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(54) Title: USE OF INHIBITORS OF EGFR-FAMILY RECEPTORS IN THE TREATMENT OF HORMONE REFRACTORY BREAST CANCERS

(57) Abstract: Provided are methods of suppressing growth of hormone refractory breast tumors by contacting tumor cells with an ErbB3 inhibitor, preferably an anti-ErbB3 antibody. Also provided are methods for treating hormone refractory breast cancer in a patient by administering to the patient an inhibitor of heregulin binding to ErbB3 or to ErbB2/ErbB3 heterodimer, which inhibitor is an anti-ErbB3 antibody or an anti-ErbB2 antibody. The treatment methods can further comprise selecting a patient having a hormone refractory breast cancer and then administering the inhibitor to the patient. The treatment methods may also comprise administering an estrogen receptor antagonist, or an aromatase inhibitor to the patent and may at further comprise administering to the patient at least one additional anti-cancer agent that is not an ErbB3 inhibitor, an estrogen receptor antagonist, or an aromatase inhibitor to the patient in combination with the ErbB3 inhibitor.