

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. An in vitro method for diagnosing pancreatic cancer in an individual, the method comprising:

measuring level of each protein biomarker of a combination of biomarkers selected from CTSB and THBS4; CTSB and C5; and CTSB and C2 in a biological sample from the individual, wherein the individual is classified as having or not having pancreatic cancer, or the likelihood of the individual having pancreatic cancer is determined, based on differential expression levels of the protein biomarkers.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the diagnosis comprises the differential diagnosis of pancreatic cancer from benign conditions such as pancreatitis or a gastrointestinal disorder.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the individual has an abdominal mass.
4. An in vitro method for screening an asymptomatic high risk individual for pancreatic cancer, the method comprising:

measuring the level of each protein biomarker of a combination of biomarkers selected from CTSB and THBS4; CTSB and C5; and CTSB and C2 in a biological sample from the individual, wherein the individual is classified as having or not having pancreatic cancer, or the likelihood of the individual having pancreatic cancer is determined, based on differential expression levels of the protein biomarkers.
5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein measuring the biomarker levels comprises performing an in vitro assay.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein said in vitro assay comprises at least one capture reagent corresponding to each of said biomarkers, and further comprising selecting said at least one capture reagent from the group consisting of aptamers, antibodies, and a nucleic acid probe.
7. The method of claim 5, wherein the in vitro assay is selected from the group consisting of an immunoassay, an aptamer-based assay, a histological or cytological assay.
8. The method of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the biological sample is selected from the group consisting of whole blood, plasma, serum and pancreatic fluid.