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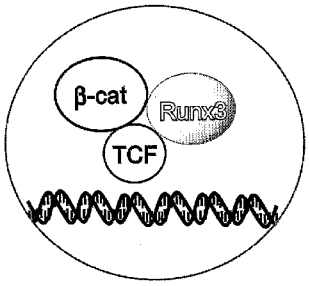
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(54) **Title**: METHODS OF PREVENTING, ARRESTING OR REVERSING TUMOURIGENESIS AND OF IDENTIFYING COMPOUNDS CAPABLE OF THE SAME

Fig. 1C



(57) **Abstract**: Disclosed are methods of preventing, inhibiting, arresting or reversing tumorigenesis in a cell and of inducing programmed cell death (apoptosis) in a tumor cell. The methods include altering the formation of a complex between RUNX3, or a functional fragment thereof, and at least one of (i) beta-catenin, or a functional fragment thereof, and (ii) a member of the TCF/LEF transcription co-factor family. Disclosed are also methods of diagnosing the risk of tumorigenesis in a cell and of diagnosing the risk of developing a neoplasm in a subject. Such method includes assessing the formation of a complex as defined above. An in-vitro method of identifying a compound capable of altering the formation of the afore defined complex is also disclosed. The method includes contacting the components that form the above complex with each other and adding a compound to the test tube suspected to modulate said complex formation.