

-continued

hsa-miR-15a;
 hsa-miR-30e*;
 hsa-miR-132*; and
 hsa-miR-921.

29. The kit of claim **22**, wherein the overall expression pattern or level of 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55 or 60 microRNAs is determined to diagnose or detect colorectal neoplasia.

30. A method for selecting a cancer therapy for a patient diagnosed with colorectal neoplasia, the method comprising:

obtaining a sample from a subject having a colorectal neoplasia; and

determining the level of expression level of miR18a, miR19a, miR19b, miR15b, miR29a and miR335 as compared to the level of expression of a biological sample of a normal subject, wherein the normal subject is a healthy subject not suffering from colorectal neoplasia, wherein overexpression of the microRNAs is indicative of colorectal cancer; and

selecting the cancer therapy based on the determination of the colorectal neoplasia in the patient.

31. A method of performing a clinical trial to evaluate a candidate drug believed to be useful in treating a disease state, the method comprising:

(a) measuring the level of microRNAs obtained from a set of patients, wherein the microRNAs are selected from one or more microRNAs selected from: miR19a and miR19b, or miR19a and miR19b and miR15b microRNAs;

(b) administering a candidate drug to a first subset of the patients, and a placebo to a second subset of the patients;

a comparator drug to a second subset of the patients; or a drug combination of the candidate drug and another active agent to a second subset of patients;

(c) repeating step (a) after the administration of the candidate drug or the placebo, the comparator drug or the drug combination; and

(d) determining if the candidate drug reduces the number of colorectal neoplastic cells that have a change in the expression of the microRNAs that is statistically significant as compared to any change occurring in the second subset of patients, wherein a statistically significant reduction indicates that the candidate drug is useful in treating said disease state.

32. A method for diagnosing or detecting colorectal neoplasia (in a human subject comprising the steps of:

identifying the human subject suffering from or suspected of suffering from colorectal neoplasia;

obtaining one or more biological samples from the subject, wherein the biological samples are selected from one or more biological fluids, a plasma sample, a serum sample, a blood sample, a tissue sample, or a fecal sample;

measuring an overall expression pattern or level of miR18a, miR19a, miR19b, miR15b, miR29a and miR335; and

comparing the overall expression pattern of the one or more microRNAs from the biological sample of the subject suspected of suffering from colorectal neoplasia with the overall expression pattern of the one or more microRNAs from a biological sample of a normal subject, wherein the normal subject is a healthy subject not suffering from colorectal neoplasia, wherein overex-

pression of microRNAs: miR18a, miR19a, miR19b, miR15b, miR29a and miR335, is indicative of colorectal cancer.

33. The method of claim **32**, wherein the microRNAs are underexpressed in colorectal neoplasia and are selected from:

hsa-miR-636;
 hsa-miR-876-3p;
 hsa-miR-1537;
 hsa-miR-630;
 hsa-miR-380*;
 hsa-miR-338-5p;
 hsa-miR-573;
 hsa-miR-182*;
 hsa-miR-518c*;
 hsa-miR-187*;
 hsa-miR-1233;
 hsa-miR-449b;
 hsa-miR-1204;
 hsa-miR-518d-3p;
 hsa-miR-1290;
 hsa-miR-144:9.1;
 hsa-miR-105;
 hsa-miR-298;
 hsa-miR-491-5p;
 hsa-miR-576-3p;
 hsa-miR-590-3p;
 hsa-miR-1257;
 hsa-miR-1225-3p;
 hsa-miR-127-3p;
 hsa-miR-936;
 hsa-miR-379;
 hsa-miR-664*;
 hsa-miR-548j;
 hsa-miR-130b*; and
 hsa-miR-515-3p.

34. The method of claim **32**, wherein the microRNAs are overexpressed in colorectal neoplasia and are selected from:

hsa-miR-302b;
 hsa-miR-125a-5p;
 hsa-miR-424;
 hsa-miR-125b;
 hsa-miR-100;
 hsa-miR-768-3p:11.0;
 hsa-miR-24;
 hsa-miR-23a;
 hsa-miR-1274b;
 hsa-miR-27a;
 hsa-miR-26b;
 hsa-miR-30d;
 hsa-miR-520h;
 hsa-miR-520g;
 hsa-miR-302*;
 hsa-miR-518c;
 hsa-miR-335;
 hsa-miR-29a;
 hsa-miR-152;
 hsa-miR-191;
 hsa-miR-17;
 hsa-miR-19b;
 hsa-miR-30a;
 hsa-miR-151-5p;
 hsa-miR-92a;
 hsa-miR-25;
 hsa-miR-15b;
 hsa-miR-15a;
 hsa-miR-30e*;
 hsa-miR-132*; and
 hsa-miR-921.
