

**CLAIMS**

- 5           1. Use of aflibercept in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a patient suspected to suffer from cancer, wherein the patient has been identified as having a lower IL-8 level in a biological sample compared to the reference level of expression of IL-8.
- 10          2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the reference level of expression of IL-8 is between 10 and 90 pg/ml.
3. The use according to any of claims 1 and 2, wherein the relative to a reference level of expression of IL-8 is 19 pg/ml.
- 15          4. The use according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the biological sample is chosen from the group consisting of blood, serum and plasma.
5. The use according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the cancer is colon cancer, a colorectal cancer or a rectal cancer.
- 20          6. The use according to claim 5, wherein the colorectal cancer is a metastatic colorectal cancer.
7. The use according to any of claims 1 to 6, wherein the IL-8 level which is determined is the circulating level.
- 25          8. The use according to any of claims 1 to 7, wherein therapeutically effective amounts of aflibercept, oxaliplatin, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) and folinic acid are to be administered to said patient.
- 30          9. The use according to any of claims 1 to 7, wherein therapeutically effective amounts of aflibercept, folinic acid, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) and irinocetan are to be administered to said patient.
- 35          10. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said patient has previously been treated with therapy based on oxaliplatin or on bevacizumab.
11. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein said patient has failed with chemotherapy, radiotherapy or surgery.
- 40          12. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 11, wherein folinic acid at a dosage comprised between 200 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and 600 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) at a dosage comprised between 2000 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and 4000 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, irinocetan at a dosage comprised between 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and 300 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and aflibercept at a dosage comprised between 1 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg are to be administered to the patient.
- 45          13. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 12, wherein folinic acid at a dosage of 400 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) at a dosage of 2800 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, irinocetan at a dosage of 180 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and aflibercept at a dosage of 4 mg/kg are to be administered to the patient.
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- 5 14. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 13, wherein folinic acid is to be administered intravenously at a dosage of  $400 \text{ mg/m}^2$ , 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) is to be administered intravenously at a dosage of  $2800 \text{ mg/m}^2$ , irinocetan is to be administered intravenously at a dosage of  $180 \text{ mg/m}^2$  and aflibercept is to be administered intravenously at a dosage of  $4 \text{ mg/kg}$  and wherein the combination is to be administered every two weeks.
- 10 15. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 14, wherein the folinic acid, 5- fluorouracil (5-FU), irinocetan and aflibercept are to be administered intravenously every two weeks for a period comprised between 9 and 18 weeks.
- 15 16. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 15, wherein the folinic acid is to be administered intravenously immediately after aflibercept administration.
- 20 17. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 16, wherein the folinic acid is to be administered intravenously immediately after aflibercept administration over a period of 2 hours.
- 25 18. Ex vivo use of interleukin-8 (IL-8) as a biomarker for predicting the outcome of the treatment with aflibercept, or ziv-aflibercept of a patient suspected to suffer from a cancer.
- 30 19. A method of determining whether a patient suspected to suffer from cancer is a candidate for aflibercept therapy for the said cancer comprising the step of subjecting a patient's biological sample to at least one assay to measure at baseline the IL-8 level, wherein when the biological sample IL-8 level is low relative to a reference level of expression of IL-8, the patient is identified as a candidate for therapy for cancer.
- 30 20. A method of determining whether a patient suspected to suffer from cancer is a candidate for aflibercept therapy for the said cancer comprising the step of subjecting a patient's biological sample to at least one assay to measure at baseline the IL-8 level, wherein when the biological sample IL-8 level is high relative to a reference level of expression of IL-8, the patient is identified as not being a candidate for therapy for cancer.