

Claims:

1. A method for quantitative analysis of a sample, comprising:
 - (a) providing a singular marker representative of one or more features of the sample, the sample comprising a population of individual units of the marker;
 - (b) measuring the marker with dot blot analysis, wherein the quantitation result is an absolute amount of the marker's population of individual units in the sample, normalized by the sample volume or by the sample weight; and
 - (c) obtaining an objective determination of the one or more features of the sample based on the quantitation result of the marker.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step (b) comprises measuring the marker with quantitative dot blot (QDB) analysis.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the step (b) comprises:
 - (b1) incubating the sample with a solution comprising a binding agent, wherein: the binding agent is capable of specifically binding to an individual unit of the marker, and the binding agent is capable of being quantified by the dot blot analysis; and
 - (b2) measuring the marker through QDB analysis of the binding agent.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the marker is a protein marker and the binding agent is an antibody.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the antibody is an analyte specific reagent (ASR) antibody.
6. The method of claim 4, wherein the antibody is an in vitro diagnostics (IVD) antibody.
7. The method of claim 4, wherein the antibody is capable of being assayed in immunohistochemistry.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is a biopsy tissue from a subject.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the biopsy tissue is formalin-fixed and paraffin-embedded.
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10. The method of claim 8, wherein the subject is a cancer patient.
11. The method of claim 10, further comprising (d) evaluating the patient based on the quantitation result of the marker.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein, in step (d), evaluating the patient comprises diagnosis and prognosis of a cancer for the patient.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the diagnosis and prognosis of a cancer comprises disease-free survival, overall survival, hazard ratio, or treatment prediction for the cancer.
14. A reference database for diagnosing cancer in a patient based on quantitative analysis of a marker in a biopsy sample from the patient, comprising a plurality of reference profiles, each of the plurality of the reference profile prepared by:
- (a) providing a biopsy sample from a cancer patient with a known diagnosis;
 - (b) measuring said marker with quantitative dot blot (QDB) analysis for the biopsy sample, wherein the quantitation result is an absolute amount of said marker in the biopsy sample, normalized by the biopsy sample volume or by the biopsy sample weight; and
 - (c) associating the quantitation result with the known diagnosis of the cancer patient thereby obtaining a reference profile.
15. The reference database of claim 14, wherein the step (b) comprises:
- (b1) incubating the biopsy sample with a solution comprising a binding agent that specifically binding to said marker; and
 - (b2) measuring said marker through QDB analysis of the binding agent.

16. The reference database of claim 15, wherein the marker is a protein marker and the binding agent is an antibody.

17. A method for diagnosing cancer in a patient, comprising:
providing a reference database of claim 14;
obtaining a biopsy sample from the patient;
measuring the marker used in the reference database in the biopsy sample with QDB analysis, wherein the measured result is an absolute amount of the marker in the biopsy sample;
comparing the quantitation result of the marker with that of each reference profile stored in the reference database; and
identifying a reference profile in the reference database that has the best match and outputting the known diagnosis associated with the identified reference profile.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the cancer is a solid tumor cancer.

19. A kit for diagnosing cancer in a patient, the kit comprising the reference database of claim 14.

20. A kit for diagnosing cancer in a patient, the kit comprising a unit configured to access online the reference database of claim 14.