METHOD FOR THE MOLECULAR DIAGNOSIS OF PROSTATE CANCER AND KIT FOR IMPLEMENTING THE SAME

The present invention relates to a method for the molecular diagnosis of prostate cancer (PC), comprising the in vitro analysis of the overexpression and underexpression of combinations of genes capable of differentiating between carcinomatous and noncarcinomatous prostate samples with high statistical significance. In particular, the present invention relates to a kit for the molecular diagnosis of PC capable of carrying out the aforementioned detection.

BACKGROUND

In developed countries the prostate cancer is the most frequent among men and the second cause of mortality for cancer.
Currently, the standard test for PC screening and monitoring is the determination of serum levels of Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA). However, since it is not really a marker of malignity, it brings many false positive and negative results. Therefore, there is an urgent need to find new markers that can offer greater specificity and sensitivity.

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

The present invention relates to a method for the molecular diagnosis of prostate cancer, comprising the *in vitro* analysis, in a test sample, of the expression levels of a group of seven genes.

ADVANTAGES

The method described in this invention could be used as a complementary diagnostic method to the routinely used ones, improving considerably their specificity and sensitivity.

CURRENT STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

We are currently testing different applications of this invention to the routine of a diagnostic urologic service.

GOAL

We are searching companies interested in licensing and co-developing the kit to commercialize it.

PATENT

Patent application P200600348 and corresponding PCT extension filed on february 2007. National phases filed in US and EU.

Applicants: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) y Fundació Privada Clínic per a la Recerca Biomèdica.

Researchers: Timothy Thomson, Pedro Luis Fernández, Raquel Bermudo.

CONTACT

Teresa Lloret:
Fundació Clínic
Tel. + 34 (93) 2275400 (ext. 4356)
mtlloret@clinic.ub.es