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(54) Title: MEANS AND METHODS FOR STAGING, TYPING AND TREATING A CANCEROUS DISEASE

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to methods for diagnosing, staging and treating cancer, in particular melanoma. In particular, the present invention provides methods for determining the stage/type of a cancerous disease, comprising detecting somatic alterations of the DNA of one or more disseminated cancer cells (DCCs), obtained after homing to a distant organ, such as lymph node; and determining the somatic evolution of the DCC(s) based on the detected somatic alterations, wherein the somatic evolution is indicative of the stage/type of the cancerous disease.



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