). SIFT analysis of the different missense mutations identified in the novel highly mutated genes, predicts that a large fraction of the alterations would affect protein function (Table 4).

The most frequently mutated of the validated fourteen genes, GRIN2A, on
 5 chromosome 16p13.2, encodes a glutamate [N-methyl-(D)-aspartic acid (NMDA)]
 receptor subunit epsilon-1 that is part of the class of ionotropic glutamate receptors. The NMDA receptor is a heterotrimeric channel composed of three different subunits, GRIN1 (NR1), GRIN2A or GRIN2B (NR2) and GRIN3 (NR3). GRIN2A
 10 bears the agonist binding site for glutamate (Johnson and Ascher, *Nature* 325:529-531, 1987). The ligand-gated channel is permeable to cations including Ca^{2+} , and at resting membrane potential, NMDA receptors are inactive due to a voltage-dependent blockade of the channel pore by Mg^{2+} . NMDA receptor activation, which requires binding of glutamate and glycine, leads to an influx of Ca^{2+} and increased cAMP production.

15 GRIN2A, which was found to be mutated in 6 of the 14 melanomas in the Discovery Screen, was found to harbor an additional 11 somatic mutations in the Prevalence Screen. In addition to the Discovery and Prevalence Screen samples, GRIN2A somatic mutations were searched for in two independent additional validation panel sets from untreated melanoma patients. Validation panel set 1,
 20 which included 39 melanomas, revealed 11 tumors with somatic mutations affecting 28.2% of the tumors examined and validation panel set 2, which included 32 melanomas, identified 7 GRIN2A somatic mutations affecting 15.6% of cases. Lastly, *GRIN2A* sequencing in 12 commercially available cell lines revealed a mutation in 501Mel. In total, 34 distinct GRIN2A mutations were identified in 135
 25 samples affecting 25.2% of melanoma cases (Table 3). The number of C>T mutations identified in GRIN2A was significantly greater than the numbers of other nucleotide substitutions, resulting in a high prevalence of C>T/G>A transitions ($P < 1 \times 0.001$; FIG. 7), reproducing previously reported mutation signatures in melanoma (Greenman *et al.*, *Nature* 446:153-158, 2007). FIG. 8 depicts the various
 30 genetic and analysis stages used in this whole exome study.

The location of the discovered GRIN2A mutations is summarized in FIG. 3A. Clustering of somatic mutations is seen in regions of GRIN2A encoding various of its functional domains, and two particular clusters can be observed surrounding amino acids 371, 372, and 373 in the PBP1 iGluR NMDA NR2 domain and amino acids 1073, 1074 and 1076 in the NMDAR2 C domain. In addition, three recurrent alterations were observed (S278F, E371K and E1175K). One of these recurrent mutations (E1175K) occurred in the commercially available cell line 501Mel. The affected residues within these clusters are highly conserved evolutionarily and SIFT analysis of the different missense mutations on GRIN2A predicts that over 51% of the missense alterations would affect protein function (Table 4). In addition to these missense alterations, five nonsense mutations were identified, which would cause polypeptide truncation.

The nature of somatic mutations in tumors may aid in classifying the identified genes to oncogenes or tumor suppressor genes (Vogelstein and Kinzler, *Nat Med* 10:789-799, 2004). Generally, oncogenes harbor adjacent recurrent mutations in different tumors; the mutations are nearly always missense and the mutations commonly affect only one allele. Tumor suppressor genes are generally mutated throughout the coding region of the gene, many of the mutations truncate the protein and the mutations generally affect both alleles. Based on this classification the mechanism by which somatic mutations in *GRIN2A* have a tumorigenic effect is unclear; however, the frequency and nature of the discovered alterations strongly suggest that mutations in *GRIN2A* play a major role in melanoma tumorigenesis.

The comprehensive nature of the acquired data in this study provided an opportunity to determine whether any particular novel gene pathways and functional groups have a significant role in melanoma. Using pathways from Gene Ontology (www.geneontology.org), Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (www.genome.jp/kegg), and MSigDB (www.broadinstitute.org/gsea/msigdb), different statistical metrics were recalculated based on the total number of mutations from all genes within each group, the number of different genes mutated, the combined sizes of the genes in each group, and the total number of tumors examined

(see methods in Example 1). From this analysis, one particular pathway was highly significant - the glutamate signaling pathway.

Glutamate is known to activate two different types of receptors: ionotropic glutamate receptors (iGluRs) and metabotropic glutamate receptors (mGluRs). iGluRs are ligand-gated ion channels that allow cations such as calcium and potassium to pass through the plasma membrane of the cell after binding of glutamate to the receptors. iGluRs are subdivided into three receptor types according to agonists response, one of which is N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) (Hollmann and Heinemann, *Annu Rev Neurosci* 17:31-108, 1994). Thus, GRIN2A, the most highly mutated gene in the screen encodes a glutamate receptor subunit which binds NMDA. In addition, PLCB4, which is a down-stream protein involved in metabotropic glutamate receptor-related signal transduction which leads to inositol phosphate production and protein kinase C (PKC) activation (Pin *et al.*, *Biochem Soc Trans* 23:91-96, 1995) was also highly mutated in the screen.

Genetic analysis of the G protein coupled receptor family in melanoma determined that GRM3, which belongs to the metabotropic glutamate receptors and is also activated by glutamate, is mutated in 16% of melanoma cases. In this study as well, the GRM-signaling downstream-effector, PLCB4 is activated and hydrolyses phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate and generates inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate. Finally, a recent survey of genetic alteration of the tyrosine kinome in melanoma has pointed to ERBB4, Pyk2 and the Ephrin receptors to be highly mutated in melanoma (Prickett *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 41:1127-1132, 2009). ERBB4 and its ligand NRG1, Pyk2 as well as the Ephrins, have been shown to play a crucial role in modulation of NMDA receptor signaling (Anton *et al.*, *Nat Neurosci* 7:1319-328, 2004; Rieff *et al.*, *J Neurosci* 19:10757-10766, 1999; Ozaki *et al.*, *Nature* 390:691-694, 1997; Dalva *et al.*, *Cell* 103:945-956, 2000). Thus, molecular and genetic studies have implicated cross-talk between NRG1-ERBB4, GRM3, Ephrin signaling and glutamate receptor functions. Interestingly, a link between the glutamate pathway and tumor genesis has been seen in neuronal tumors, where glioma cells releasing an excess of glutamate, showed more aggressive growth than parental glioma cells (Takano *et al.*, *Nat Med* 7:1010-1015, 2001). Furthermore, previous

reports showing that ectopic expression of the metabotropic glutamate receptor GRM1 results in melanocytes transformation in mice (Pollock *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 34:108-112, 2003) and that expression of GRM1 is sufficient to induce full transformation of immortalized melanocytes (Shin *et al.*, *Pigment Cell Melanoma Res* 21:368-378, 2008) also implicate glutamate signaling in melanoma. A pathway schematic summarizing these various components in the glutamate pathway is depicted in FIG. 3B.

The study disclosed herein presents the most complete demonstration of melanoma exome alterations to date and provides a number of important genetic insights into melanoma. The comprehensive nature of the study allows one to: (1) identify TRRAP as an unexpected target of recurring genetic alterations, (2) reveal genes that were not previously connected with melanoma, one of which, GRIN2A is one of the most highly mutated in melanoma to date and (3) demonstrate that a majority of melanoma tumors had alterations in genes encoding members of the glutamate pathway.

Example 3: Mutations in GRIN2A increase anchorage-independent growth and adversely affect receptor function

This example describes studies to evaluate the functional effect of somatic mutations in GRIN2A.

Melanoma cell lines (2359 and A375 cell lines) stably expressing both GRIN1 and a mutant GRIN2A (E371K, W372X, E373K, G889E, W1271X, Q891X, R9020K or E1175K) were generated. Expression of GRIN1 and mutant GRIN2A protein was confirmed by Western blot. To test the effect of stable expression of mutant GRIN2A on anchorage-independent growth, melanoma cell lines 2359 and A375 stably expressing GRIN1 and a mutant GRIN2A were seeded into soft agar in 10% serum and grown for 14 days before staining and counting. A375 colonies are shown in FIG. 11A. As shown in FIG. 11B, colony formation significantly increased in A375 melanoma cells expressing mutant GRIN2A, compared with cells expressing empty vector. Similar results were obtained for 2359 melanoma cells.

To test if melanoma cell lines are dependent on GRIN2A for survival, endogenous GRIN2A message was stably depleted using several different specific shRNA for human GRIN2A. Depletion of message was confirmed by qRT-PCR. Lentiviral stocks were prepared as previously described (Prickett *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 41:1127-1132, 2009). Melanoma cell lines (501Mel and 125T) were infected with control (pLKO.1) and GRIN2A specific shRNA lentiviruses (#1, #2 and #3). Selection and growth were carried out as previously described (Palavalli *et al.*, *Nat Genet* 41:518-520, 2009). Knock-down of endogenous GRIN2A in cells expressing mutant forms of GRIN2A had little to no effect on proliferation (FIG. 12A). However, depletion of GRIN2A in cells expressing endogenous wild-type GRIN2A resulted in increased cell proliferation (FIG. 12B). These results demonstrate that GRIN2A functions as a tumor suppressor in melanoma cells.

The effect of mutant GRIN2A on receptor function was also evaluated. As shown in FIG. 13A, influx of calcium upon NMDA stimulation of transiently transfected HEK293T cells decreased calcium permeability in cells expressing mutant forms of GRIN2A. It was also demonstrated that mutant forms of GRIN2A bind GRIN1 with reduced affinity, thus causing decreased NMDAR complex formation (FIG. 13B). Thus, somatic mutations in GRIN2A have adverse effects on receptor function and formation.

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Table 1. Recurrent mutations identified in melanoma whole exome sequencing

Gene Name	# of Tumors Affected	Nucleotide Change	Amino Acid Change	Synonymous or Non_Synonymous	Tumor Name	Tumor Panel
BRAF	7	T1799A	V600E	Nonsynonymous	1T	Exome Capture
					5T	Exome Capture
					9T	Exome Capture
					22T	Exome Capture
					35T	Exome Capture
					51T	Exome Capture
					91T	Exome Capture
CPT1A	2	C1638T	F546F	Synonymous	5T	Exome Capture
					43T	Exome Capture
DCC	3	G164A	G55E	Nonsynonymous	12T	Exome Capture
					18T	Exome Capture
					MB1160 T	Validation set 1
FCRL1	3	C741T	I247I	Synonymous	91T	Exome Capture
					96T	Exome Capture
					63T	Prevalence screen
LRRN3	2	G1084A	E362K	Nonsynonymous	12T	Exome Capture
					24T	Exome Capture
NOS1	2	C2312T	S771L	Nonsynonymous	24T	Exome Capture
					60T	Exome Capture
PLCH1	2	C907T	Q303X	Nonsynonymous	1T	Exome Capture
					24T	Exome Capture
SLC17A5	2	C1090T	R364C	Nonsynonymous	12T	Exome Capture
					18T	Exome Capture
TRRAP	6	C2165T	S722F	Nonsynonymous	63T	Exome Capture
					91T	Exome Capture
					96T	Prevalence screen
					106T	Prevalence screen
					119T	Prevalence screen
					A375	Commercial cell line
ZNF831	3	C4421T	S1474F	Nonsynonymous	43T	Exome Capture
					91T	Exome Capture
					MB1160 T	Validation set 1

Samples used in exome capture and prevalence screen were obtained from The Surgery Branch, National Cancer Institute.

Validation set 1 samples were obtained from The Division of Medical Oncology, University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine. A375 is a commercially available melanoma cell line.

Table 2. Sixteen highly mutated genes in melanoma

Gene name	ucsc ID	P value	Exome Capture			Prevalence Screen			Combined Exome Capture and Prevalence Screens		
			No. of mutations	No. of tumors affected	% of tumors affected	No. of mutations	No. of tumors affected	% of tumors affected	No. of mutations	No. of tumors affected	% of tumors affected
BRAF	uc003vwc.2	4.80E-05	7	7	50.0%	27	27	69.2%	34	34	64.2%
GRIN2A	uc002czq.1	6.36E-03	6	6	42.9%	12	12	30.8%	18	18	34.0%
CCDC63	uc001trv.1	3.34E-03	4	4	28.6%	2	2	5.1%	6	6	11.3%
TMEM132B	uc001uhe.1	7.59E-03	5	4	28.6%	5	5	12.8%	10	9	17.0%
ZNF831	uc002yan.1	1.29E-02	5	4	28.6%	5	5	12.8%	10	9	17.0%
PLCB4	uc010gbx.1	4.39E-02	5	4	28.6%	4	4	10.3%	9	8	15.1%
AKR1B10	uc003vrr.1	5.21E-03	3	3	21.4%	1	1	2.6%	4	4	7.5%
TAS2R60	uc003wdb.1	5.46E-03	4	3	21.4%	2	2	5.1%	6	5	9.4%
KHDRBS2	uc003peg.2	7.26E-03	3	3	21.4%	2	2	5.1%	5	5	9.4%
PTPRO	uc001rda.1	9.09E-03	3	3	21.4%	1	1	2.6%	4	4	7.5%
SYT4	uc002law.1	1.23E-02	3	3	21.4%	1	1	2.6%	4	4	7.5%
UGT2B10	uc003hee.1	2.13E-02	3	3	21.4%	1	1	2.6%	4	4	7.5%
SLC6A11	uc003bvz.1	2.84E-02	3	3	21.4%	0	0	0.0%	3	3	5.7%
SLC17A5	uc003phn.2	7.91E-03	4	3	21.4%	0	0	0.0%	4	3	5.7%
C12orf63	uc001tet.1	4.46E-02	4	3	21.4%	2	2	5.1%	6	5	9.4%
PCDHB8	uc003liu.1	4.80E-02	3	3	21.4%	1	1	2.6%	4	4	7.5%

Table 3. Somatic mutations identified in the Discovery, Prevalence and Validation Screens

Gene Name	CCDS number	No. of mutations (% of tumors affected)	Tumor Name	Nucleotide Change	Amino Acid Change	Type of Mutation	Hete/Homo	Sample Panel
GRIN2A	CCDS10539.1	18 (34%) ⁺	B12	G20A	W7*	Stop	Heterozygous	Validation set 2
		12 (28.2%) ⁺	17T	C170T	P57L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
		7 (15.6%) ⁺	MB1227	T547A	F183I	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			83T	G754A	D252N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			MD_13	C833T	S278F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2
			96T	C833T	S278F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			9T	G1028A	W343*	Stop	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			MB487	G1111A	E371K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			18T	G1111A	E371K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			B01x	G1116A	W372*	Stop	Heterozygous	Validation set 2
			123T	G1117A	E373K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			24T	G1346A	G449E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			110T	T1376C	F459S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			MD_09	A1784G	H595R	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2
			114T	C1793T	S598F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			MB490	G1959A	M653I	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			91T	G2135A	G712E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			MB532	G2218A	G740W	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			MB669	G2666A	G889E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			MB1337	C2671T	Q891*	Stop	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			MD_13	G2759A	R920K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2
			MB1113	C2786T	S929F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			119T	G2884A	E962K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			MB490	G3217A	E1073K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			MB1160	C3221T	P1074L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			88T	G3457A	D1153N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			501_Mel	G3523A	E1175K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Commercial cell line
			125T	G3523A	E1175K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			14T	G3812A	W1271*	Stop	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			98T	G3812A	W1271*	Stop	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			MB706	C3827G	A1276G	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			MB929	G3854A	R1285K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			95T	C3952T	R1318W	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			86T	C4097T	P1366L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			B12	G4261A	D1421N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2
			MB1335	G4274T	S1425L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1
			43T	G4276A	E1426K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			D03x	C4385G	S1462C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2
CCDC63	CCDS9151.1	6 (11.3%) ⁺	91T	C140T	S47F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			93T	G443A	R148Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			29T	G850A	E284K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			81T	G1068A	R356Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			43T	G1078A	E360K	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture
			01T	G1366A	D456N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
TMEM132B	CCDS41859.1	10 (17%) ⁺	60T	C854T	S285L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			05T	A1207G	M403V	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			119T	G1597A	G533S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			20T	C1907T	S636L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			51T	A1976T	E659V	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			05T	G2254A	G752S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			83T	C2450T	S817F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			116T	G2465A	G822E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			12T	G2465A	G822E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			108T	C2890T	P964S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
ZNF831	CCDS42894.1	10 (17%) ⁺	91T	C1357T	H453Y	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			96T	C1424T	T475M	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			86T	C2138G	T713R	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			64T	C3229T	R1077C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			90T	G3956A	S1319N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			81T	C4070T	S1357L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			43T	C4421T	S1474F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			91T	C4421T	S1474F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			119T	C4514T	A1505V	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			05T	G4687A	E1563K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
PLCB4	CCDS13104.1	8 (15.1%) ⁺	12T	T248C	L83P	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			91T	C494T	P165L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			83T	G752A	R251Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			119T	C1025T	S342L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			84T	G1486A	D496N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			8T	G2209A	E737K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			01T	C2314T	R772W	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			9T	G3292A	E1098K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture

Table 3 (continued)

Gene Name	CCDS number	No. of mutations (% of tumors affected)	Tumor Name	Nucleotide Change	Amino Acid Change	Syn/NonSyn	Hete/Homo	Sample Panel
AKR1B10	CCDS5832.1	4 (7.5%) [†]	91T	G400A	G134R	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture
			01T	G691A	D231N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			24T	A730C	T244P	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			7T	Exon 2 (-8) C/T	N/A	splice site	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
TAS2R60	CCDS5885.1	5 (9.4%) [†]	92T	C272T	P91L	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Prevalence screen
			60T	G429A	W143*	Stop	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			9T	G449A	G150E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			17T	G639A	M213I	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			43T	G639A	M213I	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
KHDRBS2	CCDS4963.1	5 (9.4%) [†]	119T	T82A	L28M	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			60T	C178T	L60F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			91T	C556T	R186C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			05T	C299T	R224W	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture
			109T	C733T	P245S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
PTPRO	CCDS8675.1	4 (7.5%) [†]	12T	G127A	E43K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			24T	T297G	F99L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			95T	C838A	S280Y	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			60T	C847T	R283*	Stop	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
SYT4	CCDS11922.1	4 (7.5%) [†]	43T	G37A	E13K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			22T	G119A	R40K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			12T	G388A	E130K	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture
			119T	G1151A	R384Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
UGT2B10	N/A	4 (7.5%) [†]	12T	C1177T	P393S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			96T	G1412A	G471E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			60T	A1586G	*529W	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			116T	Exon 4 (-1)	N/A	Splice site	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
SLC6A11	CCDS2602.1	3 (5.7%) [†]	05T	C660A	H220Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			12T	G1084A	E362K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			51T	G1435A	V479M	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture
SLC17A5	CCDS4981.1	4 (5.7%) [†]	24T	G776A	S259F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			24T	G862A	S288P	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			12T	C1090T	R364C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			18T	C1090T	R364C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
C12orf63	CCDS9062.1	6 (9.4%) [†]	32T	C62T	S21F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			91T	C700T	P234S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			12T	G848A	R283Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			125T	G2857K	E953K	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Prevalence screen
			93T	T3104C	L1035P	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			93T	A3110G	Q1037R	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
PCDHB8	CCDS4250.1	4 (7.5%) [†]	12T	G385A	D129N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			18T	A713G	D238G	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture
			56T	G931A	E311K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen
			22T	G931A	E311K	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture

[†]Number of nonsynonymous, stop and splice site mutations observed and percent of tumors affected for each of the 16 genes in the panel of 53 untreated melanoma samples. ~† Number of nonsynonymous, stop and splice site mutations observed and percent of tumors affected for each of the 16 genes in validation set 1 and validation set 2 respectively. * refers to stop codon. Samples used in exome capture and prevalence screen were obtained from The Surgery Branch, National Cancer Institute. Validation set 1 samples were obtained from The Division of Medical Oncology, University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine. Validation set 2 samples were obtained from The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. 501_Mel is a commercially available melanoma cell line.

Table 4. SIFT analysis of somatic mutations identified in highly mutated genes

Gene Name	Tumor Name	Amino Acid Change	Syn/NonSyn	Hete/Homo	Sample Panel	Functional Domain	change	SIFT score	SIFT median
BRAF	N/A	V600E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	N/A	Pkinase	V600E	0	2.81
GRIN2A	B12	W7*	Stop	Heterozygous	Validation set 2	Signal Peptide	Stop	N/A	N/A
GRIN2A	17T	P57L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	P57L	0.26	3.14
GRIN2A	MB1227	F183I	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	F183I	0.11	2.78
GRIN2A	83T	D252N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	D252N	0.31	2.78
GRIN2A	MD_13	S278F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	S278F	0.01	2.85
GRIN2A	96T	S278F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	S278F	0.01	2.85
GRIN2A	9T	W343*	Stop	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	Stop	N/A	N/A
GRIN2A	MB487	E371K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	E371K	1	2.8
GRIN2A	18T	E371K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	E371K	1	2.8
GRIN2A	B01x	W372*	Stop	Heterozygous	Validation set 2	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	Stop	N/A	N/A
GRIN2A	123T	E373K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2	E373K	0.05	2.79
GRIN2A	24T	G449E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	N/A	G449E	0.3	2.79
GRIN2A	110T	F459S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	PBPb	F459S	0	2.79
GRIN2A	MD_09	H595R	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2	Lig_chan	H595R	0.61	2.79
GRIN2A	114T	S598F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	Lig_chan	S598F	0.01	2.79
GRIN2A	MB490	M653I	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	Lig_chan	M653I	0.11	2.79
GRIN2A	91T	G712E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	Lig_chan/PBPb	G712E	0.01	2.79
GRIN2A	MB532	G740W	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	Lig_chan/PBPb	G740W	0	2.88
GRIN2A	MB669	G889E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	NMDAR2_C	G889E	0.26	2.81
GRIN2A	MB1337	Q891*	Stop	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	NMDAR2_C	Stop	N/A	N/A
GRIN2A	MD_13	R920K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2	NMDAR2_C	R920K	0.54	2.98
GRIN2A	MB1113	S929F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	NMDAR2_C	S929F	0.01	3.37
GRIN2A	119T	E962K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	NMDAR2_C	E962K	0.01	3.42
GRIN2A	MB490	E1073K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	NMDAR2_C	E1073K	0.05	3.37
GRIN2A	MB1160	P1074L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	NMDAR2_C	P1074L	1	3.37
GRIN2A	88T	D1153N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	NMDAR2_C	D1153N	0.32	3.37
GRIN2A	501Mel	E1175K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Commercial cell line	NMDAR2_C	E1175K	1	3.4
GRIN2A	125T	E1175K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	NMDAR2_C	E1175K	1	3.4
GRIN2A	98T	W1271*	Stop	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	NMDAR2_C	Stop	N/A	N/A
GRIN2A	MB706	A1276G	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	NMDAR2_C	A1276G	0.34	3.37
GRIN2A	MB929	R1285K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	NMDAR2_C	R1285K	0.19	3.37
GRIN2A	95T	R1318W	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	NMDAR2_C	R1318W	0	3.37
GRIN2A	86T	P1366L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	NMDAR2_C	P1366L	0	3.37
GRIN2A	B12	D1421N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2	NMDAR2_C	D1421N	0.15	3.37
GRIN2A	MB1335	S1425L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 1	NMDAR2_C	S1425L	0.04	3.36
GRIN2A	43T	E1426K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	NMDAR2_C	E1426K	0.26	3.36
GRIN2A	D03x	S1462C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Validation set 2	NMDAR2_C	S1462C	0	3.37
CCDC63	91T	S47F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	S47F	0.01	2.8
CCDC63	93T	R148Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	R148Q	0.36	2.8
CCDC63	29T	E284K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	Filament	E284K	0.24	2.8
CCDC63	81T	R356Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	Filament	R356Q	0.46	2.8
CCDC63	43T	E360K	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture	Filament	E360K	0.12	2.8
CCDC63	01T	D456N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	Filament	D456N	0.03	2.93
TMEM132B	60T	S285L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	DUF59	S285L	0.46	2.85
TMEM132B	05T	M403V	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	M403V	0.36	2.8
TMEM132B	119T	G533S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	G533S	0	2.78
TMEM132B	20T	S636L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	S636L	0	2.79
TMEM132B	51T	E659V	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	E659V	0.03	2.79
TMEM132B	05T	G752S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	G752S	0.31	2.78
TMEM132B	83T	S817F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	S817F	0.05	2.94
TMEM132B	116T	G822E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	G822E	1	2.97
TMEM132B	12T	G822E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	G822E	1	2.97
TMEM132B	108T	P964S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	P964S	0.45	2.96

Table 4 (continued)

Gene Name	Tumor Name	Amino Acid Change	Syn/NonSyn	Hete/Homo	Sample Panel	Functional Domain	change	SIFT score	SIFT median
ZNF831	91T	H453Y	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	H453Y	0.04	2.3
ZNF831	96T	T475M	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	T475M	0	2.19
ZNF831	86T	T713R	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	T713R	0.61	2.04
ZNF831	64T	R1077C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	R1077C	0.22	2.12
ZNF831	90T	S1319N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	S1319N	0.36	2.35
ZNF831	81T	S1357L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	S1357L	0.17	2.53
ZNF831	43T	S1474F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	S1474F	0.74	2.48
ZNF831	91T	S1474F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	S1474F	0.74	2.48
ZNF831	119T	A1505V	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	A1505V	0.2	2.33
ZNF831	05T	E1563K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	E1563K	0.87	2.42
PLCB4	12T	L83P	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	L83P	0.02	2.79
PLCB4	91T	P165L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	P165L	0	2.79
PLCB4	83T	R251Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	R251Q	0	2.79
PLCB4	119T	S342L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	PI-PLC-X	S342L	0	2.79
PLCB4	84T	D496N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	D496N	0.28	2.77
PLCB4	8T	E737K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	C2	E737K	0.85	2.77
PLCB4	01T	R772W	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	R772W	0.09	2.12
PLCB4	9T	E1098K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	E1098K	0.33	2.4
AKR1B10	91T	G134R	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture	Aldo_ket_red	G134R	0.01	2.84
AKR1B10	01T	D231N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	Aldo_ket_red	D231N	0.08	2.84
AKR1B10	24T	T244P	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	Aldo_ket_red	T244P	0	2.84
AKR1B10	7T	splice site	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	splice site	splice site	N/A	N/A
TAS2R60	92T	P91L	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Prevalence screen	7tm_1	P91L	1	2.89
TAS2R60	60T	Stop	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	Stop	Stop	N/A	N/A
TAS2R60	9T	G150E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	7tm_1	G150E	0.02	2.86
TAS2R60	17T	M213I	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	7tm_1	M213I	1	2.86
TAS2R60	43T	M213I	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	7tm_1	M213I	1	2.86
KHDRBS2	119T	L28M	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	L28M	0.01	2.8
KHDRBS2	60T	L60F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	L60F	0.01	2.78
KHDRBS2	91T	R186C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	R186C	0.12	2.85
KHDRBS2	05T	R224W	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	R224W	0.01	2.91
KHDRBS2	109T	P245S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	P245S	0.03	2.91
PTPRO	12T	E854K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	E854K	0.57	2.27
PTPRO	24T	F938L	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	F938L	0.1	1.96
PTPRO	95T	S280Y	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	S280Y	0	3.32
PTPRO	60T	Stop	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	Stop	Stop	N/A	N/A
SYT4	43T	E13K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	E13K	0.05	3.37
SYT4	22T	R40K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	R40K	0.04	3.11
SYT4	12T	E130K	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	E130K	0.3	2.84
SYT4	119T	R384Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	C2	R384Q	0.02	2.78
UGT2B10	12T	P393S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	UDPGT	P393S	0	2.73
UGT2B10	96T	G471E	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	UDPGT	G471E	0	2.73
UGT2B10	60T	*529W	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered		N/A	N/A
UGT2B10	116T	Splice site	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	Splice site	Splice site	N/A	N/A
SLC6A11	05T	H220Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	SNF	H220Q	0.16	2.74
SLC6A11	12T	E362K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	SNF	E362K	0.35	2.74
SLC6A11	51T	V479M	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture	SNF	V479M	0.16	2.74
C12orf63	32T	S21F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	S21F	0.07	3.09
C12orf63	91T	P234S	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	P234S	0.8	3.36
C12orf63	12T	R283Q	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	R283Q	0.29	3.12
C12orf63	125T	E953K	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Prevalence screen	No domain altered	E953K	0.13	2.72
C12orf63	93T	L1035P	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	L1035P	0	4.32
C12orf63	93T	Q1037R	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	Q1037R	0.33	3.12
PCDHB8	12T	D129N	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	D129N	0	2.83
PCDHB8	18T	D238G	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	No domain altered	D238G	0	2.83
PCDHB8	56T	E311K	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Prevalence screen	Cadherin	E311K	0	2.83
PCDHB8	22T	E311K	Nonsynonymous	Homozygous	Exome Capture	Cadherin	E311K	0	2.83
SLC17A5	24T	S259F	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	MFS_1	S259F	0	2.76
SLC17A5	24T	S288P	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	Sugar_tr	S288P	0	2.77
SLC17A5	12T	R364C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	MFS_1	R364C	0	2.76
SLC17A5	18T	R364C	Nonsynonymous	Heterozygous	Exome Capture	MFS_1	R364C	0	2.76

Alterations with a SIFT score highlighted in red are predicted to be deleterious to protein function.

N/A, not applicable

Table 5. Characteristics of melanoma patient samples used in this study

Sample	Patient Age (years)*	Patient Gender	Metastatic Tumor Site	Matched normal source
1T [†]	29	F	Lung	Blood
2T	30	M	Pectoral muscle	Blood
3T	18	M	Forehead, subcutaneous	Blood
4T	33	F	Supraclavicular, soft tissue	Blood
4T	34	F	Lung	Blood
5T	47	M	Iliac	Blood
6T	42	M	Neck, soft tissue	Blood
7T [†]	53	M	Stomach	Blood
8T	61	M	Inguinal	Blood
9T	62	M	Back, subcutaneous	Blood
10T	55	M	Axilla	Blood
12T	53	M	Upper arm, subcutaneous	Blood
13T [†]	49	M	Chest wall, subcutaneous	Blood
14T	58	F	Small bowel	Blood
15T	39	M	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
16T [†]	62	M	Lung	Blood
17T [†]	33	M	Shoulder, subcutaneous	Blood
18T	55	M	Clavicle, soft tissue	Blood
19T [†]	49	M	Scapula, subcutaneous	Blood
20T	58	F	Axilla	Blood
21T	59	M	Omentum	Blood
22T	51	M	Chest wall, subcutaneous	Blood
23T	44	M	Lung	Blood
24T	49	M	Axilla	Blood
26T	48	F	Lung	Blood
28T	28	F	Iliac	Blood
29T	51	M	Inguinal	Blood
30T	53	F	Lung	Blood
31T	49	F	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
32T	58	M	Omentum	Blood
33T	33	M	Chest wall, subcutaneous, & pleura **	Blood
34T [†]	31	M	Shoulder, subcutaneous	Blood
35T	23	F	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
36T [†]	25	M	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
37T	38	F	Omentum	Blood
38T	27	M	Skull versus Dura	Blood
39T	56	M	Mesentery	Blood
41T	45	M	Neck, soft tissue	Blood
43T	19	F	Popliteal soft tissue	Blood
44T	56	M	Lung	Blood
45T	48	M	Mediastinum	Blood
47T	42	F	Abdomen, subcutaneous	Blood
48T	28	M	Back, soft tissue	Blood
49T	43	M	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
50T	49	F	Inguinal	Blood
51T	50	F	Adnexa	Blood
52T	39	F	Lung	Blood
53T	48	F	Breast	Blood
55T	60	M	Lung	Blood
56T	52	M	Lung	Blood
58T	46	F	Hip, subcutaneous	Blood
59T	64	F	Abdomen, subcutaneous	Blood

Table 5 (continued)

Sample	Patient Age (years)*	Patient Gender	MetastaticTumor Site	Matched normal source
60T	46	M	Flank, subcutaneous	Blood
62T	58	F	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
63T	30	M	Small Bowel	Blood
64T [†]	32	F	Ovary	Blood
67T	0	M	Back, subcutaneous	Blood
68T	49	M	Lung	Blood
69T	36	M	Axilla	Blood
71T	67	M	Lung	Blood
72T	53	M	Liver	Blood
73T	45	F	Breast	Blood
74T	40	F	Lower extremity, subcutaneous	Blood
75T	0	F	Upper arm, subcutaneous	Blood
76T	40	M	Neck, soft tissue	Blood
77T	39	M	Lung	Blood
78T	27	F	Lung	Blood
79T	0	M	Supraclavicular, soft tissue	Blood
80T	36	M	Popliteal	Blood
81T	60	F	Upper arm, subcutaneous	Blood
82T	0	M	Axilla	Blood
83T	33	F	Back, subcutaneous	Blood
84T	60	F	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
85T [†]	44	M	Chest wall, subcutaneous	Blood
86T	42	F	Liver	Blood
87T	0	M	Small bowel & mesentary **	Blood
88T	37	F	Chest wall, subcutaneous	Blood
90T	19	M	Neck, soft tissue	Blood
91T	55	F	Subcostal soft tissue	Blood
92T	37	F	Femur	Blood
93T	0	F	Axilla	Blood
94T	44	M	Adrenal gland	Blood
95T [†]	58	F	Inguinal	Blood
96T	49	M	Inguinal	Blood
98T	58	F	Small Bowel	Blood
99T	57	M	Liver	Blood
100T	28	M	Chest wall, soft tissue	Blood
101T	0	M	Omentum	Blood
103T	35	F	Axilla	Blood
104T	56	M	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
105T	28	M	Neck, soft tissue	Blood
106T	41	F	Lung	Blood
107T	0	F	Liver	Blood
108T	0	F	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
109T	0	M	Scrotum	Blood
110T	0	M	Axilla	Blood
111T	0	M	Axilla	Blood

Table 5 (continued)

Sample	Patient Age (years)*	Patient Gender	Metastatic Tumor Site	Matched normal source
112T	0	M	Inguinal	Blood
113T	0	M	Axilla	Blood
114T	0	M	Adrenal gland	Blood
115T	0	M	Brain	Blood
116T	0	M	Thigh, subcutaneous	Blood
117T	0	M	Chest wall, subcutaneous	Blood
119T	0	M	Axilla	Blood
120T	0	M	Lung	Blood
122T	0	F	Lung	Blood
123T	0	M	Anticubital	Blood
124T	0	M	Inguinal	Blood
125T	0	M	Axilla	Blood
127T	0	F	Infraclavicular, soft tissue	Blood
128T	0	M	Lung	Blood
A11	57	M	LN	None
B01x	49	M	LN	Blood
B03	62	F	LN	None
B05	47	F	LN	None
B06	34	M	LN	None
B07	77	F	LN	None
B09	55	M	Soft Tissue	None
B12	72	M	LN	None
B19	64	M	LN/Soft Tissue	None
C14	65	M	LN met	None
C16	69	M	LN met	None
C18	61	F	Soft Tissue/Skin	None
C19	56	M	Soft Tissue/Skin	None
C22	56	M	LN	None
C29	65	F	Soft Tissue/Skin	None
C30x	51	M	Soft Tissue/Skin	None
C31x	83	F	LN	None
D03x	68	F	LN	None
D13	70	F	LN	None
D16	68	M	LN	Blood
D22	77	M	LN	None
D23	69	M	LN	None
MD_04	61	F	LN	None
MD_09	27	M	Soft Tissue	None
MD_13	62	F	Small Intestine	None
MD_14	91	F	LN	None
MD_15	28	F	LN	Blood
MD_16	45	F	Lung	None
MD_22	58	M	Brain	Blood
MD_35	38	F	Liver	None
MD_37	53	F	Liver	None
MD_40	74	F	Liver	None
MB532	44	F	Lymph Node	Blood
MB669	59	M	Bowel Small	Blood
MB930-T	64	M	Bone Spine	Blood
MB1089	56	F	Liver	Blood

Table 5 (continued)

Sample	Patient Age (years)*	Patient Gender	Metastatic Tumor Site	Matched normal source
MB1160	61	F	Lymph Node	Blood
MB1245	41	M	Bowel Small	Blood
MB1287	83	M	Subcutaneous Neck	Blood
MB1320	57	F	Lymph Node	Blood
MB706	63	M	Subcutaneous Back	Blood
MB929	69	F	Subcutaneous Arm	Blood
MB947-LN	67	F	Lymph Node	Blood
MB1029	55	M	Primary Skin	Blood
MB1046-LN	70	M	Lymph Node	Blood
MB1067	47	F	Lymph Node	Blood
MB1082	61	F	Subcutaneous Groin	Blood
MB1110	61	F	Subcutaneous Arm	Blood
MB1113	63	F	Muscle Back	Blood
MB1157	71	F	Primary Skin	Blood
MB1222	25	M	Lymph Node	Blood
MB87	53	F	Brain	Blood
MB104	65	M	Subcutaneous Back	Blood
MB106	67	M	Bone Spine	Blood
MB107	47	M	Brain	Blood
MB161	72	F	Primary Vulvar Vag	Blood
MB298	53	F	Brain	Blood
MB327	71	F	Primary Vulvar Vag	Blood
MB363	69	M	Subcutaneous Back	Blood
MB393	68	M	Brain	Blood
MB402	52	M	Lymph Node	Blood
MB404	67	M	Muscle Gluteal	Blood
MB463	52	M	Primary Skin	Blood
MB464	37	F	Primary Skin	Blood
MB487	73	M	Lymph Node	Blood
MB490	65	F	Brain	Blood
MB505	75	F	Subcutaneous Thigh	Blood
MB522	52	M	Bowel Small	Blood
MB1227	41	M	Subcutaneous Trunk	Blood
MB1335	61	M	Primary Skin	Blood
MB1337	41	M	Subcutaneous Thigh	Blood

* Patient's age when tumor was surgically removed.

** Cell line generated from 2 metastatic melanoma tumors mixed after resection during the same operation.

Table 6. TRRAP primers used for recurrent mutation confirmation

Primer set #	Primer Type	Hotspot Change	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
TRRAP #1	Forward	C2165T	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTTAAAA CTGCTTTGGGGAAGG	19
TRRAP #1	Reverse	C2165T	GAGTGCCTATAGTCCCCAAAAA	20
TRRAP #1	Sequencing	C2165T	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGT	21
TRRAP #2	Forward	C2165T	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTTTGCTA CGATTCTGGTGGAA	22

Primer set #	Primer Type	Hotspot Change	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
TRRAP #2	Reverse	C2165T	CGTGAGGCCCTGTCTCTAAC	23
TRRAP #2	Sequencing	C2165T	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGT	24

Table 7. GRIN2A primers used for PCR and sequencing

Primer Name	Coverage	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
GRIN2A_1 Forward	Exon 1	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTCCTATCCTGCTGCT GAGTTCC	25
GRIN2A_1 Reverse	Exon 1	AGTTTCCGGCCTTACCTTGTC	26
GRIN2A_2 Forward	Exon 1	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTAGAGTGGGCTATTG GACCTG	27
GRIN2A_2 Reverse	Exon 1	GAGGCAAGACCTGGTTCTCAC	28
GRIN2A_3 Forward	Exon 2	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTCTAGGACGCAGTTT GTGCTTC	29
GRIN2A_3 Reverse	Exon 2	GAACAGCCTCGTCTTTGGAAC	30
GRIN2A_4 Forward	Exon 2	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGGCTACAGGGAAT TCATCAGC	31
GRIN2A_4 Reverse	Exon 2	TCAGTGCGTATTTCCAACAATG	32
GRIN2A_5 Forward	Exon 3	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGCAGAGAGGCTTCT TGTGATG	33
GRIN2A_5 Reverse	Exon 3	AGAAAGAAGCACTGTGAGCCC	34
GRIN2A_6 Forward	Exon 4	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGGAAAGGATTTGC CTCTCCAG	35
GRIN2A_6 Reverse	Exon 4	GCAAGTGTGGCACATCTCTAGG	36
GRIN2A_7 Forward	Exon 5	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGTCTTGGGAAAGC CACTTC	37
GRIN2A_7 Reverse	Exon 5	CGTTGATAGACCACCTGGATG	38
GRIN2A_8 Forward	Exon 7	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTATGTCTGGGCTTCC TGCTG	39
GRIN2A_8 Reverse	Exon 7	TCCTGACCTCATGATCCACC	40
GRIN2A_9 Forward	Exon 8	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTTTCCATCTTCTGGC AACCTTC	41
GRIN2A_9 Reverse	Exon 8	TCAATGAGAGGCACCTGAATC	42
GRIN2A_10 Forward	Exon 9	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTTTGTCATCCTGCCC TAATGC	43
GRIN2A_10 Reverse	Exon 9	CATGCCGAGAGTCAATTTCTG	44

Primer Name	Coverage	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
GRIN2A_11 Forward	Exon 10	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTAAAGTGTGGGATGCTTTCAGG	45
GRIN2A_11 Reverse	Exon 10	ATGCAAAGATCCACTGGGAAG	46
GRIN2A_12 Forward	Exon 11	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGTCTGTTCCAAACC CAGAAGC	47
GRIN2A_12 Reverse	Exon 11	TGAGACATCAAGAACCCAAGC	48
GRIN2A_13 Forward	Exon 12	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTCCCTATGCTTTGCA ACTTGTC	49
GRIN2A_13 Reverse	Exon 12	GAAACCATGTCCATGATGAGG	50
GRIN2A_14 Forward	Exon 12	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTCAGGCATCTACAGC TGCATTC	51
GRIN2A_14 Reverse	Exon 12	GGAGTGGGTCCTATTCTCTGC	52
GRIN2A_15 Forward	Exon 12	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTAGACAACAGGTCC TTTCAGGG	53
GRIN2A_15 Reverse	Exon 12	TGTTGTCAGGTTCCCTGTGG	54
GRIN2A_16 Forward	Exon 12	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTATTCATACGCCAG GATTAC	55
GRIN2A_16 Reverse	Exon 12	GTATCGCTCGCTGGTCTCAC	56
GRIN2A_17 Forward	Exon 12	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTAACGTGGACTTCCC GGAC	57
GRIN2A_17 Reverse	Exon 12	GCCCAGTCCTGCTGGTAGAC	58
GRIN2A_18 Forward	Exon 12	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGTGAGACCAGCGA GCGATAC	59
GRIN2A_18 Reverse	Exon 12	GAAAGGGTTATCGGAGGTGTG	60
GRIN2A_19 Forward	Exon 12	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGTGCTAGACCTTAGCA GGCCCTC	61
GRIN2A_19 Reverse	Exon 12	TTTACCCTCCAGAACATTGGC	62

In view of the many possible embodiments to which the principles of the disclosed invention may be applied, it should be recognized that the illustrated embodiments are only preferred examples of the invention and should not be taken as limiting the scope of the invention. Rather, the scope of the invention is defined by the following claims. We therefore claim as our invention all that comes within the scope and spirit of these claims.

CLAIMS

1. A method of diagnosing a subject as having melanoma, or susceptible to developing melanoma, comprising detecting the presence or absence of at least one mutation in the glutamate receptor, ionotropic, N-methyl D-aspartate 2A (GRIN2A) gene or the transformation/transcription domain-associated protein (TRRAP) gene, wherein the at least one mutation comprises:
- (i) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain (nucleotides 94-1176 of SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (ii) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C domain (nucleotides 2515-4392 of SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (iii) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain (nucleotides 1660-2484 of SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (iv) G20A in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (v) G1346A in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (vi) T1376C in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3); or
 - (vii) C2165T in the TRRAP gene (SEQ ID NO: 1),
- wherein the presence of the at least one mutation indicates the subject has melanoma or is susceptible to developing melanoma.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain is C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A or G1117A (SEQ ID NO: 3).
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain is C833T or G1111A (SEQ ID NO: 3).
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C domain is G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G,

G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A or C4385G (SEQ ID NO: 3).

5 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the mutation in the portion of the
GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C domain is G3523A or G3812A (SEQ
ID NO: 3).

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the mutation in the portion of the
GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain is A1784G, C1793T, G1959A,
10 G2135A or G2218A (SEQ ID NO: 3).

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the mutation is C2165T in the
TRRAP gene (SEQ ID NO: 1).

15 8. The method of any one of claims 1-7, wherein detecting the presence
or absence of the at least one mutation comprises detecting the presence or absence
of the mutation in a skin sample obtained from the subject.

9. The method of any one of claims 1-8, further comprising providing a
20 test output to a user.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the output comprises the presence or
absence of the at least one mutation, a diagnosis, a treatment recommendation, or
any combination thereof.

25 11. The method of any one of claims 1-10, further comprising providing
an appropriate therapy to the subject.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the appropriate therapy is surgical
30 removal of tumor tissue, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, administration of a

TRRAP inhibitor, administration of a GRIN2A inhibitor, administration of a glutamate antagonist, or any combination of two or more thereof.

13. A method of selecting a therapy for a subject diagnosed with
5 melanoma, comprising detecting the presence or absence of at least one mutation in the GRIN2A gene, wherein the at least one mutation comprises:
- (i) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain (nucleotides 94-1176 of SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (ii) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the
10 NMDAR2_C domain (nucleotides 2515-4392 of SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (iii) a mutation in a portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain (nucleotides 1660-2484 of SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (iv) G20A in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (v) G1346A in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3); or
 - 15 (vi) T1376C in the GRIN2A gene (SEQ ID NO: 3),
- wherein an inhibitor of GRIN2A or a glutamate antagonist is selected for therapy if the at least one mutation in GRIN2A is present.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the mutation in the portion of the
20 GRIN2A gene that encodes the PBP1_iGluR_NMDA_NR2 domain is C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A or G1117A (SEQ ID NO: 3).

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the mutation in the portion of the GRIN2A gene that encodes the NMDAR2_C domain is G2666A, C2671T, G2759A,
25 C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A or C4385G (SEQ ID NO: 3).

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the mutation in the portion of the
30 GRIN2A gene that encodes the Lig_chan domain is A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A or G2218A (SEQ ID NO: 3).

17. A method of selecting a therapy for a subject diagnosed with melanoma, comprising detecting the presence or absence of a C2165T mutation in the TRRAP gene (SEQ ID NO: 1), wherein an inhibitor of TRRAP is selected if the
5 C2165T mutation in the TRRAP gene is present.

18. The method of any one of claims 13-17, further comprising administering the selected therapy.

10 19. The method of claim 18, wherein the subject is further treated by administration of a second therapeutic agent, surgical removal of tumor tissue, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or any combination of thereof.

20. An oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes with a nucleic acid
15 molecule encoding GRIN2A or TRRAP, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises:

- (i) G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A,
20 G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G in GRIN2A (SEQ ID NO: 3); or
(ii) C2165T in TRRAP (SEQ ID NO: 1).

21. The oligonucleotide of claim 20, wherein the oligonucleotide is about
25 15 to about 40 nucleotides in length.

22. The oligonucleotide of claim 20 or claim 21, wherein the oligonucleotide comprises a label.

30 23. The oligonucleotide of claim 22, wherein the label is a fluorescent label, an enzymatic label or a radioisotope.

24. An array comprising one or more of the oligonucleotides of any one of claims 20-23.

5 25. The array of claim 24, comprising at least one oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes with each of the mutations selected from:

- (i) G20A, C170T, T547A, G754A, C833T, G1028A, G1111A, G1116A, G1117A, G1346A, T1376C, A1784G, C1793T, G1959A, G2135A, G2218A, G2666A, C2671T, G2759A, C2786T, G2884A, G3217A, C3221T, G3457A, 10 G3523A, G3812A, C3827G, G3854A, C3952T, C4097T, G4261A, C4274T, G4276A and C4385G in GRIN2A (SEQ ID NO: 3); and
- (ii) C2165T in TRRAP (SEQ ID NO: 1).

26. The array of claim 24 or claim 25, which is a microarray.

15

FIG. 1

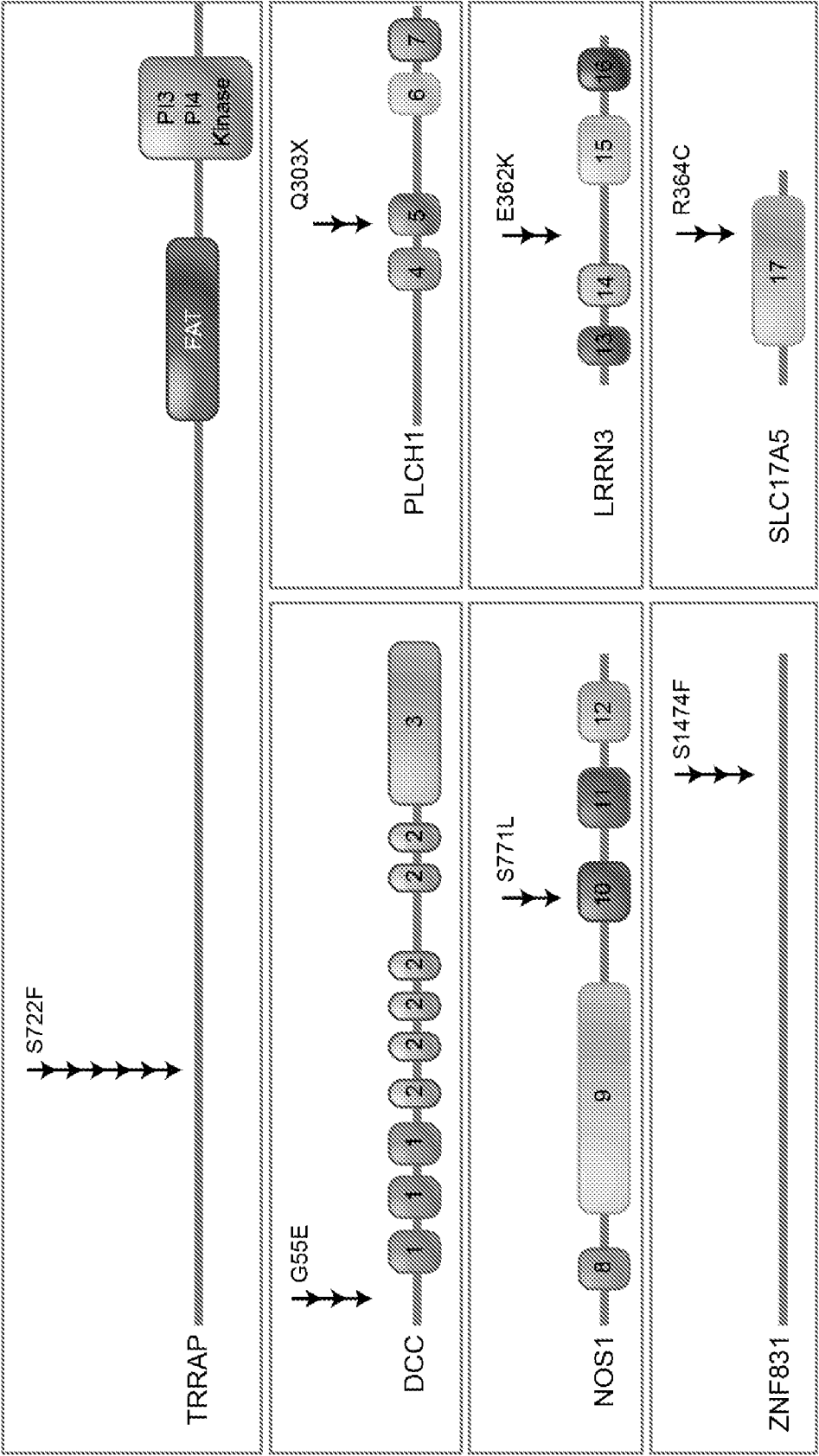


FIG. 2A

Allele	Transformed foci per μ g DNA
Vector	1
WT TRRAP	2.5
S722F TRRAP	5
G12V KRas	13.5

FIG. 2B

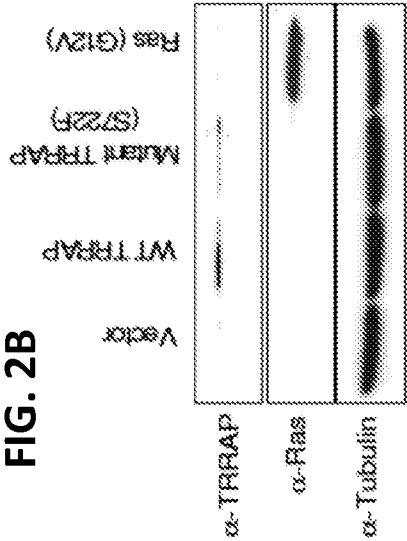


FIG. 2C

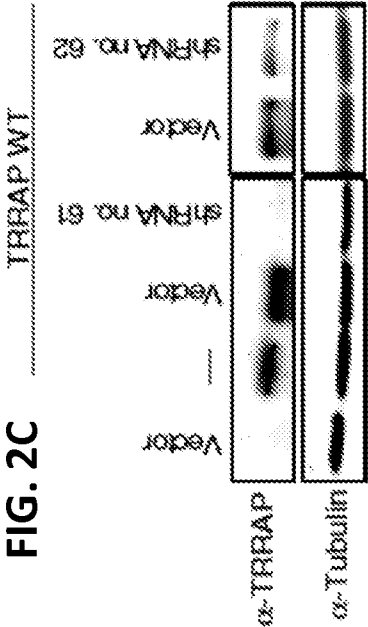
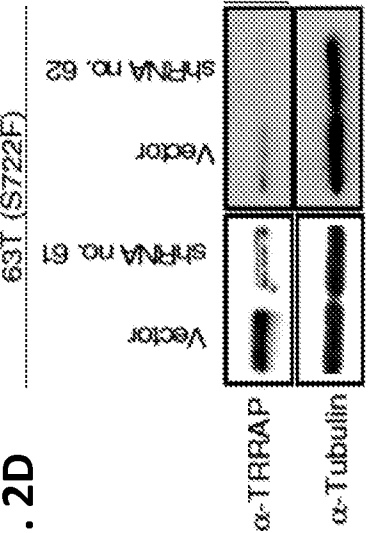
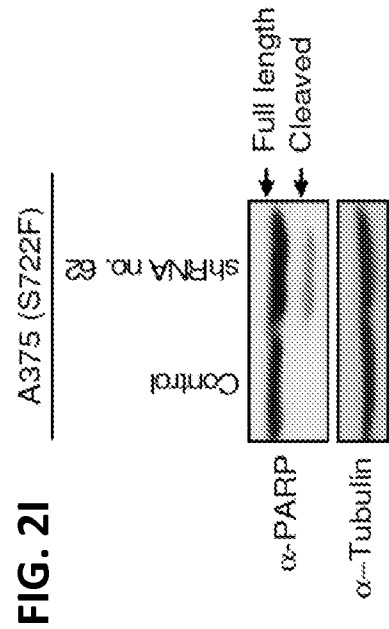
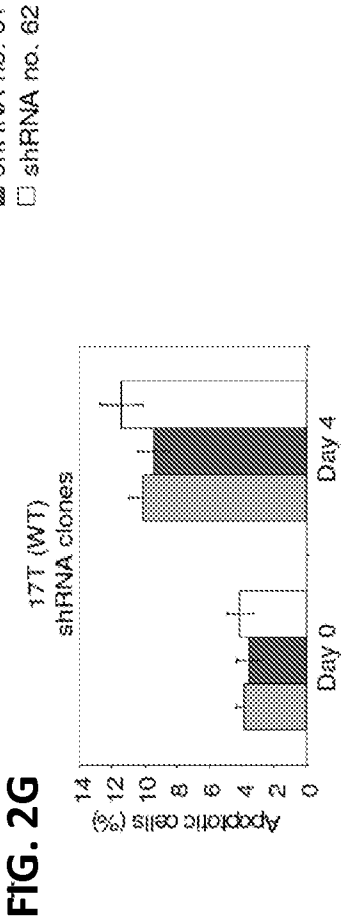
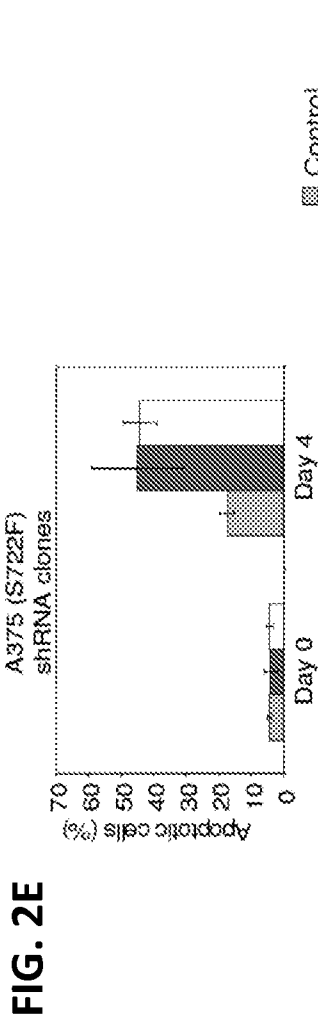
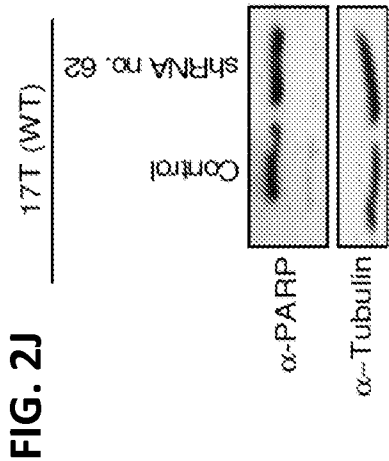
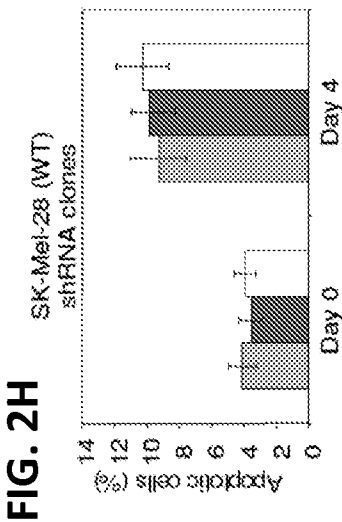
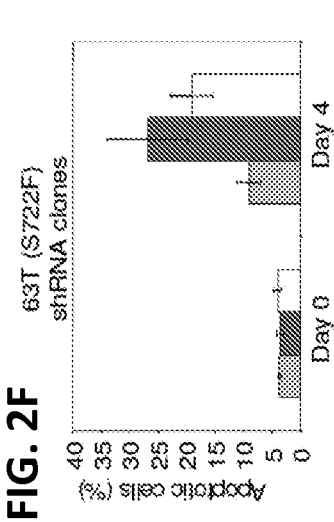


FIG. 2D





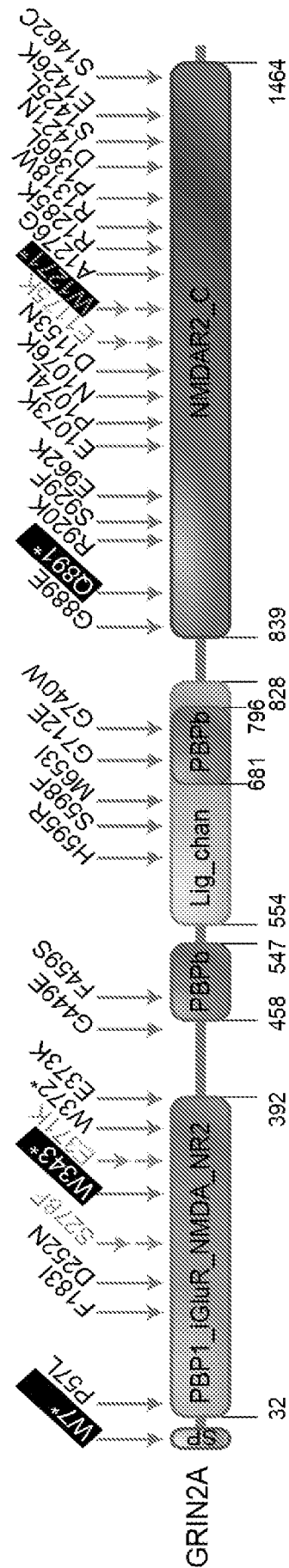
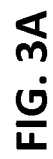


FIG. 3B

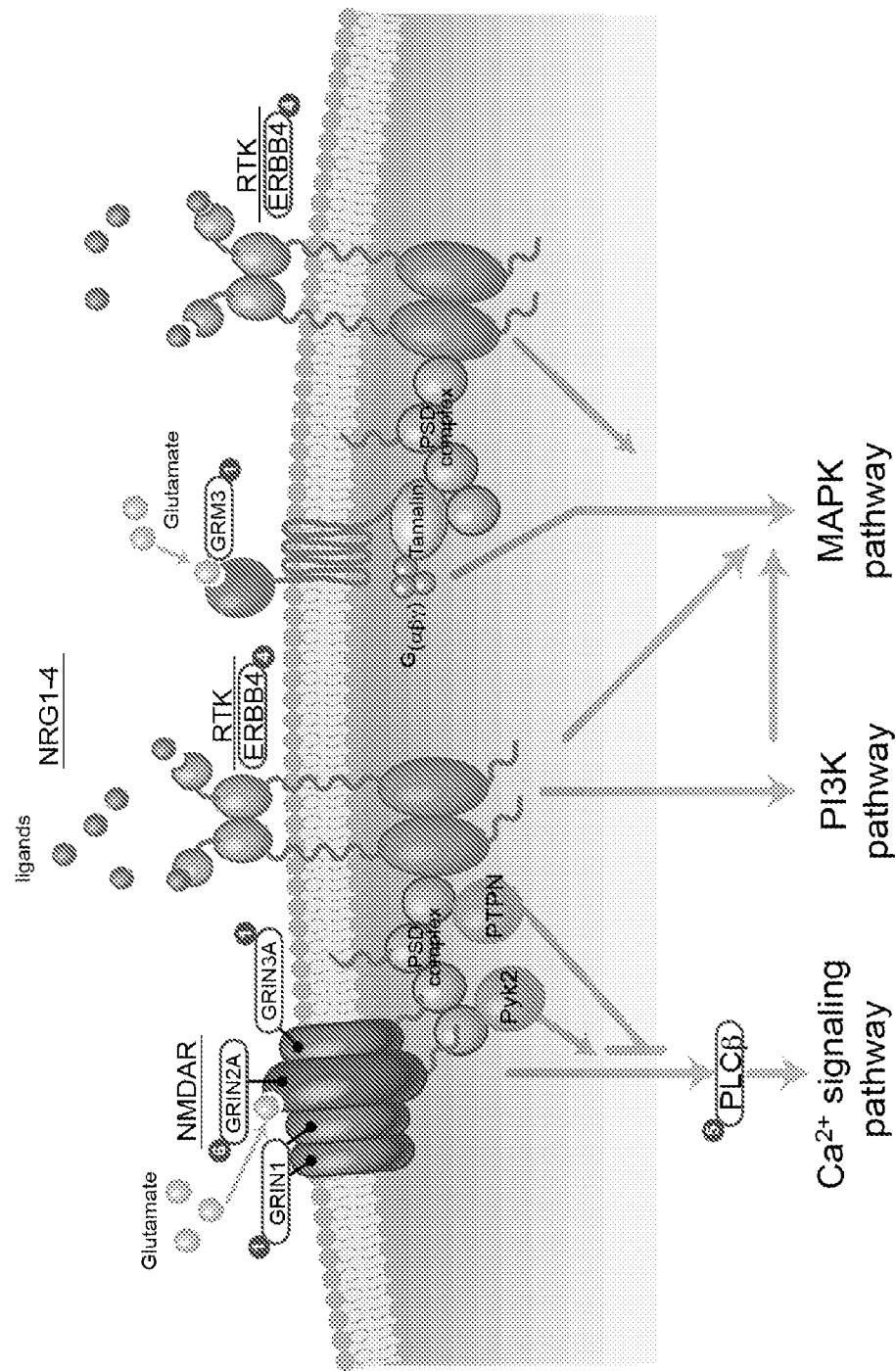


FIG. 4

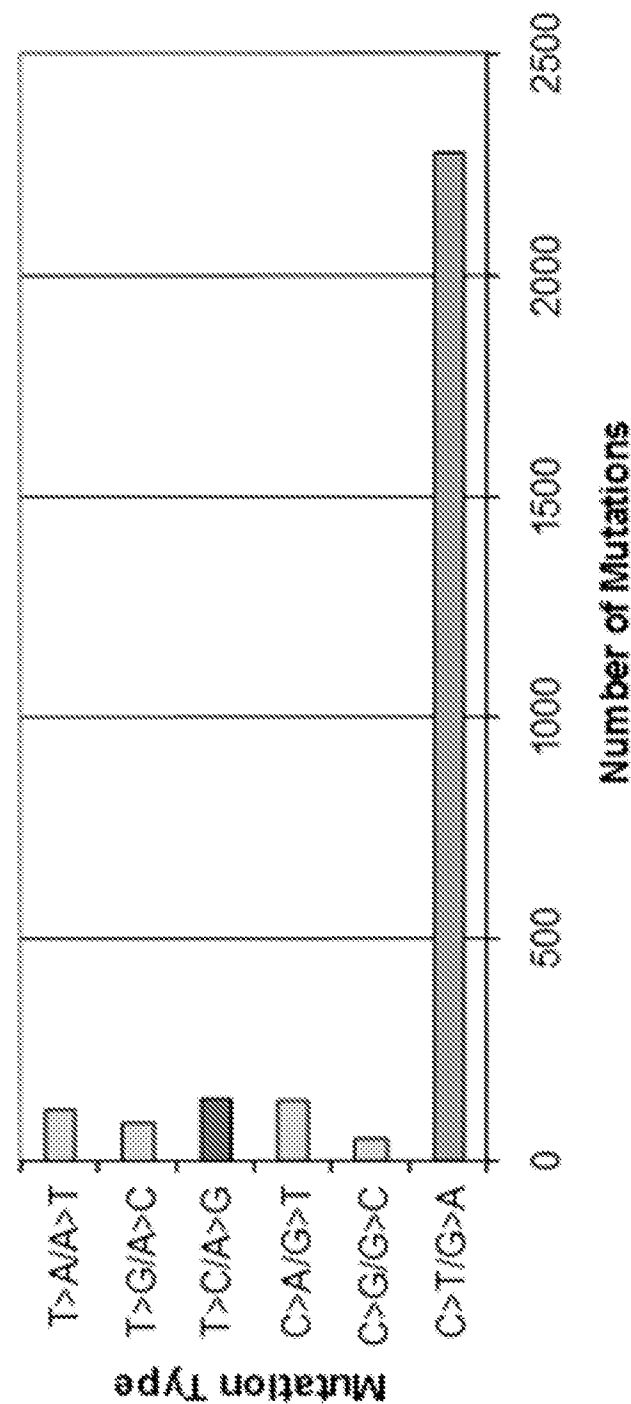


FIG. 5

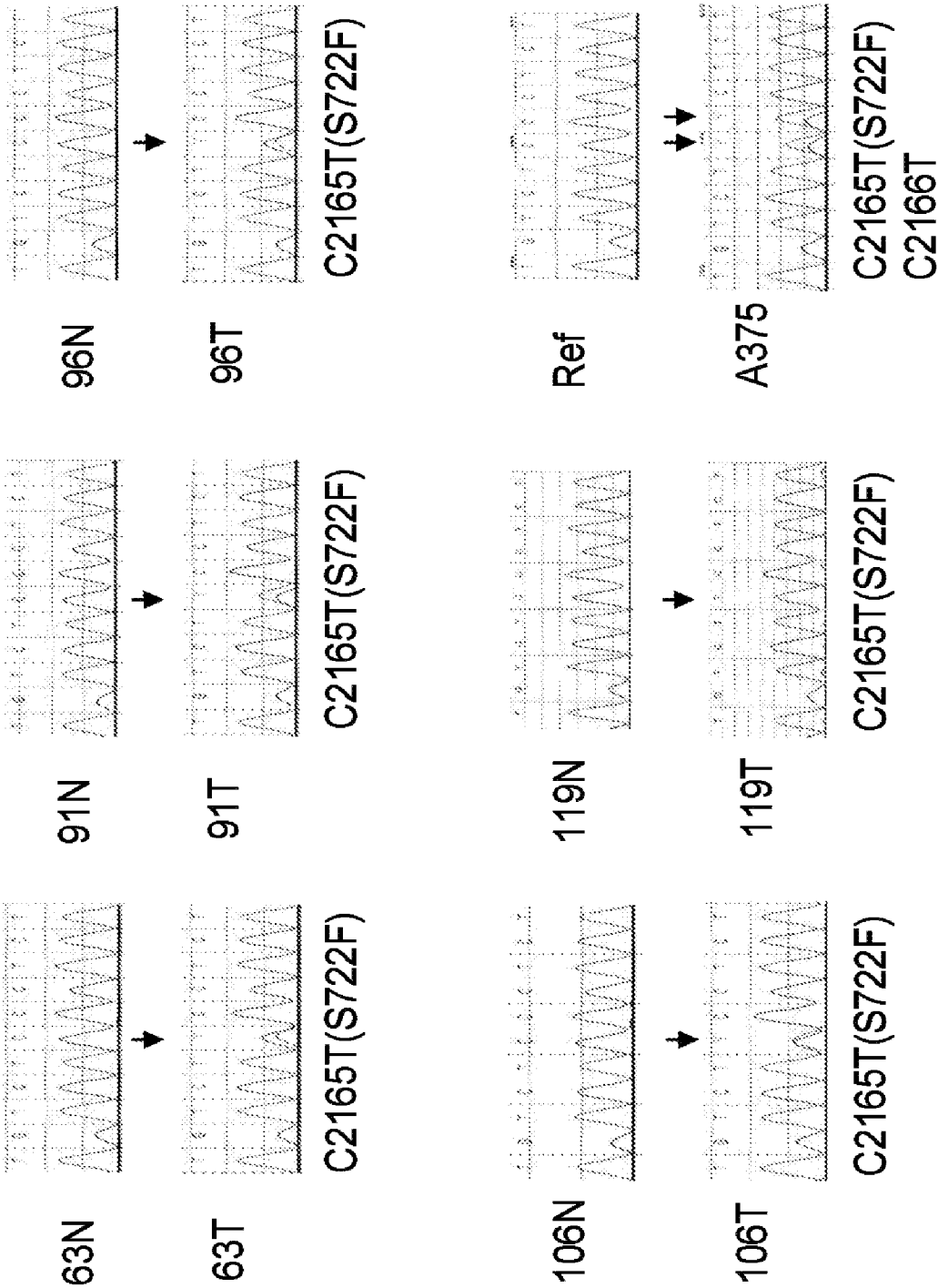


FIG. 6

TRRAP S722F (C2165T)

NP_003487	<i>Homo sapiens</i>	697	LPEMGSNVE--LSNLYLKLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEQMLKPHLHKIVNSSMELA	747
XP_860949	<i>Canis familiaris</i>	696	LPEMGSHVE--LSNLYLKLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEQMLKPHLHKIVNSSMELA	746
XP_001136733	<i>Pan troglodytes</i>	697	LPEMGSNVE--LSNLYLKLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEQMLKPHLHKIVNSSMELA	747
XP_583735	<i>Bos taurus</i>	698	LPEMGSNVE--LSNLYLKLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEQMLKPHLHKIVNSSMELA	748
XP_213706	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	699	LPEMGSNVE--LSNLYLKLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEQMLKPHLHKIVNSSMELA	749
XP_414752	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	685	LPEMGSNVE--LSNLYLKLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEQMLKPHLHKIVNSSMELA	735
XP_001919276	<i>Danio rerio</i>	652	LPEMGSNVE--LSNLYLKLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEQMLKPHLHKIVNSSMELA	702
NP_001074831	<i>Mus musculus</i>	697	LPEMGSNVE--LSNLYLKLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEQMLKPHLHKIVNSSMELA	747
NP_001097192	<i>D. melanogaster</i>	664	MEEMGSNLE--RSNLYLRLFKLVFGSVSLFPV--ENEQMLRPHLHKIVNRSMELA	704
XP_556172	<i>Anopheles gambiae</i>	708	MDEMGSNIE--RSNLYLRLFKLVFGSVSLFAA--ENEHMLRPHLHNIVNRSMELA	748
NP_001022032	<i>C. elegans</i>	723	MKLLVSNDS--KTMLYVKLFKIIFSAIGANGSGLHGDKMLTSYLPAILKQSTVLA	775
NP_011967	<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	748	LKDLG-NVDFNTSNVLIIRLFKLSFMSVNLFPN--INEVVLPHLNDLIINSLKYS	799

FIG. 7

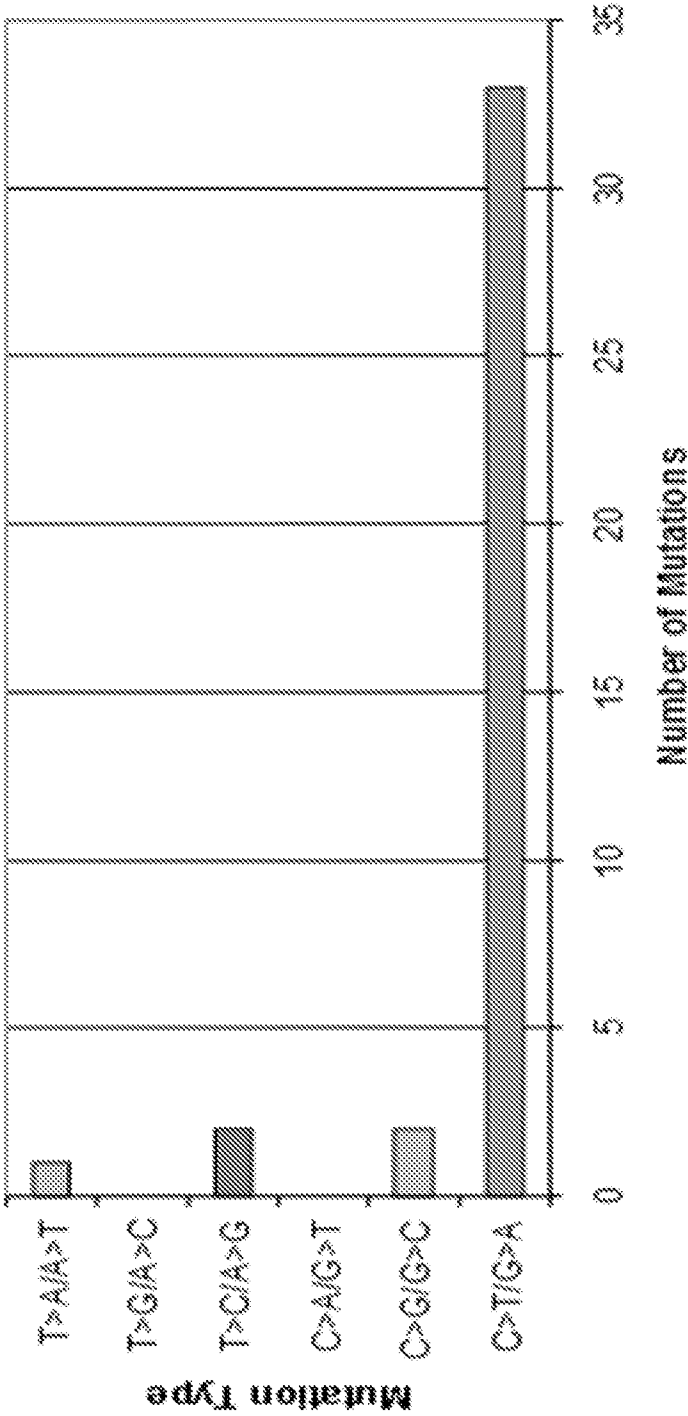


FIG. 8

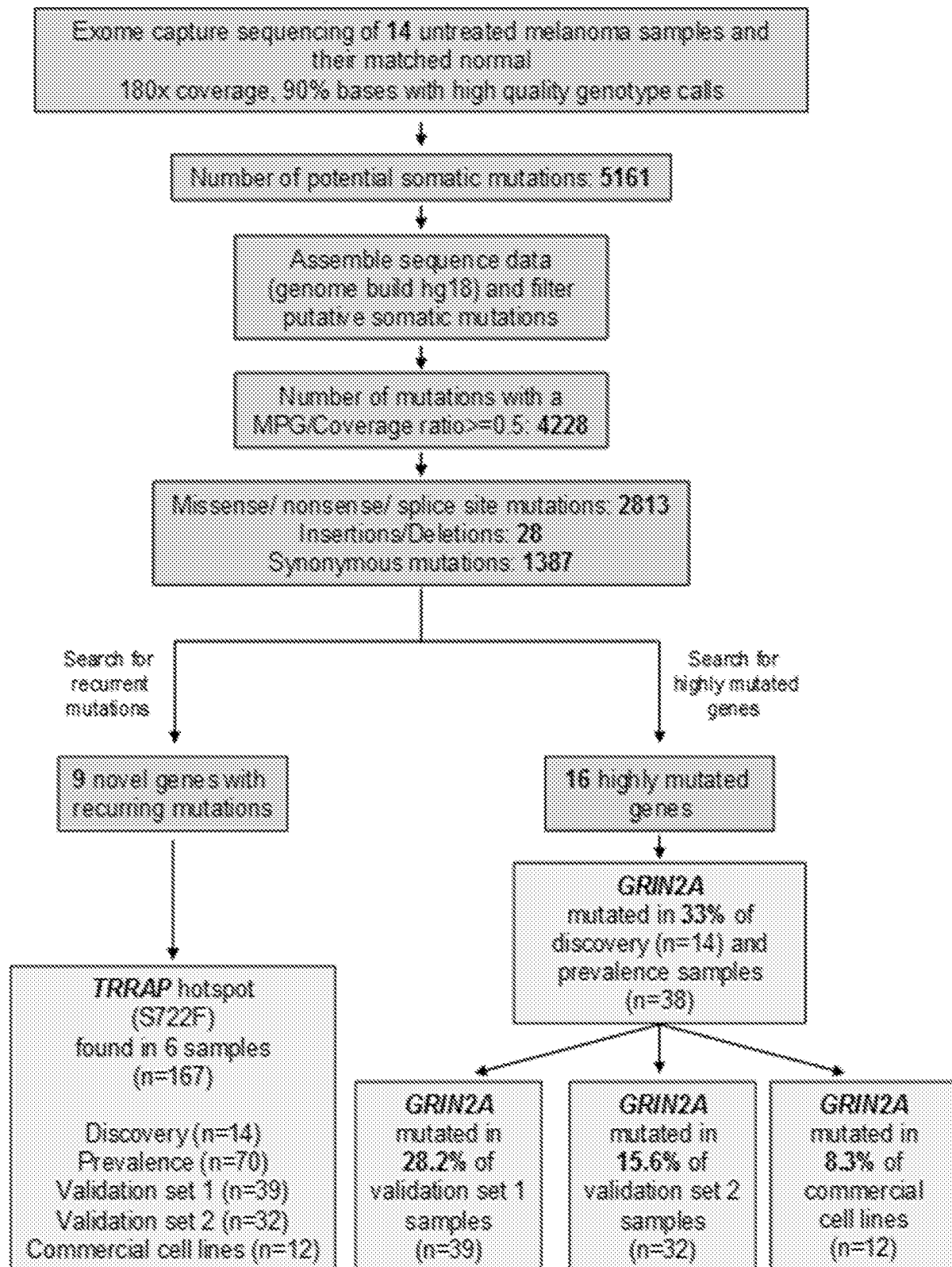


FIG. 9 (Page 1 of 2)

Chr	LeftFlank	RightFlank	Refseq	Transcript	Type of mutation	Ref allele	Var allele	Ref_aa	Var_aa	Strand	Normal name	Normal MPG/coverage	Tumor name	Tumor MPG/coverage	Sanger evaluation
chr7	140,099,604	140,099,606	BRAF	uc003wvc.2	Nonsynonymous	A	T	V	E	-	43N	0.74	43T	0.23	somatic mutation
chr5	13,807,371	13,807,373	DNAH5	uc003fd.2	Nonsynonymous	C	T	E	K	-	55N	0.70	55T	0.50	somatic mutation
chr3	407,763	407,765	CHL1	uc003bow.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	H	Y	+	24N	70.00	24T	0.54	somatic mutation
chr12	116,182,707	116,182,709	NOS1	uc001lwm.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	S	L	-	24N	74.00	24T	0.63	somatic mutation
chr18	48,532,493	48,532,495	DCC	uc002ffe.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	G	E	+	12N	35.00	12T	0.66	somatic mutation
chr7	140,099,604	140,099,606	BRAF	uc003wvc.2	Nonsynonymous	A	T	V	E	-	22N	0.71	22T	0.68	somatic mutation
chr7	140,099,604	140,099,606	BRAF	uc003wvc.2	Nonsynonymous	A	T	V	E	-	91N	0.72	91T	0.68	somatic mutation
chr19	48,371,430	48,371,432	PSG5	uc002ovu.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	S	L	-	24N	93.00	24T	0.71	somatic mutation
chr19	61,082,008	61,082,010	NLRP4	uc010eff.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	D	N	+	18N	57.00	18T	0.71	somatic mutation
chr19	48,371,430	48,371,432	PSG5	uc002ovu.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	S	L	-	55N	0.70	55T	0.75	somatic mutation
chr3	406,015	406,017	CHL1	uc003bow.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	55N	93.00	55T	0.81	somatic mutation
chr3	407,740	407,742	CHL1	uc003bow.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	S	F	+	96N	0.70	96T	0.82	somatic mutation
chr1	20,871,077	20,871,079	KIF17	uc001bdr.2	Nonsynonymous	C	T	E	K	-	18N	25.00	18T	0.85	somatic mutation
chr7	140,099,604	140,099,606	BRAF	uc003wvc.2	Nonsynonymous	A	T	V	E	-	5N	0.73	5T	0.86	somatic mutation
chr7	98,347,737	98,347,739	TRRAP	uc003upp.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	S	F	+	96N	0.70	96T	0.92	somatic mutation
chr5	13,807,371	13,807,373	DNAH5	uc003fd.2	Nonsynonymous	C	T	E	K	-	24N	93.00	24T	1.03	somatic mutation
chr19	61,082,014	61,082,016	NLRP4	uc010eff.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	24N	93.00	24T	1.08	somatic mutation
chr3	156,765,523	156,765,525	PLCH1	uc003faj.2	Stop	G	A	Q	*	-	24N	75.00	24T	1.10	somatic mutation
chr4	74,494,904	74,494,906	ALB	uc003hgs.2	Nonsynonymous	C	T	R	W	+	55N	93.00	55T	1.11	somatic mutation
chr16	49,728,824	49,728,826	SALL1	uc002egt.2	Nonsynonymous	G	A	S	L	-	96N	0.73	96T	1.22	somatic mutation
chr19	61,061,642	61,061,644	NLRP4	uc010eff.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	G	R	+	60N	70.00	60T	1.26	somatic mutation
chr22	35,659,934	35,659,936	CSF2RB	uc003aqc.2	Nonsynonymous	G	A	G	E	+	55N	24.00	55T	1.27	somatic mutation
chr6	74,381,779	74,381,781	SLC17A5	uc003phn.2	Nonsynonymous	G	A	R	C	-	18N	56.00	18T	1.27	somatic mutation
chr7	140,099,604	140,099,606	BRAF	uc003wvc.2	Nonsynonymous	A	T	V	E	-	35N	0.72	35T	1.30	somatic mutation
chr15	80,362,092	80,362,094	FAM154B	uc002bgv.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	P	S	+	55N	70.00	55T	1.31	somatic mutation
chr16	49,731,238	49,731,240	SALL1	uc002egt.2	Nonsynonymous	G	A	P	S	-	55N	33.00	55T	1.33	somatic mutation
chr22	35,659,934	35,659,936	CSF2RB	uc003aqc.2	Nonsynonymous	G	A	G	E	+	09N	0.83	09T	1.33	somatic mutation
chr20	57,262,579	57,262,581	ZNF831	uc002yan.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	S	F	+	43N	0.70	43T	1.34	somatic mutation
chr4	176,135,052	176,135,054	ADAM29	uc003iud.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	G	E	+	55N	93.00	55T	1.43	somatic mutation
chr15	80,362,092	80,362,094	FAM154B	uc002bgv.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	P	S	+	12N	67.00	12T	1.43	somatic mutation
chr12	109,796,101	109,796,103	CCDC63	uc001trv.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	R	Q	+	93N	93.00	93T	1.45	somatic mutation
chr20	57,262,579	57,262,581	ZNF831	uc002yan.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	S	F	+	91N	0.70	91T	1.46	somatic mutation
chr16	49,730,517	49,730,519	SALL1	uc002egt.2	Nonsynonymous	G	A	S	F	-	24N	41.00	24T	1.50	somatic mutation
chr20	9,267,562	9,267,564	PLCB4	uc010gpx.1	Nonsynonymous	T	C	L	P	+	12N	93.00	12T	1.52	somatic mutation
chr16	49,732,618	49,732,620	SALL1	uc002egt.2	Nonsynonymous	G	A	P	S	-	60N	93.00	60T	1.52	somatic mutation
chr18	48,532,493	48,532,495	DCC	uc002ffe.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	G	E	+	18N	55.00	18T	1.54	somatic mutation
chr7	110,551,147	110,551,149	LRRN3	uc010ljs.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	12N	0.70	12T	1.55	somatic mutation
chr12	116,182,707	116,182,709	NOS1	uc001lwm.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	S	L	-	60N	0.70	60T	1.56	somatic mutation
chr19	61,061,426	61,061,428	NLRP4	uc010eff.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	55N	88.00	55T	1.57	somatic mutation
chr7	98,347,737	98,347,739	TRRAP	uc003upp.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	S	F	+	91N	0.70	91T	1.57	somatic mutation
chr19	61,060,943	61,060,945	NLRP4	uc002qme.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	55N	93.00	55T	1.59	somatic mutation
chr3	422,211	422,213	CHL1	uc003bou.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	R	W	+	18N	93.00	18T	1.60	somatic mutation
chr1	20,871,077	20,871,079	KIF17	uc001bdr.2	Nonsynonymous	C	T	E	K	-	55N	30.00	55T	1.63	somatic mutation
chr3	156,765,523	156,765,525	PLCH1	uc003faj.2	Stop	G	A	Q	*	-	01N	0.72	01T	1.63	somatic mutation
chr6	74,381,779	74,381,781	SLC17A5	uc003phn.2	Nonsynonymous	G	A	R	C	-	12N	52.00	12T	1.65	somatic mutation
chr12	109,826,797	109,826,799	CCDC63	uc001trv.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	D	N	+	01N	0.71	01T	1.74	somatic mutation
chr7	110,551,147	110,551,149	LRRN3	uc010ljs.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	24N	59.00	24T	1.74	somatic mutation

FIG. 9 (Page 2 of 2)

Chr	LeftFlank	RightFlank	Refseq	Transcript	Type of mutation	Ref.alle le	Var.alle le	Ref.aa	Var.aa	Strand	Normal name	Normal MPGcoverage	Tumor name	Tumor MPGcoverage	Sanger evaluation
chr14	31,631,090	31,631,092	ARHGAP5	uc001wmr.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	91N	0.78	91T	0.03	no mutation
chr5	115,266,568	115,266,570	AP3S1	uc003krl.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	N	S	+	96N	0.16	96T	0.04	no mutation
chr14	31,631,090	31,631,092	ARHGAP5	uc001wmr.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	35N	0.30	35T	0.07	no mutation
chr10	42,635,809	42,635,811	BMS1	uc001ljl.1	Nonsynonymous	T	A	F	I	+	18N	0.45	18T	0.09	no mutation
chr1	21,667,865	21,667,867	NBPf3	uc001lber.1	Nonsynonymous	A	C	K	Q	+	96N	0.51	96T	0.10	no mutation
chrX	135,785,355	135,785,357	RMX	uc004faq.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	L	P	-	43N	0.19	43T	0.16	no mutation
chr1	21,667,865	21,667,867	NBPf3	uc001lber.1	Nonsynonymous	A	C	K	Q	+	12N	59.00	12T	0.20	no mutation
chr5	115,266,568	115,266,570	AP3S1	uc003krl.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	N	S	+	22N	0.15	22T	0.23	no mutation
chr2	148,392,613	148,392,615	ACVR2A	uc002twh.1	Nonsynonymous	A	C	K	N	+	43N	0.50	43T	0.27	no mutation
chr6	57,123,638	57,123,640	ZNF451	uc003pdk.1	Nonsynonymous	C	A	N	K	+	22N	16.00	22T	0.28	no mutation
chr11	122,437,096	122,437,098	HSPA8	uc001pyr.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	R	Q	-	60N	0.49	60T	0.28	no mutation
chr5	115,266,568	115,266,570	AP3S1	uc003krl.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	N	S	+	91N	0.37	91T	0.28	no mutation
chrX	24,716,973	24,716,975	EEF1B2	uc010nga.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	L	P	-	51N	0.38	51T	0.28	no mutation
chr11	122,437,119	122,437,121	HSPA8	uc001pyr.1	Stop	A	C	Y	*	-	60N	0.37	60T	0.29	no mutation
chr11	122,437,121	122,437,123	HSPA8	uc001pyr.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	Y	H	-	60N	0.37	60T	0.30	no mutation
chr11	122,437,100	122,437,102	HSPA8	uc001pyr.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	E	K	-	60N	0.48	60T	0.30	no mutation
chr1	89,221,455	89,221,457	COBL2	uc009wex.1	Stop	A	T	Y	*	-	22N	0.45	22T	0.32	no mutation
chr1	89,221,455	89,221,457	COBL2	uc009wex.1	Stop	A	T	Y	*	-	96N	0.23	96T	0.33	no mutation
chrX	135,785,355	135,785,357	RMX	uc004faq.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	L	P	-	91N	0.08	91T	0.33	no mutation
chr10	126,668,230	126,668,232	CTBP2	uc001ljl.2	Nonsynonymous	G	C	A	G	-	51N	0.55	51T	0.34	no mutation
chr10	42,635,809	42,635,811	BMS1	uc001lil.2	Nonsynonymous	T	A	F	I	+	43N	0.39	43T	0.38	no mutation
chr2	148,392,613	148,392,615	ACVR2A	uc002twh.1	Nonsynonymous	A	C	K	N	+	18N	0.34	18T	0.41	no mutation
chr11	122,437,096	122,437,098	HSPA8	uc001pyr.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	R	Q	-	43N	0.60	43T	0.42	no mutation
chrX	24,716,980	24,716,982	EEF1B2	uc010nga.1	Nonsynonymous	T	C	S	G	-	51N	0.11	51T	0.43	no mutation
chr8	101,786,342	101,786,344	PABPC1	uc003jys.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	S	L	-	91N	0.45	91T	0.44	no mutation
chrX	135,784,240	135,784,242	RMX	uc004faq.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	P	L	-	91N	0.17	91T	0.44	no mutation
chr5	115,266,568	115,266,570	AP3S1	uc003krl.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	N	S	+	12N	0.52	12T	0.46	no mutation
chr13	24,569,368	24,569,370	PABPC3	uc001upy.1	Stop	G	T	E	*	+	09N	0.36	09T	0.47	no mutation
chr11	122,437,100	122,437,102	HSPA8	uc001pyr.1	Nonsynonymous	C	T	E	K	-	43N	0.60	43T	0.47	no mutation
chr8	101,786,342	101,786,344	PABPC1	uc003jys.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	S	L	-	5N	0.13	5T	0.48	no mutation
chr11	122,437,119	122,437,121	HSPA8	uc001pyr.1	Stop	A	C	Y	*	-	43N	0.40	43T	0.49	no mutation
chr10	24,913,592	24,913,594	ARHGAP21	uc001lsb.1	Nonsynonymous	A	G	Y	H	-	43N	0.40	43T	0.50	no mutation
chr14	31,631,090	31,631,092	ARHGAP5	uc001wmr.1	Nonsynonymous	G	C	N	K	+	12N	0.12	12T	0.52	no mutation
chr10	126,668,230	126,668,232	CTBP2	uc001lil.2	Nonsynonymous	G	C	A	G	-	91N	0.53	91T	0.63	no mutation
chrX	135,784,240	135,784,242	RMX	uc004faq.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	P	L	-	43N	0.32	43T	0.67	no mutation
chr13	24,569,368	24,569,370	PABPC3	uc001upy.1	Stop	G	T	E	*	+	55N	0.37	55T	0.68	no mutation
chr14	31,631,090	31,631,092	ARHGAP5	uc001wmr.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	E	K	+	5N	0.79	5T	0.70	no mutation
chr10	24,913,592	24,913,594	ARHGAP21	uc001lsb.1	Nonsynonymous	G	C	N	K	-	01N	0.52	01T	0.72	no mutation
chr2	148,392,613	148,392,615	ACVR2A	uc002twh.1	Nonsynonymous	A	C	K	N	+	96N	0.22	96T	0.84	no mutation
chrX	73,719,665	73,719,667	AK123088	uc004ebu.1	Splice-site	G	A	NA	NA	-	51N	0.42	51T	0.92	no mutation
chrX	135,784,240	135,784,242	RMX	uc004faq.1	Nonsynonymous	G	A	P	L	-	24N	3.34	24T	1.00	no mutation
chrX	73,719,665	73,719,667	AK123088	uc004ebu.1	Splice-site	G	A	NA	NA	-	91N	0.33	91T	1.13	no mutation
chr6	57,123,638	57,123,640	ZNF451	uc003pdk.1	Nonsynonymous	C	A	N	K	+	24N	0.39	24T	1.44	no mutation

Based on genome build hg18 (NCBI 36.1).

FIG. 10A

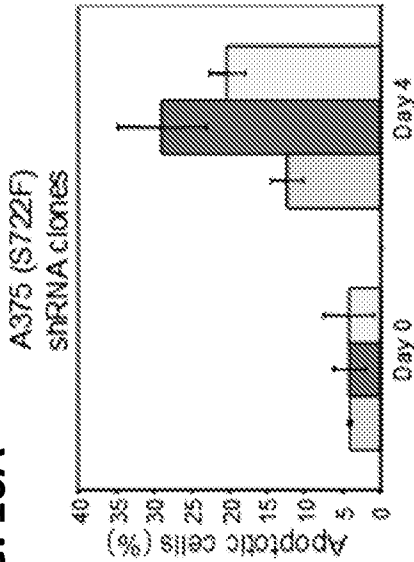
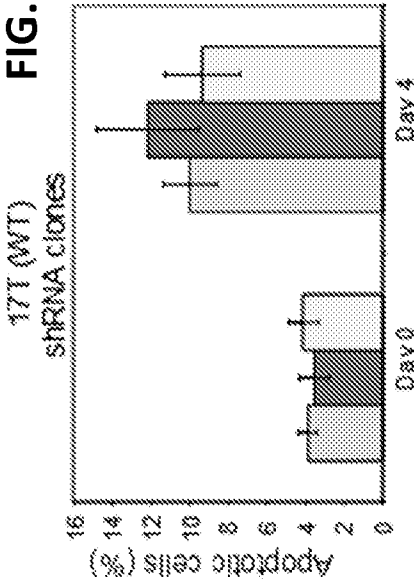


FIG. 10B



Control
shRNA no. 61
shRNA no. 62

FIG. 10C

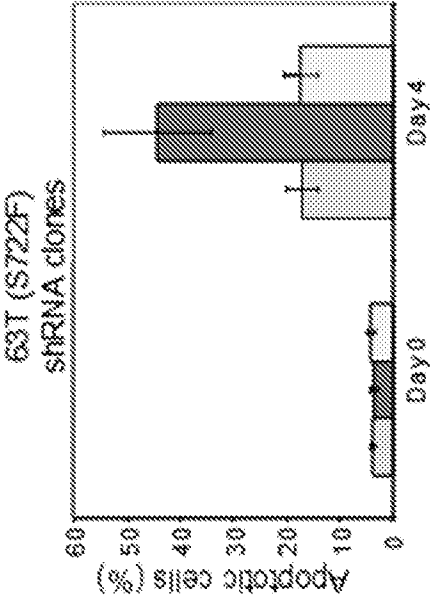


FIG. 10D

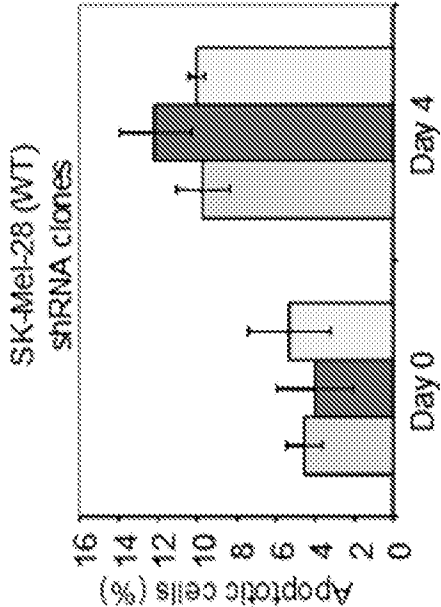


FIG. 11A

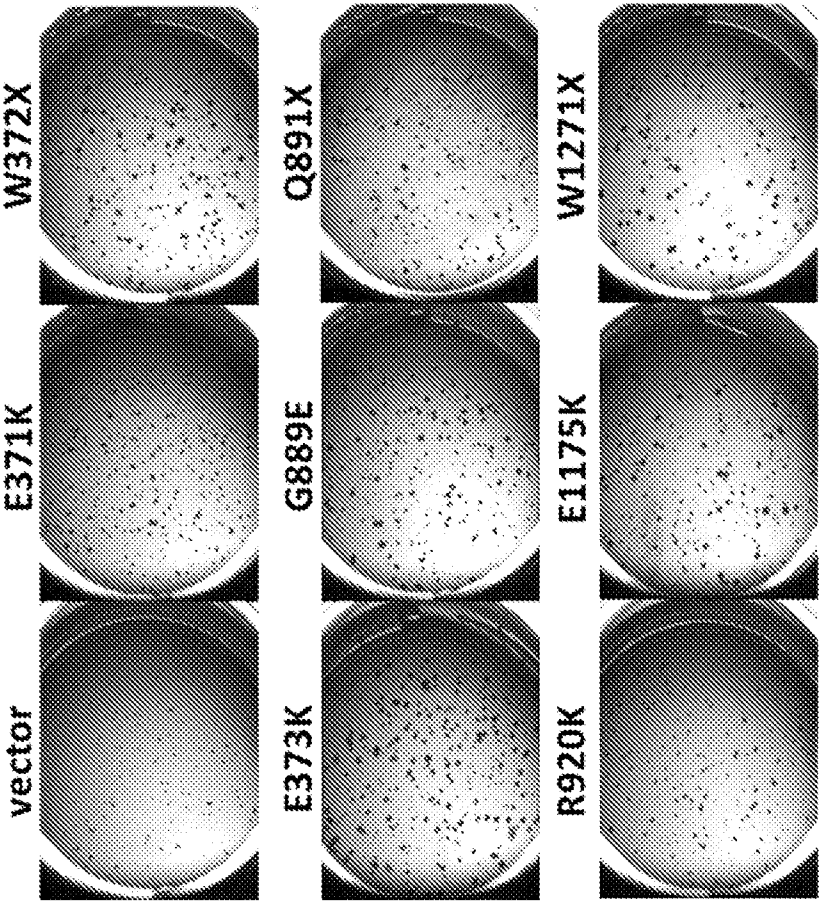


FIG. 11B

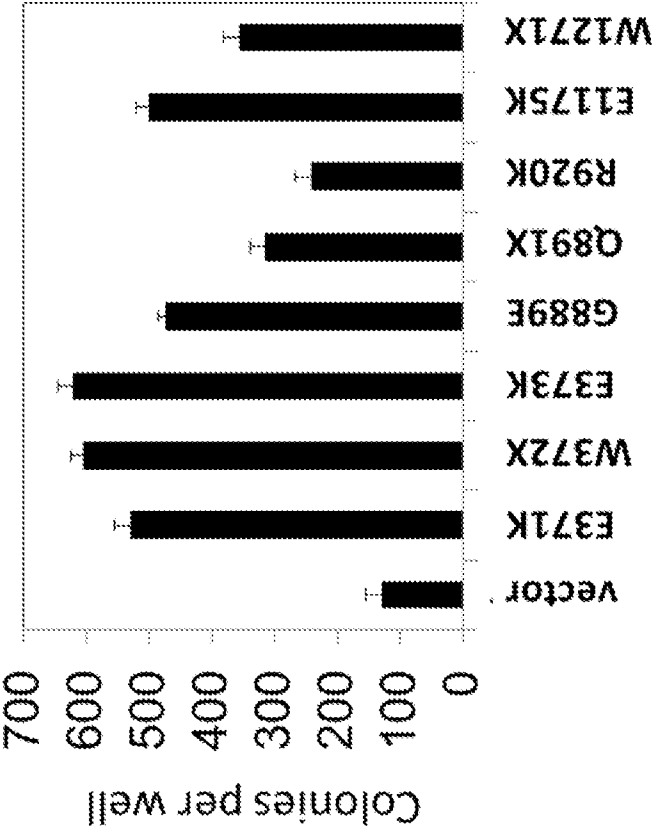


FIG. 12A

501Mel (GRIN2A-E1175K)

125T (GRIN2A-E1175K)

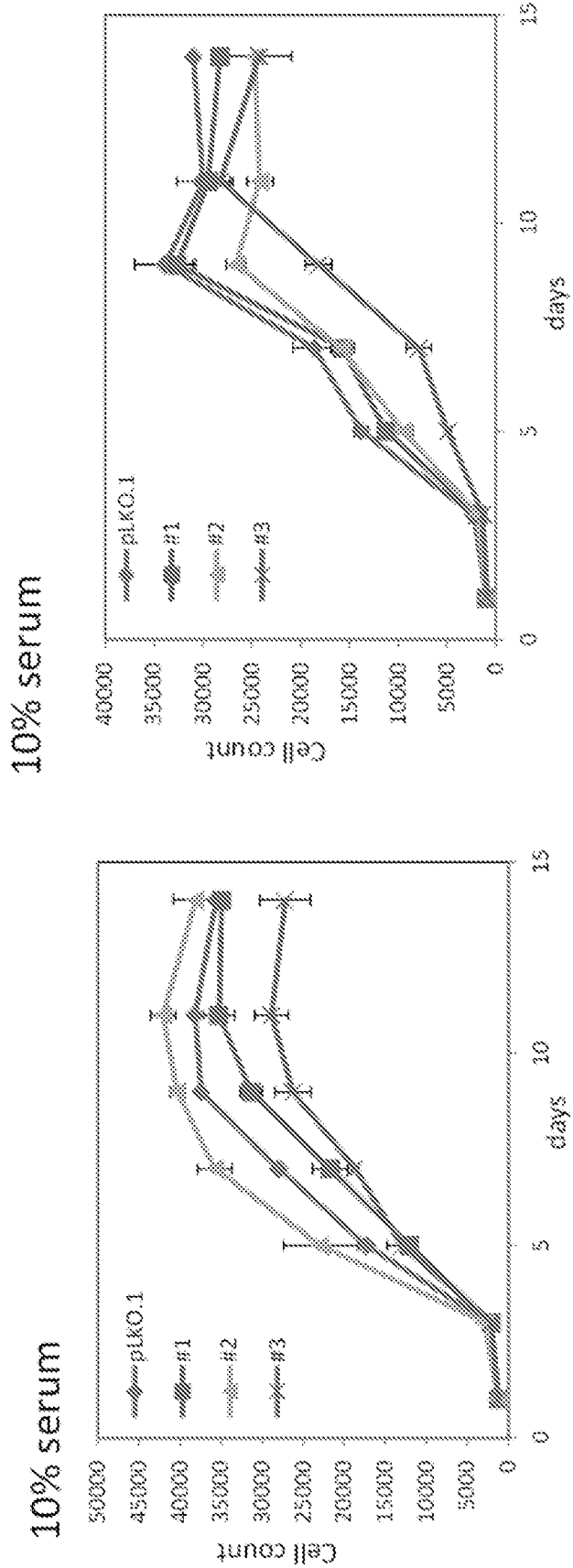
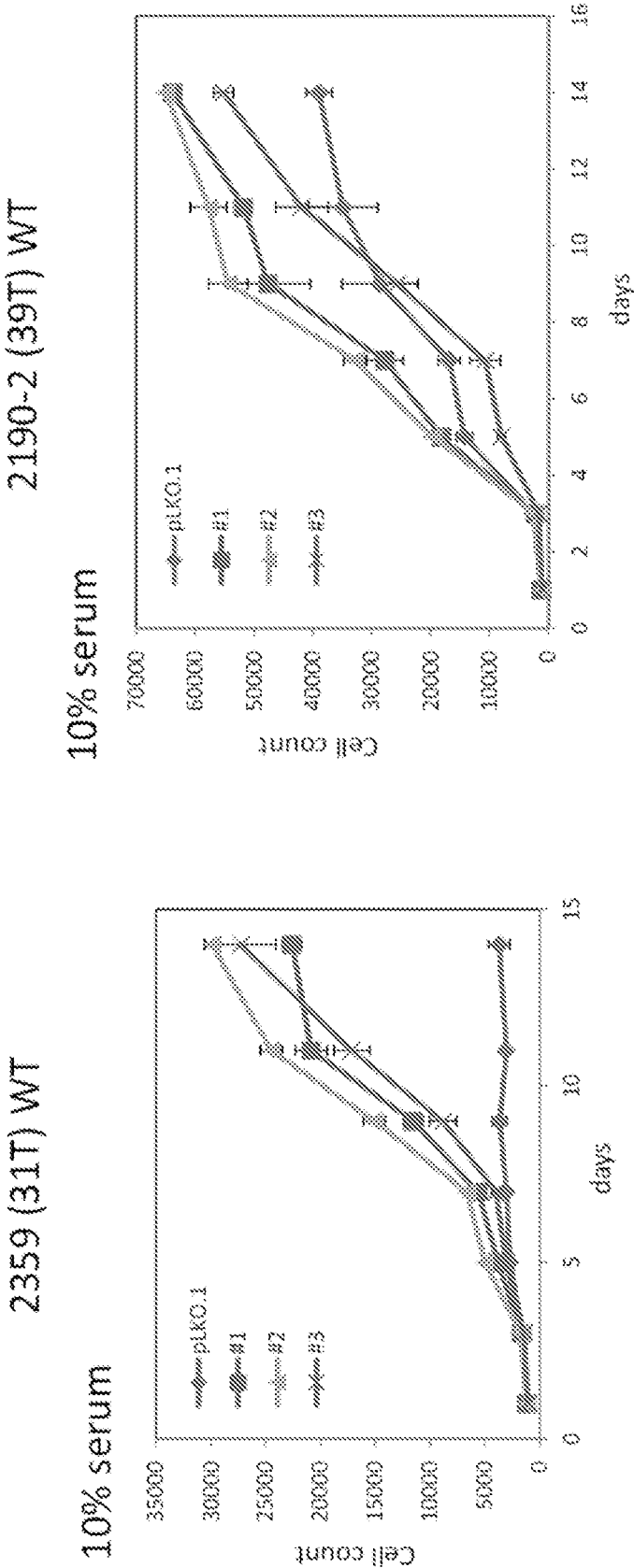


FIG. 12B



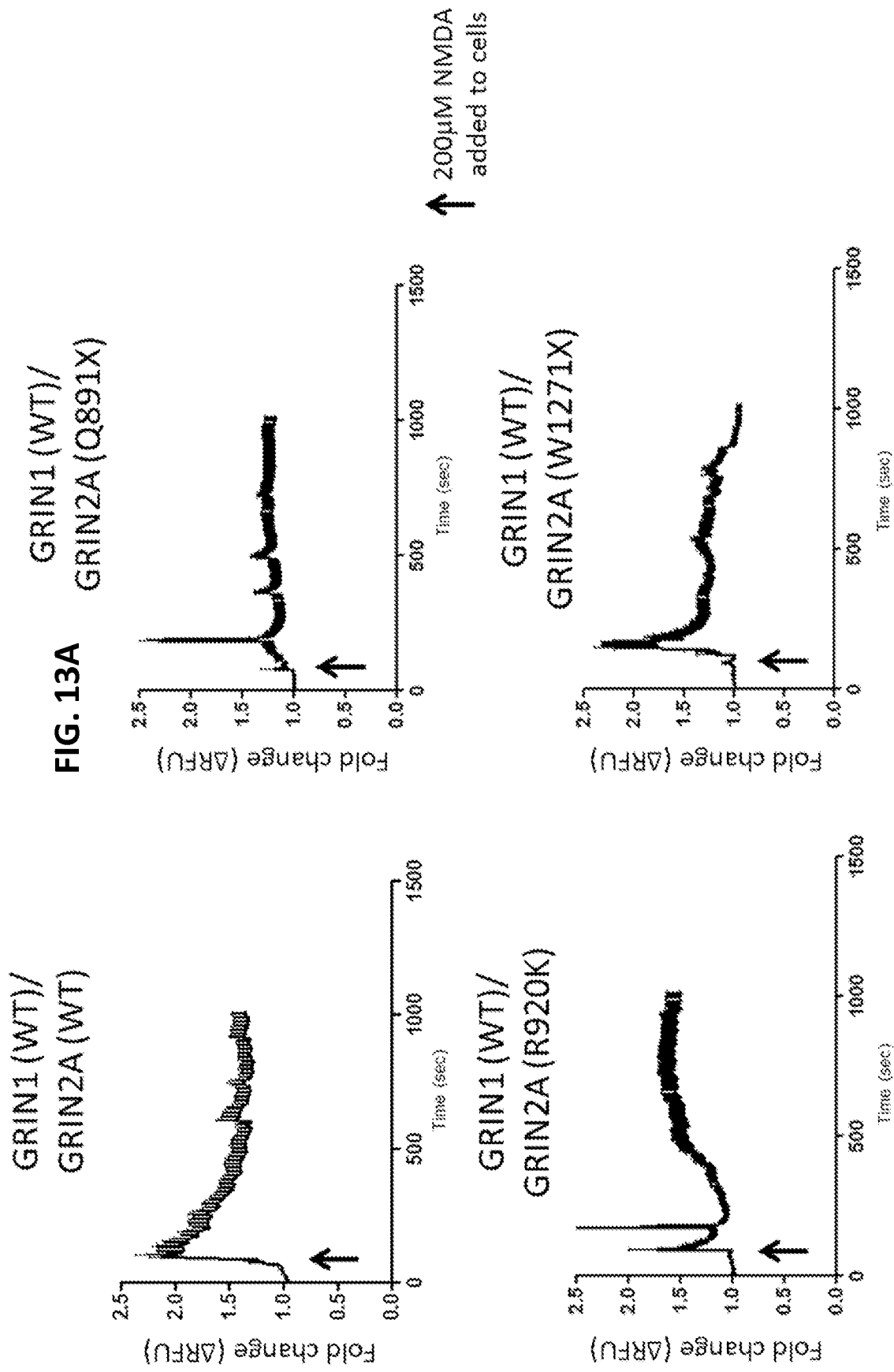
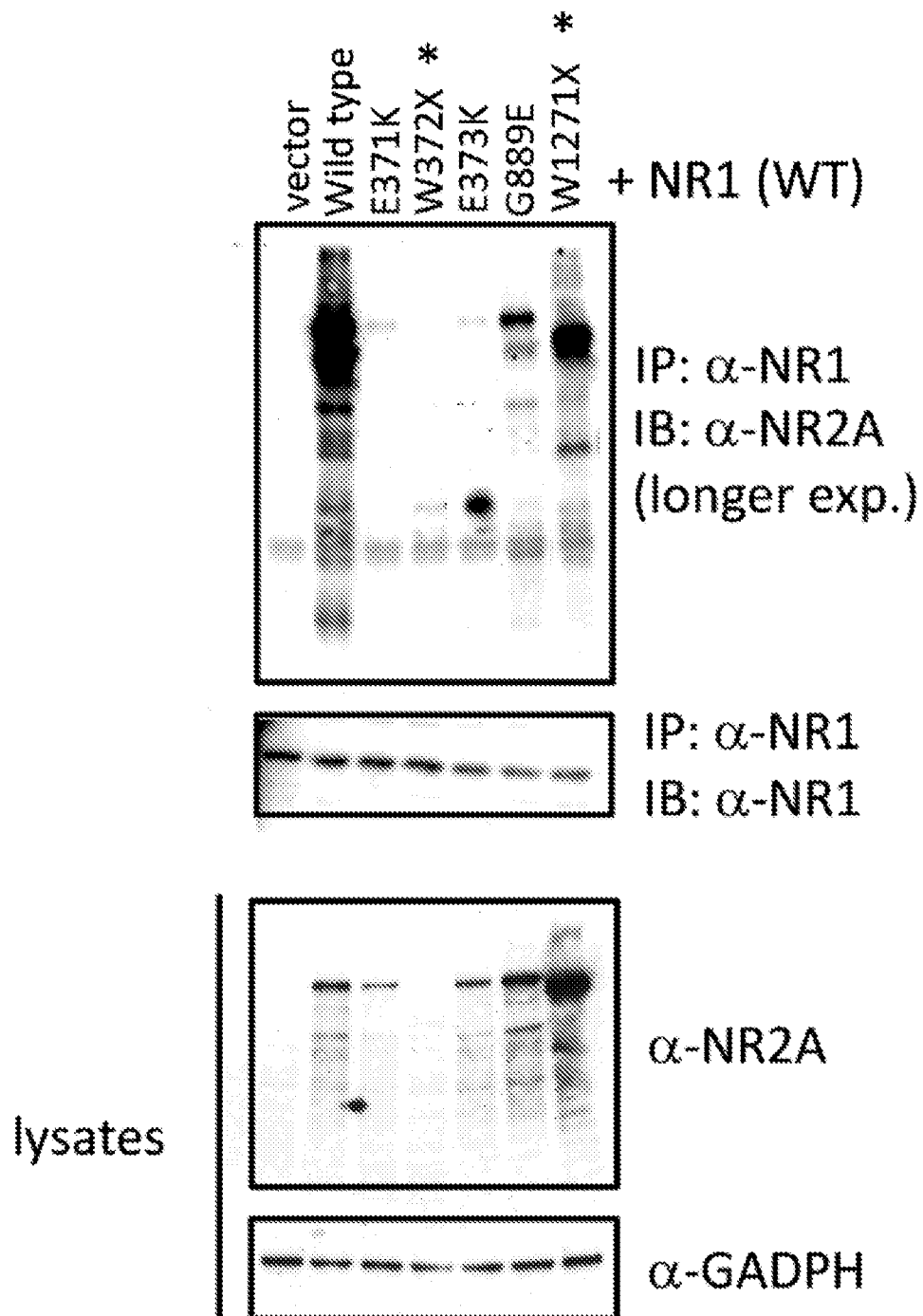


FIG. 13B

293T - Transient
co-expression expt.



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2012/022687

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl.

C12Q 1/68 (2006.01)

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)

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)

Databases: EPODOC, WPI, MEDLINE, HCAPLUS, BIOSIS, EMBASE, BIOTECHABS, NCBI dbSNP; Keywords: GRIN2A, TRRAP, melanoma, and like terms; Database GENOMEQUEST; SEQ ID NOs: 1 and 3 and fragments thereof encoding GRIN2A and TRRAP mutations as shown in claim 20

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US2005/0255487 A1 (KHVOROVA et al.) 17 November 2005 SEQ ID NO:1795360; paras [0131], [0436], [0443]	20-24 and 26
X	US6333152 B1 (VOGELSTEIN et al.) 25 December 2001 SEQ ID NO:0213; col. 8, lines 36-50; col. 9, line 63	20-24 and 26
X	US2007/0042381 A1 (BENTWICH et al.) 22 February 2007 SEQ ID NOs: 2292970; 3091660; 1325271; 2842436; 1907257; 3274287; para [0362]; Figs 17 A & B	20-24 and 26

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C

☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"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
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"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
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 19 March 2012	Date of mailing of the international search report 14 March 2012
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. +61 2 6283 7999	Authorized officer CATRIONA BRUCE AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE (ISO 9001 Quality Certified Service) Telephone No : +61 2 6283 7940

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2012/022687

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

See Supplemental Box

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2012/022687

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US2007/0031843 A1 (BENTWICH et al.) 8 February 2007 SEQ ID NOs: 2169881; 453746; 2469441; 2527239; 2167371; 2676085; 2254069; para [0311]; Figs 17 A & B	20-24 and 26
X	US7687616 B1 (BENTWICH et al.) 30 March 2010 SEQ ID NOs: 3520929; 258842; 366336; 2827338; 2059628; 2128786; 317521; 2017511; 298603; 5543223; col. 66, line 55; Figs 26 A & B	20-24 and 26
X	US2004/0241651 A1 (OLEK et al.) 2 December 2004 SEQ ID NOs: 284956; 330503; 39851; 39852; 282396; 315748; 318058; 81955; 81956; 329241; paras [0030-0032]; [0072]	20-24 and 26
X	US7655785 B1 (BENTWICH) 2 February 2010 SEQ ID NOs: 772892; 2053363; col. 77, lines 30-49; col. 2, line 49	20-24 and 26
X	WO2008/021290 A2 (HOMESTEAD CLINICAL CORPORATION & INSTITUTE FOR SYSTEMS BIOLOGY) 21 February 2008 SEQ ID NOs: 53166; 19315; 19719; pages 136-137, 157, 176; page 222, line 19; page 146, lines 10-18; page 167, line 21; page 169, lines 25-30; page 272, lines 15-17; Fig 1	20-24 and 26
P, X	US2011/0191912 A1 (ALEXANDROV et al.) 4 August 2011 SEQ ID NO: 129667	20
P, X	US2011/0178283 A1 (RIGOUTSOS et al.) 21 July 2011 SEQ ID NOs: 582239; 358189; 559089; 698767	20-21
P, X	WEI, X., et al., 'Exome sequencing identifies GRIN2A as frequently mutated in melanoma', Nature Genetics, 2011 May, vol. 43 number 5, pages 442-446 (including two pages of 'Online Methods') See the entire document and in particular Table 1; Figs 2 and 3; Supplementary Figs 2-4; Supplementary Tables 4-5 and 8	1-26

Supplemental Box 1

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to IV is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No. III (Observations where unity of invention is lacking)

This International Application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept.

This Authority has found that there are different inventions based on the following 2 features that separate the claims into 2 distinct groups.

- Invention 1. Claims 2-6, 13-16 (all entirely) and claims 1, 8-12, 18-26 (all in part). The feature of a GRIN2A mutation is specific to this group of claims.
- Invention 2. Claims 7, 17 (all entirely) and claims 1, 8-12, 18-26 (all in part). The feature of a TRRAP mutation is specific to this group of claims.

PCT Rule 13.2, first sentence, states that unity of invention is only fulfilled when there is a technical relationship among the claimed inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence, defines a special technical feature as a feature which makes a contribution over the prior art.

When there is no special technical feature common to all the claimed inventions there is no unity of invention.

In the above groups of claims, the identified features may have the potential to make a contribution over the prior art but are not common to all the claimed inventions and therefore cannot provide the required technical relationship. Therefore there is no special technical feature common to all the claimed inventions and the requirements for unity of invention are consequently not satisfied *a priori*.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2012/022687

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report				Patent Family Member			
US	2005255487	AU	2003295600	EP	1560931	EP	1773438
		EP	2213738	EP	2278005	EP	2284266
		EP	2305812	EP	2305813	EP	2314691
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2012/022687

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2012/022687

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2012/022687

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