We claim:

1. Use of a composition comprising an effective amount of nanoparticles comprising a taxane and an albumin in the manufacture of a medicament for treating pancreatic cancer in an individual in need thereof, wherein the individual has progressed on a gemcitabine-based therapy, wherein a prior therapy has stopped for at least 6 months when initiating administration of the medicament to the individual.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the progression is within less than about 12 months.

3. Use of a composition comprising an effective amount of nanoparticles comprising a taxane and an albumin in the manufacture of a medicament for treating resistant or refractory pancreatic cancer in an individual in need thereof.

4. Use of a composition comprising an effective amount of nanoparticles comprising a taxane and an albumin in the manufacture of a medicament for treating recurrent pancreatic cancer in an individual in need thereof.

5. The use of claim 3 or 4, wherein a prior therapy has stopped for at least 6 months when initiating administration to the individual of an effective amount of a composition comprising nanoparticles comprising a taxane and an albumin.

6. The use of claim 5, wherein the prior therapy is a gemcitabine-based therapy.

7. The use of claim 1 or 6, wherein the gemcitabine-based therapy further comprises erlotinib.

8. The use of claim 1 or 6, wherein the gemcitabine-based therapy is monotherapy.

9. Use of a composition comprising nanoparticles comprising taxane and albumin in the manufacture of a medicament for treating pancreatic cancer in an individual in need thereof, wherein the individual has progressed on gemcitabine-based therapy, wherein a prior therapy has stopped for at least 6 months when initiating administration of the medicament to the individual, and wherein the treatment is in combination with an effective amount of another agent.

~~10. The use of claim 9, wherein the nanoparticle composition and the other agent are~~ administered simultaneously or sequentially.

11. The use of claim 9, wherein the nanoparticle composition and the other agent are administered concurrently.

12. The use of claim 9, wherein the other agent is selected from the group consisting of 5-fluororuracil, erlotinib, gefitnib, marimastat, irinotecan, tipifamib, pemetrexed, exatecan, capecitabine, raltitrexed, cetuximab, bevacizumab, bortezomib, rapamycin, vandetanib and gemcitabine.

13. The use of any one of claims 1-12, wherein the pancreatic cancer is exocrine pancreatic cancer or endocrine pancreatic cancer.

14. The use of claim 13, wherein the exocrine pancreatic cancer is pancreatic ductal carcinoma.

15. The use of any one of claims 1-14, wherein the pancreatic cancer is locally advanced pancreatic cancer, unresectable pancreatic cancer, or metastatic pancreatic ductal carcinoma.

16. The use of any one of claims 1-15, wherein the composition comprising nanoparticles comprising taxane and albumin is administered parenterally.

17. The use of claim 16, wherein the composition comprising nanoparticles comprising taxane and albumin is administered intravenously or intraarterially.

~~18. The use of any one of claims 1-17, wherein the taxane is paclitaxel.~~

19. The use of any one of claims 1-18, wherein the nanoparticles in the composition have an average diameter of no greater than about 200 nm.

20. The use of claim 19, wherein the nanoparticles in the composition have an average diameter of less than about 200 nm.

21. The use of any one of claims 1-20, wherein the taxane in the nanoparticles are coated with albumin.

22. The use of any one of claims 1-21, wherein the albumin is human albumin.

23. The use of any one of claims 1-22, wherein the albumin is human serum albumin.

24. The use of any one of claims 1-23, wherein the individual is human.

25. The use of any one of claims 1-24, wherein levels of serum CA19-9 (carbohydrate antigen 19-9) in the individual are decreased by at least about 50% in comparison to the levels of serum CA19-9 prior to the treatment.

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. Use of a composition comprising nanoparticles comprising a taxane and an albumin in the manufacture of a medicament for treating pancreatic cancer in an individual in need thereof, wherein the individual has progressed on a gemcitabine-based therapy and wherein the treatment is in combination with gemcitabine.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the nanoparticle composition and gemcitabine are administered simultaneously or sequentially.

3. The use of claim 1, wherein the nanoparticle composition and gemcitabine are administered concurrently.

4. The use of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the gemcitabine-based therapy further comprises erlotinib.

5. The use of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the gemcitabine-based therapy is monotherapy.

6. The use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the pancreatic cancer is exocrine pancreatic cancer or endocrine pancreatic cancer.

7. The use of claim 6, wherein the exocrine pancreatic cancer is pancreatic ductal carcinoma.

8. The use of any one of claims 1-7, wherein the pancreatic cancer is locally advanced pancreatic cancer, unresectable pancreatic cancer, metastatic pancreatic ductal carcinoma, refractory pancreatic cancer, resistant pancreatic cancer, or recurrent pancreatic cancer.

9. The use of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the composition comprising nanoparticles comprising taxane and albumin is administered parenterally.

10. The use of claim 9, wherein the composition comprising nanoparticles comprising taxane and albumin is administered intravenously or intraarterially.

11. The use of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the taxane is paclitaxel.

12. The use of any one of claims 1-11, wherein the nanoparticles in the composition have an average diameter of no greater than about 200 nm.

13. The use of claim 12, wherein the nanoparticles in the composition have an average diameter of less than about 200 nm.

14. The use of any one of claims 1-13, wherein the taxane in the nanoparticles is coated with albumin.

15. The use of any one of claims 1-14, wherein the weight ratio of the albumin and the taxane in the nanoparticle composition is less than about 1:1 to about 9:1.

16. The use of claim 15, wherein the weight ratio of the albumin and the taxane in the nanoparticle composition is about 9:1.

17. The use of any one of claims 1-16, wherein the albumin is human albumin.

18. The use of any one of claims 1-17, wherein the albumin is human serum albumin.

19. The use of any one of claims 1-18, wherein the individual is human.

20. The use of any one of claims 1-19, wherein levels of serum CA19-9 (carbohydrate antigen 19-9) in the individual are decreased by at least about 50% in comparison to the levels of serum CA19-9 prior to the treatment.