CLAIMS

1. In vitro use of interleukin-8 (IL-8) as a biomarker for predicting the outcome of the treatment with aflibercept, or ziv-aflibercept of a patient with metastatic colorectal cancer.

2. A method of determining whether a patient with metastatic colorectal cancer is a candidate for aflibercept therapy for the said metastatic colorectal 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 the biological sample is chosen from the group consisting of blood, serum and plasma, 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 metastatic colorectal cancer.

3. A method of determining whether a patient with metastatic colorectal cancer is a candidate for aflibercept therapy for the said metastatic colorectal 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 the biological sample is chosen from the group consisting of blood, serum and plasma, 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 metastatic colorectal cancer.

4. The method according to any of claims 2 and 3, wherein the reference level of expression of IL-8 is between 10 and 30 pg/ml.

5. The method according to any of claims 2 to 4, wherein the reference level of expression of IL-8 is 19 pg/ml.

6. The method according to any of claims 2 and 4 to 5, wherein therapeutically effective amounts of aflibercept, oxaliplatin, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) and folinic acid are to be administered to said patient.

7. The method according to any of claims 2 and 4 to 5, wherein therapeutically effective amounts of aflibercept, folinic acid, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) and irinotecan are to be administered to said patient.

8. The method according to any of claims 2 and 4 to 7, wherein said patient has previously been treated with therapy based on oxaliplatin or on bevacizumab.

9. The method according to any of claims 2 and 4 to 8, wherein said patient has failed with chemotherapy, radiotherapy or surgery.

10. The method according to any one of claims 2 and 4 to 9, wherein folinic acid at a dosage comprised between 200 mg/m^2 and 600 mg/m^2, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) at a dosage comprised between 2000 mg/m^2 and 4000 mg/m^2, irinotecan at a dosage

comprised between 100 mg/m^2 and 300 mg/m^2 and aflibercept at a dosage comprised between 1 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg are to be administered to the patient.

11. The method according to any one of claims 2 and 4 to 10, wherein folinic acid at a dosage of 400 mg/m^2, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) at a dosage of 2800 mg/m^2, irinotecan at a dosage of 180 mg/m^2 and aflibercept at a dosage of 4 mg/kg are to be administered to the patient.

12. The method according to any one of claims 2 and 4 to 11, wherein folinic acid is to be administered intravenously at a dosage of 400 mg/m^2, 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) is to be administered intravenously at a dosage of 2800 mg/m^2, irinotecan is to be administered intravenously at a dosage of 180 mg/m^2 and aflibercept is to be administered intravenously at a dosage of 4 mg/kg and wherein the combination are to be administered every two weeks.

13. The method according according to any one of claims 2 and 4 to 12, wherein folinic acid, 5- fluorouracil (5-FU), irinotecan and aflibercept are to be administered intravenously every two weeks for a period comprised between 9 and 18 weeks.

14. The method according according to any one of claims 2 and 4 to 13, wherein folinic acid is to be administered intravenously immediately after aflibercept administration.

15. The method according according to any one of claims 2 and 4 to 14, wherein folinic acid is to be administered intravenously immediately after aflibercept administration over a period of 2 hours.