PHARMACEUTICAL COMBINATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF CANCER

CROSS -REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority of U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/737,155, filed September 27, 2018, the entire contents of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention is directed to a therapy for the treatment of cancer comprising the administration of a SFRP2 antagonist either as a monotherapy or in combination with a PD-1 antagonist simultaneously or sequentially to a patient in need thereof.

All publications, patents, patent applications, and other references cited in this application are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety for all purposes and to the same extent as if each individual publication, patent, patent application or other reference was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes. Citation of a reference herein shall not be construed as an admission that such is prior art to the present invention.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Wnt ligands are secreted glycoproteins that activate downstream effectors through binding to cell surface G-protein coupled transmembrane receptors, known as frizzled receptors. Activation of Wnt signaling is involved in normal embryonic development, but dysregulation of this pathway has been implicated in tumor progression for various cancers (1, 2). Secreted frizzled related proteins (SFRPs) were previously regarded as inhibitors of the canonical Wnt-beta (β)-catenin pathway (1), suggesting that SFRP2 could be a tumor suppressor. However, several additional studies have shown that SFRP2 can act as a ß-catenin agonist rather than an antagonist (3-7), suggesting a role in tumor promotion.

Substantial evidence now strongly supports the contribution of SFRP2 to promoting tumor growth, in breast cancer (5, 8-11), angiosarcoma (9, 10), osteosarcoma (12), rhabdomyosarcoma (13), alveolar soft part sarcoma (14), malignant glioma (15), multiple myeloma (16), renal cell carcinoma (2), prostate cancer (17), lung cancer (18), and melanoma (19). Additionally, *in vivo*