

Claims

1. A method of identifying a tumor that is sensitive to treatment with axitinib, comprising: (a) measuring CD68 polypeptide expression level in a tissue sample from a tumor obtained from a human patient being considered for treatment with axitinib; and (b) comparing the CD68 expression level in step (a) against a threshold CD68 expression level determined by measuring CD68 polypeptide expression in tissue samples of tumors obtained from human patients previously treated with axitinib and shown to be resistant to axitinib and human patients previously treated with axitinib and shown to be sensitive to axitinib, wherein a CD68 expression level above the threshold level indicates that the tumor is sensitive to treatment with axitinib.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of measuring CD68 polypeptide expression is performed by immunohistochemistry.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of measuring CD68 polypeptide expression by immunohistochemistry is carried out by image analysis from a whole slide scan, where the percentage of CD68-positive cells in the sample is determined.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of determining the density of CD68-positive cells in the sample.
5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the tumor is selected from the group consisting of a breast tumor, a lung tumor, a kidney tumor, a colorectal tumor, and a pancreatic tumor, and is preferably a metastatic renal cell