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(54) **OSTEOPOROSIS ASSOCIATED MARKERS
AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF**

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35437**
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G01N 33/53 (2006.01)
G06F 19/00 (2006.01)
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **435/6; 435/7.1; 702/19**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Disclosed are methods of identifying subjects with osteoporosis or osteopenia, subjects at risk for developing osteoporosis, osteopenia, and bone fractures, methods of evaluating the effectiveness of osteoporosis treatments in subjects with osteoporosis or osteopenia, and methods of selecting therapies for treating osteoporosis or osteopenia, using biomarkers.

FIG. 1A-1

CYTOKINE-CYTOKINE RECEPTOR INTERACTION

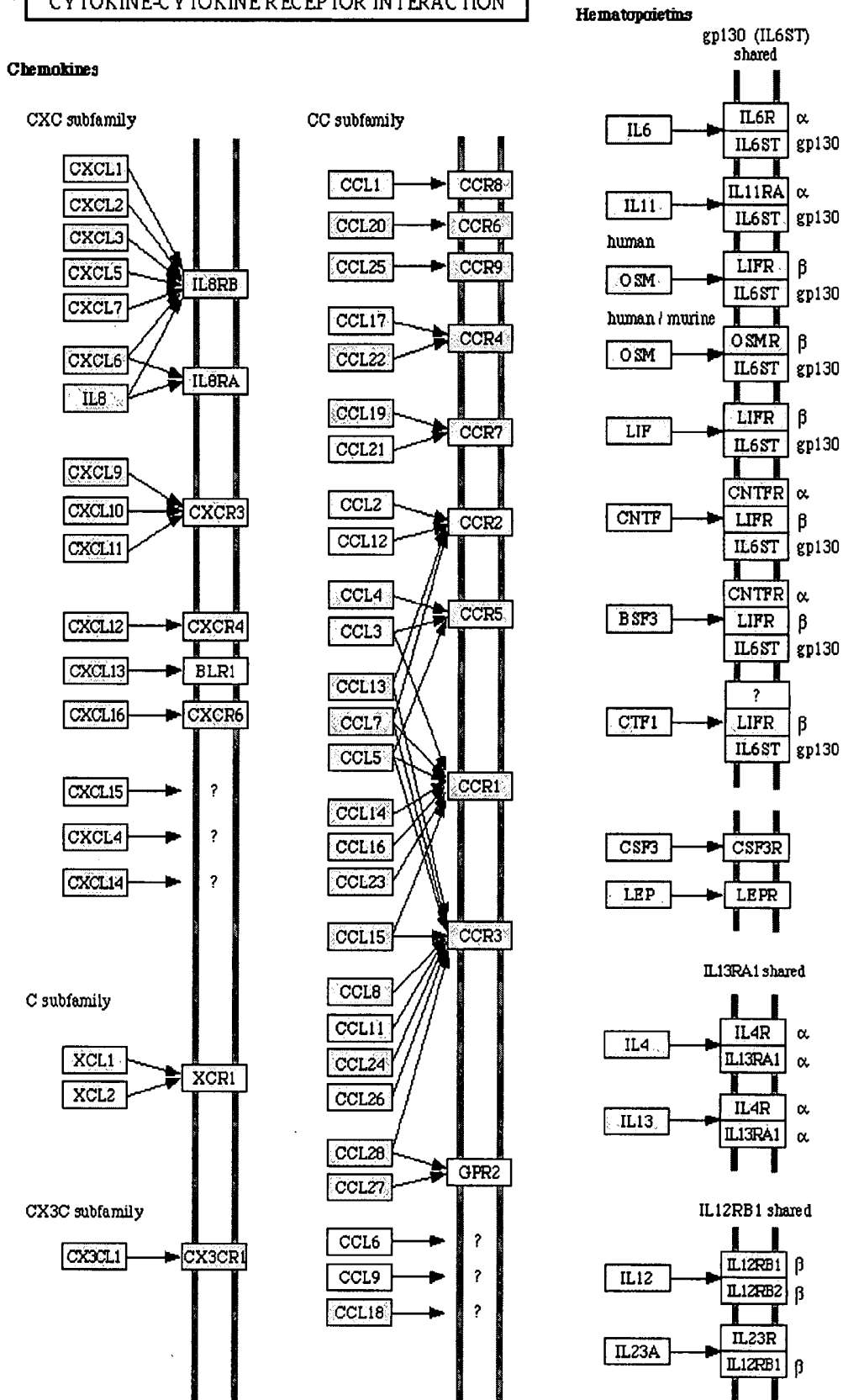


FIG. 1A-2

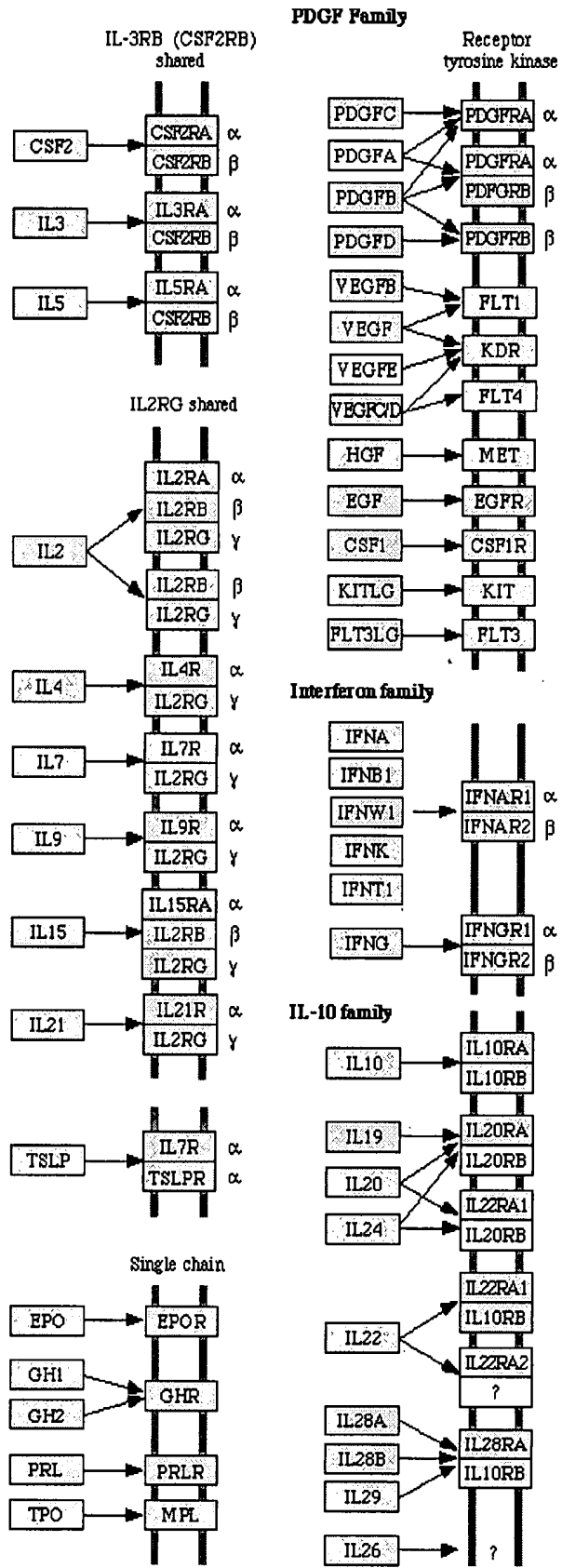
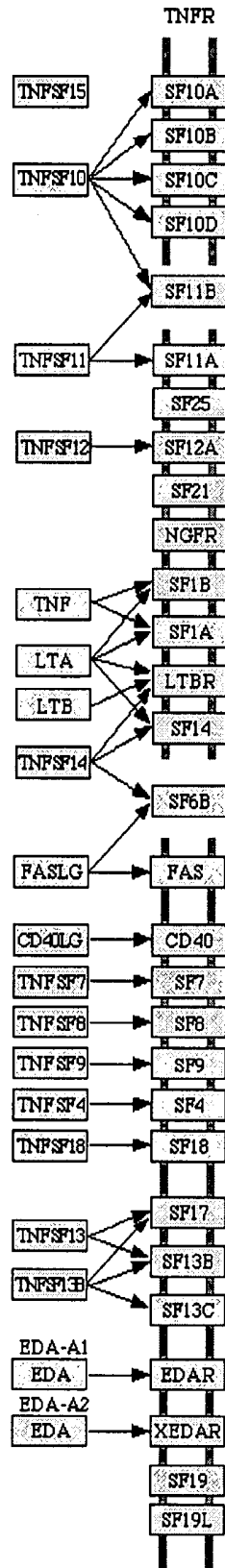
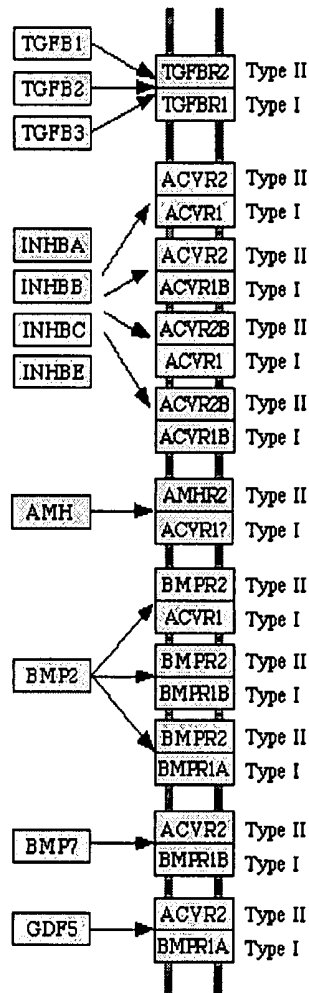


FIG. 1A-3

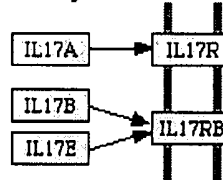
TNF family



TGF-β family



IL-17 family



IL-1 family

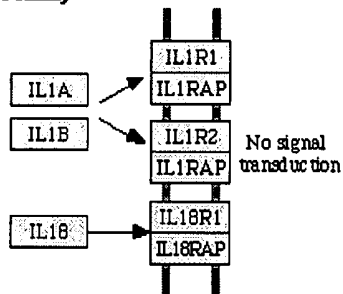
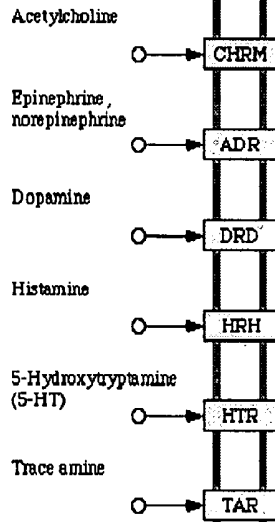


FIG. 1B-1

NEUROACTIVE LIGAND-RECEPTOR INTERACTION

GPCRs

Class A Rhodopsin like Amine



Peptide

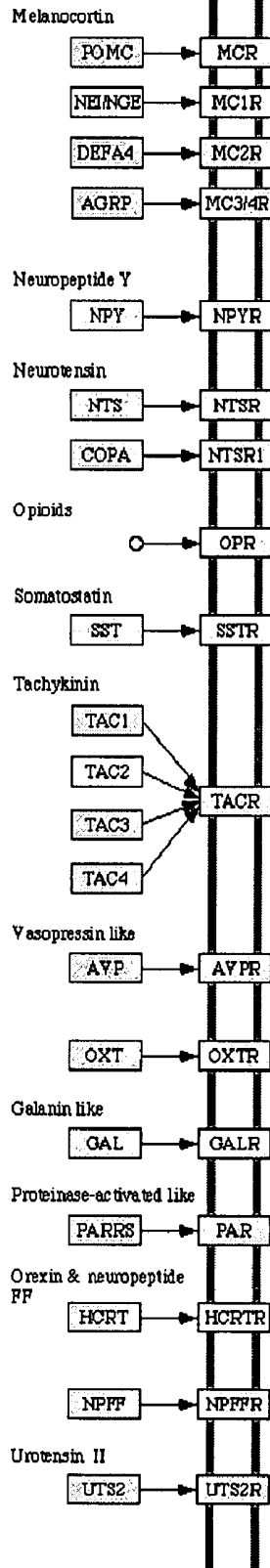
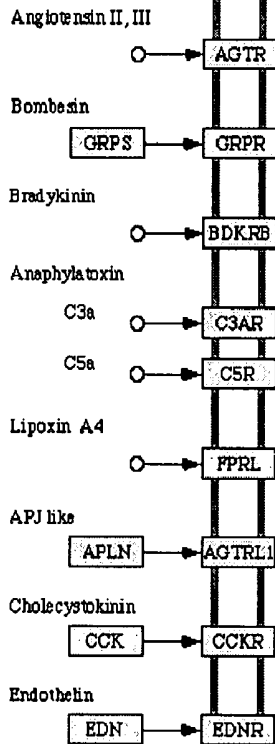


FIG. 1B-2

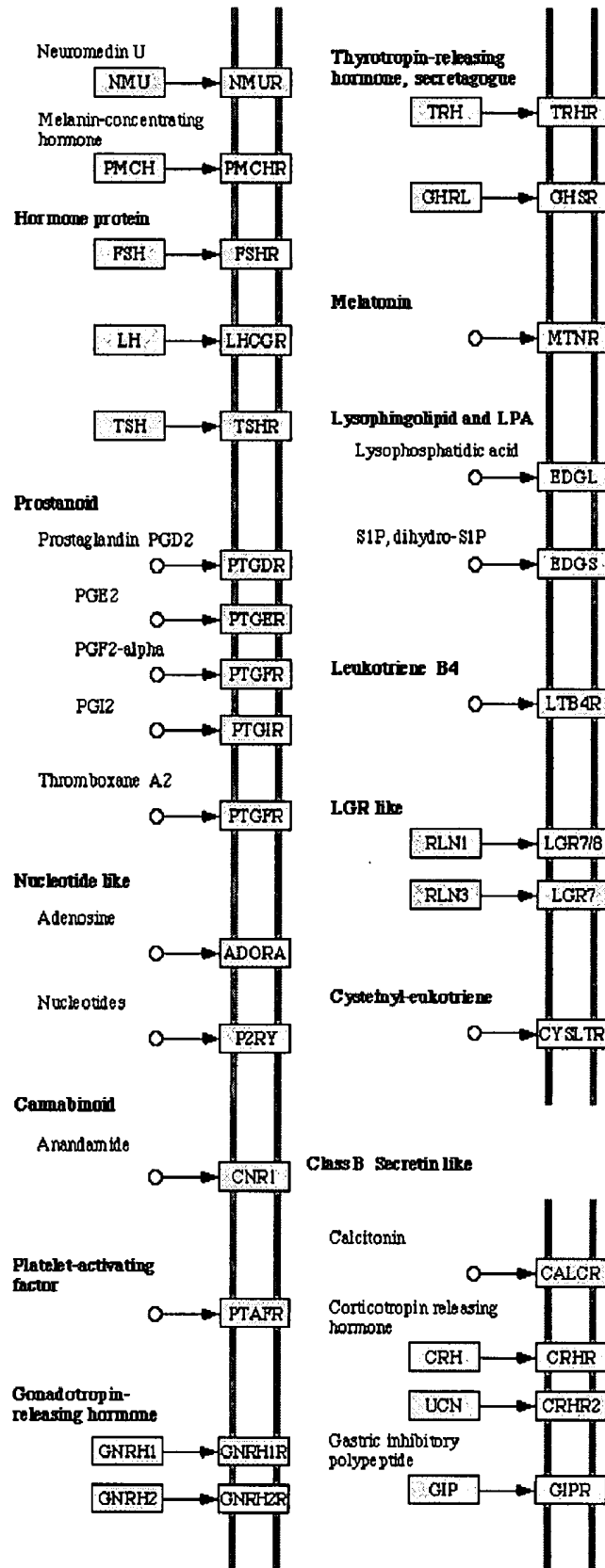


FIG. 1B-3

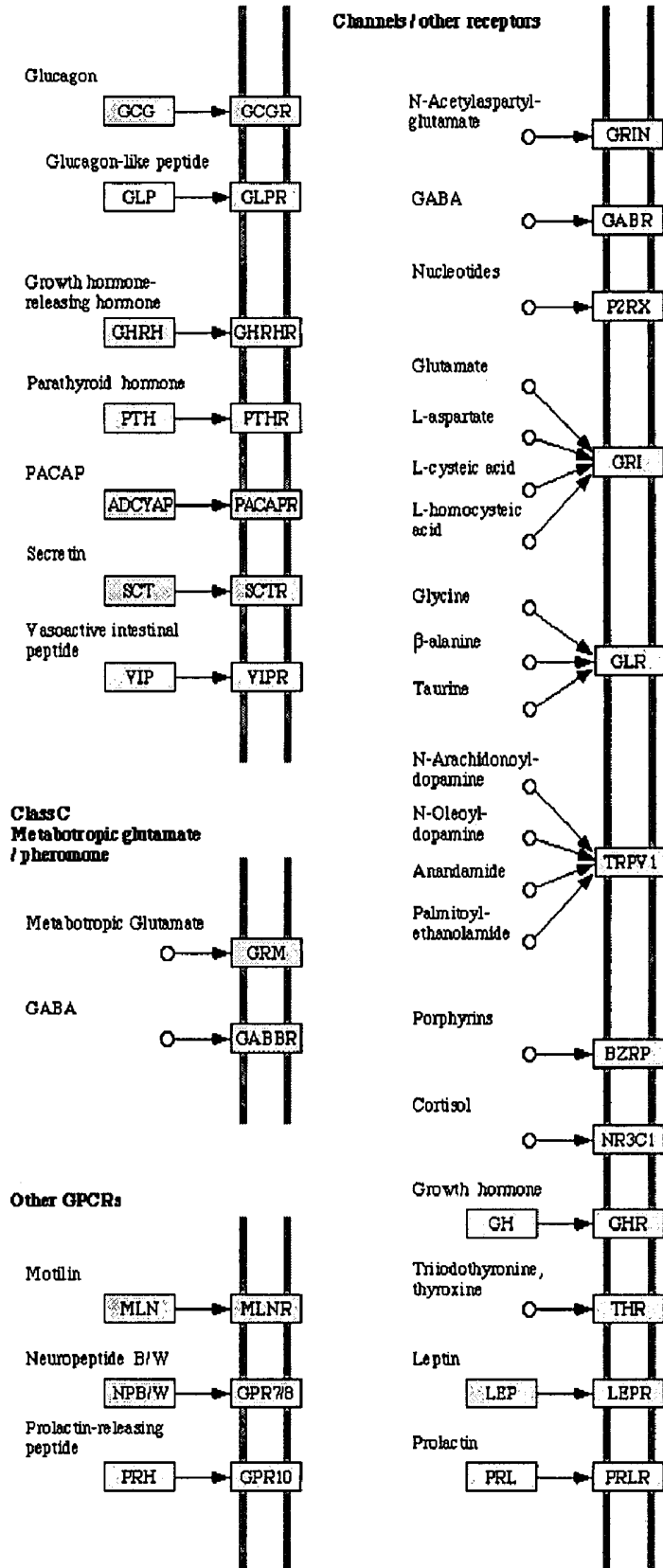


FIG. 1C-1

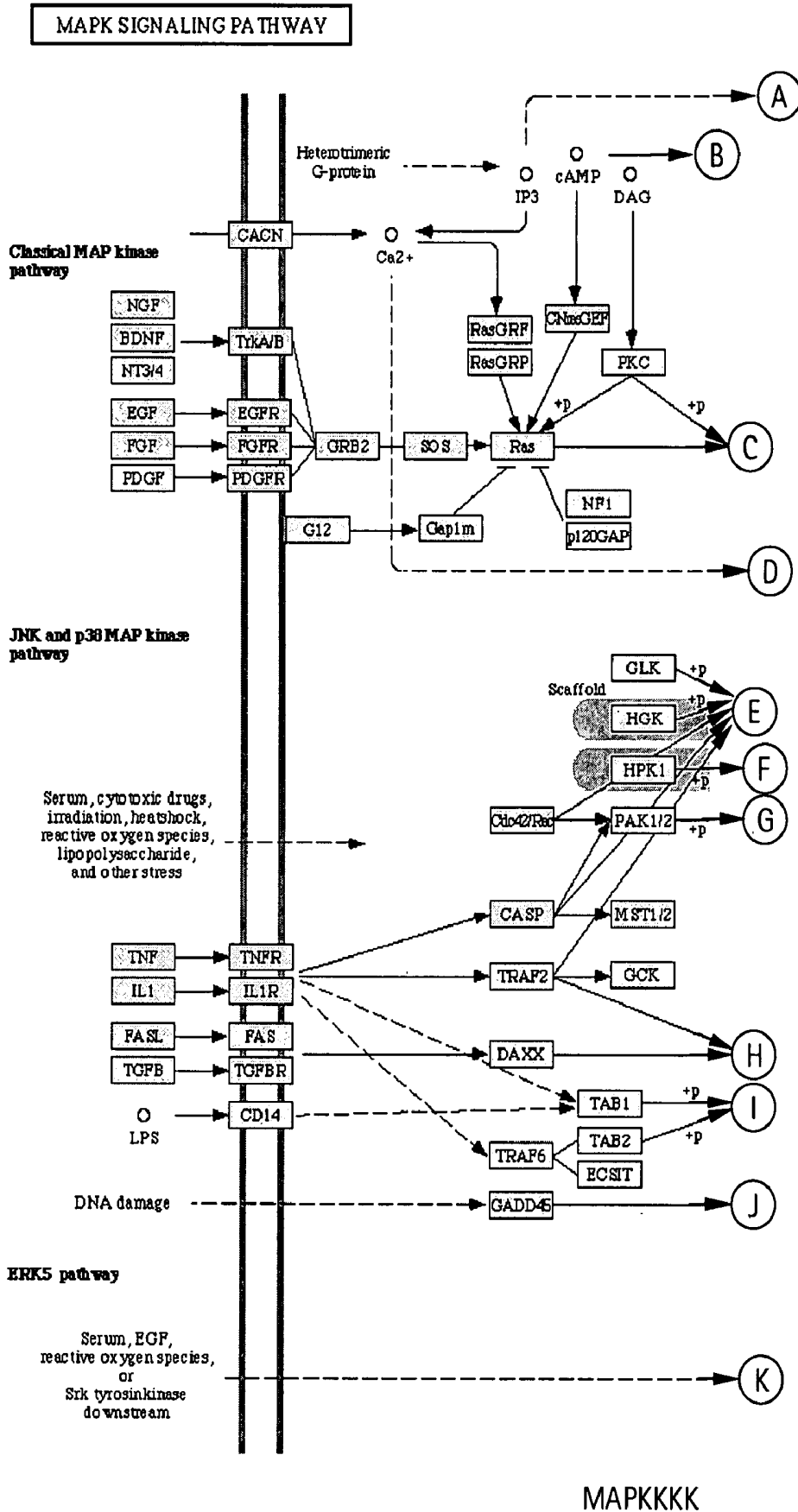


FIG. 1C-2

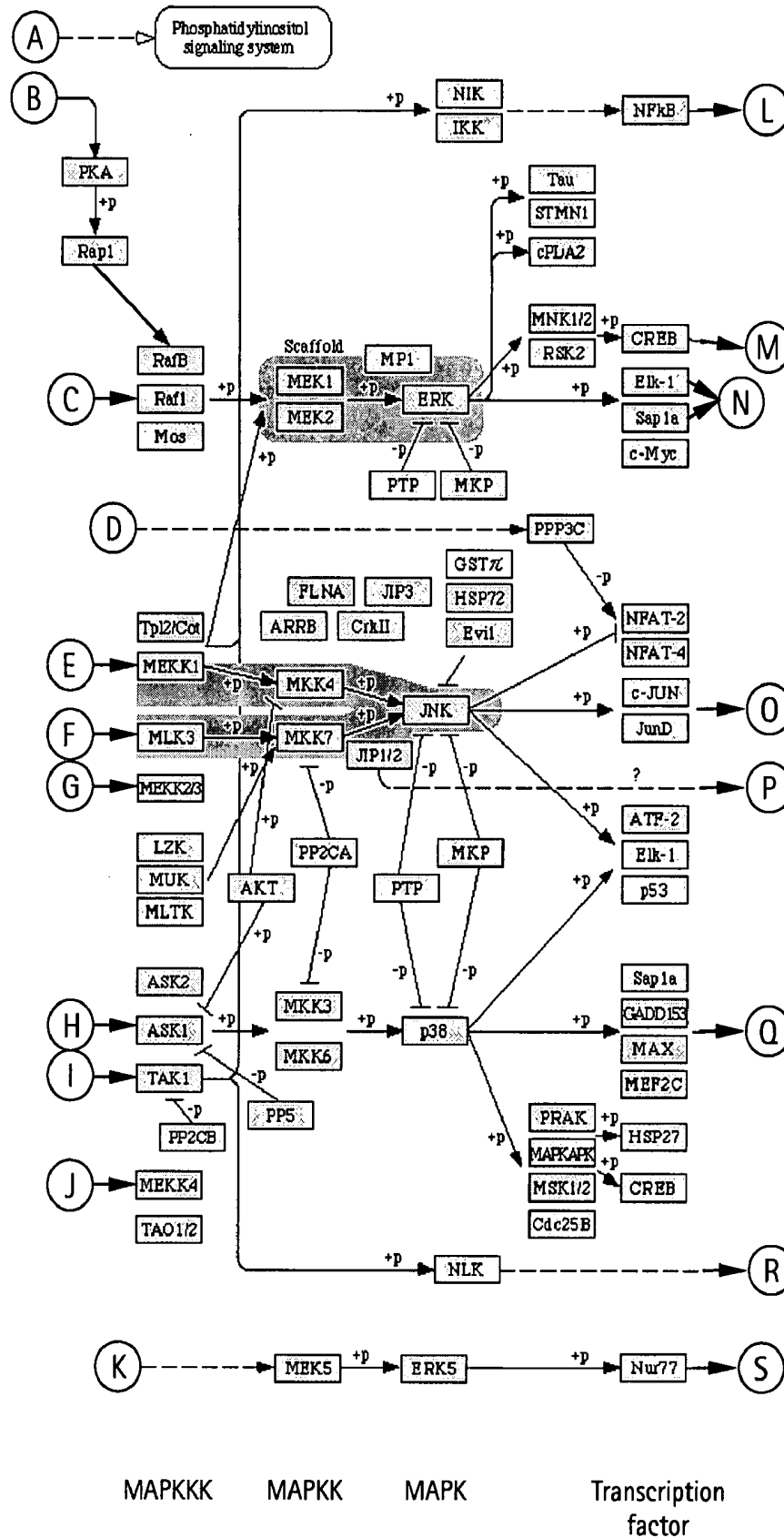


FIG. 1C-3

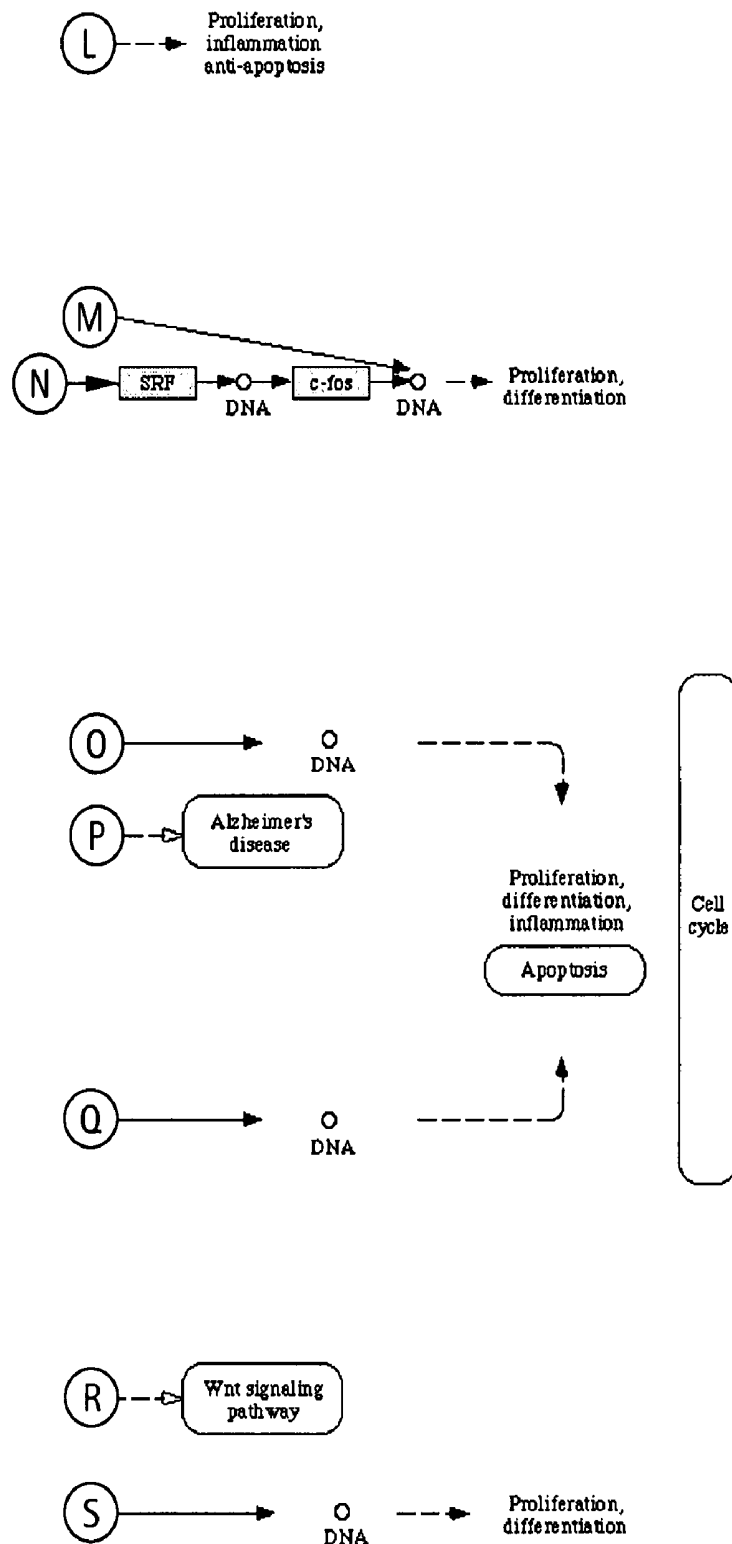


FIG. 1D-1

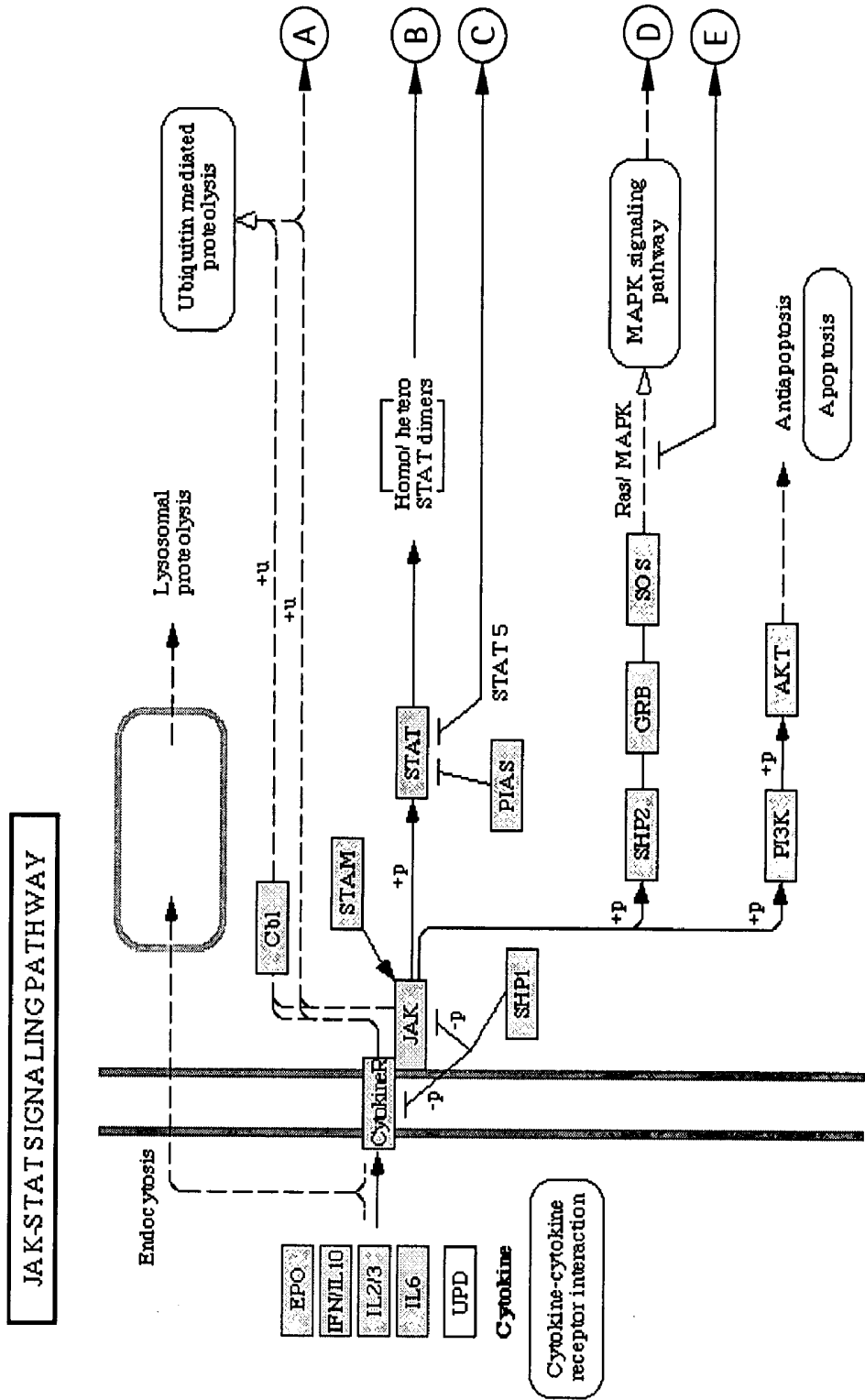


FIG. 1E-1

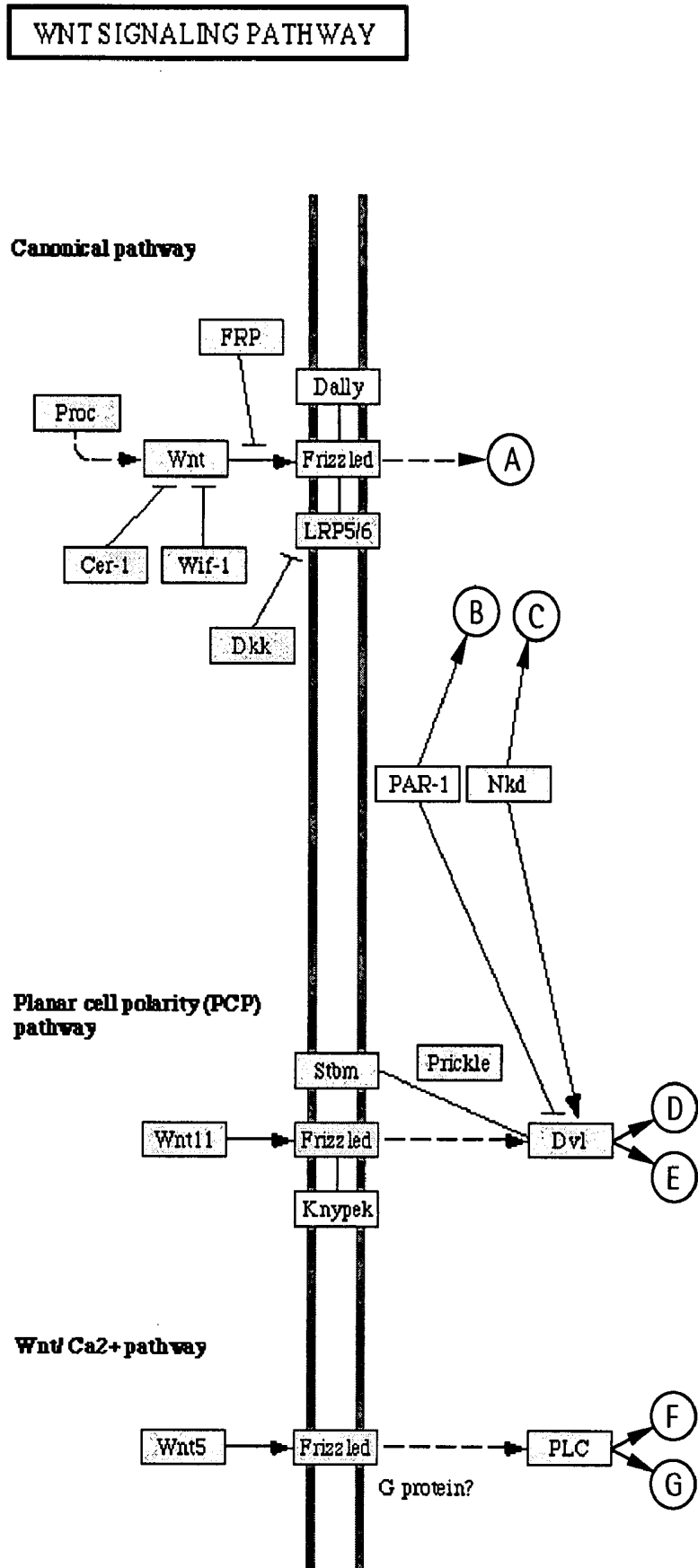


FIG. 1E-2

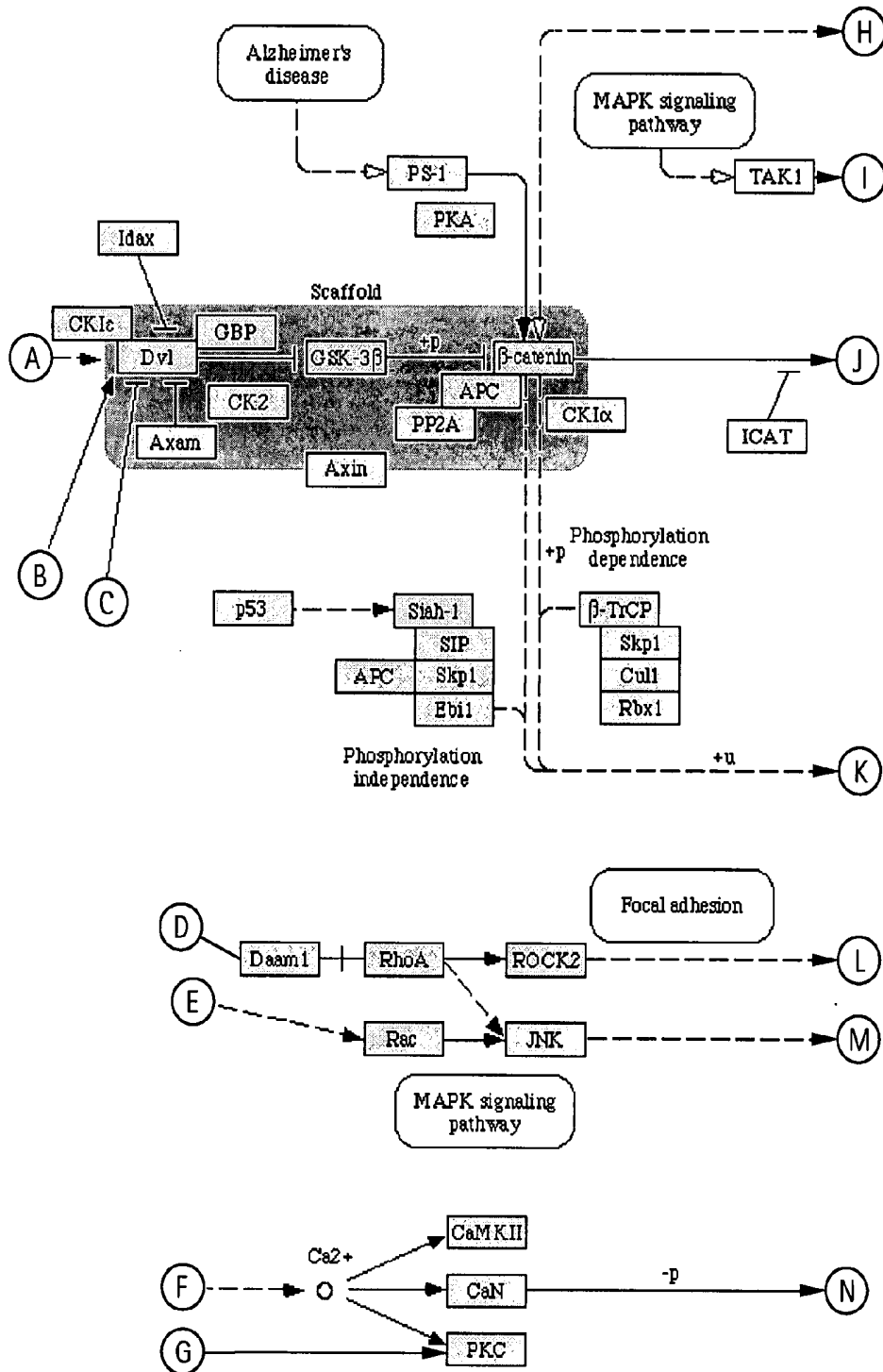


FIG. 1E-3

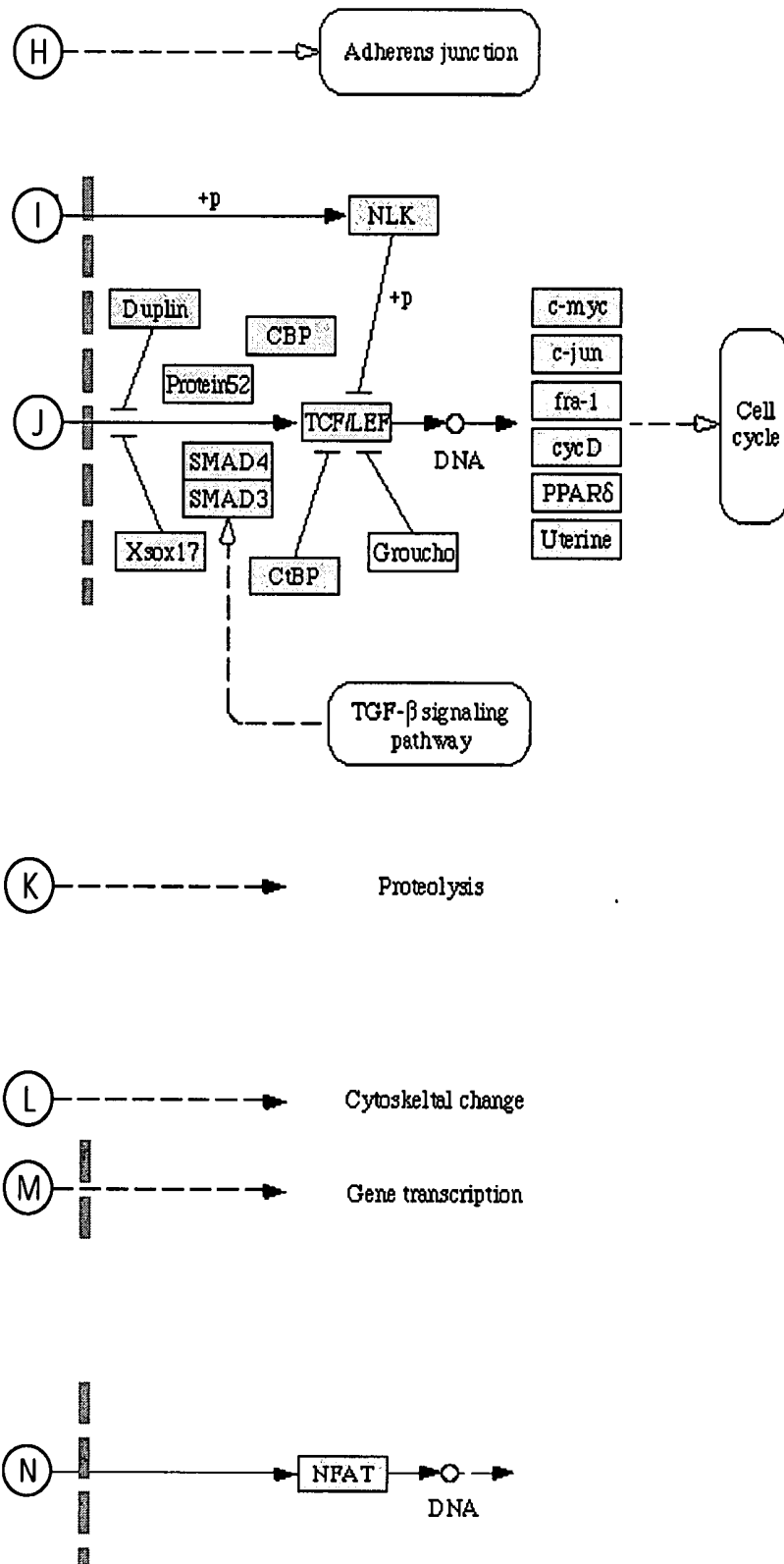


FIG. 1F-1

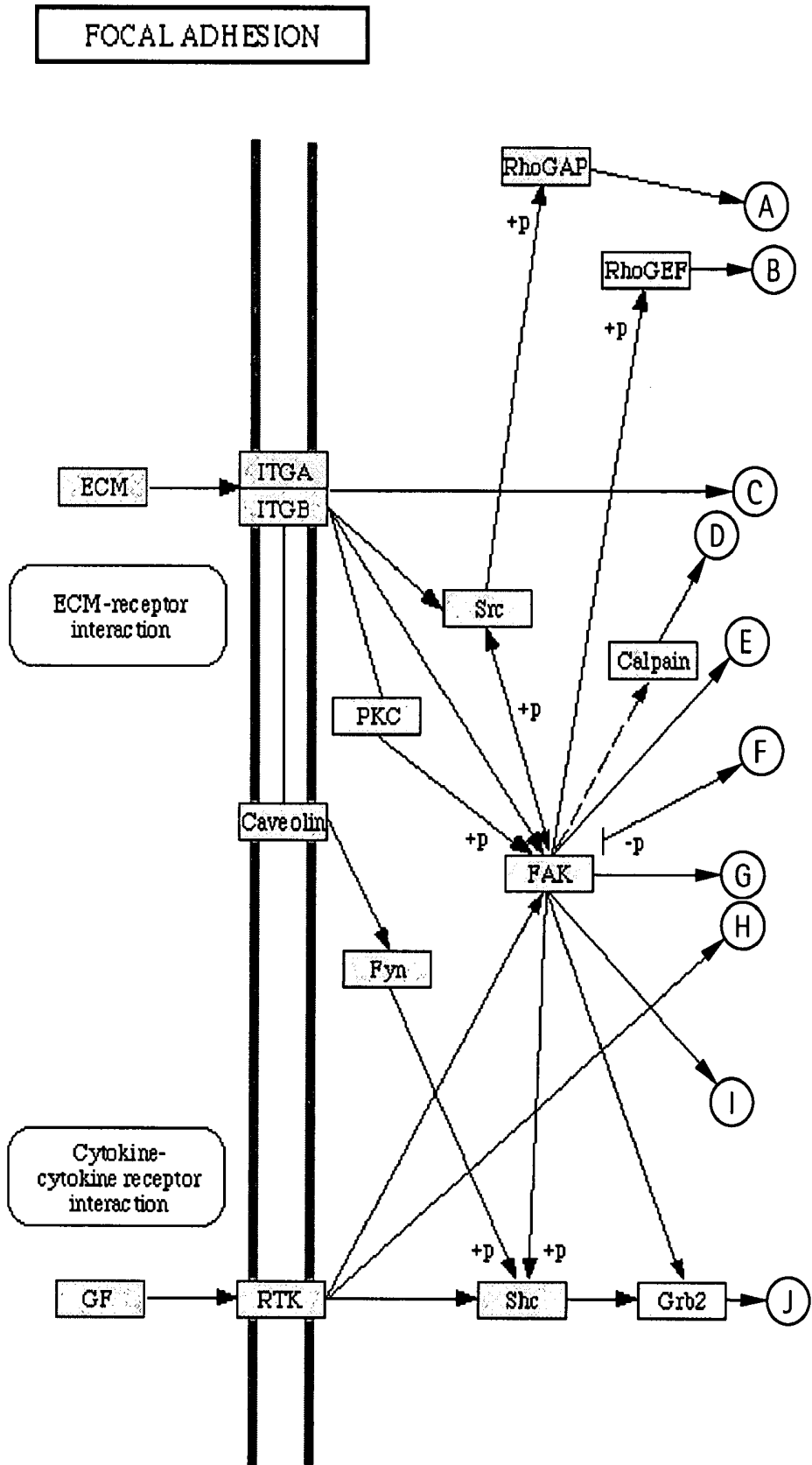


FIG. 1F-2

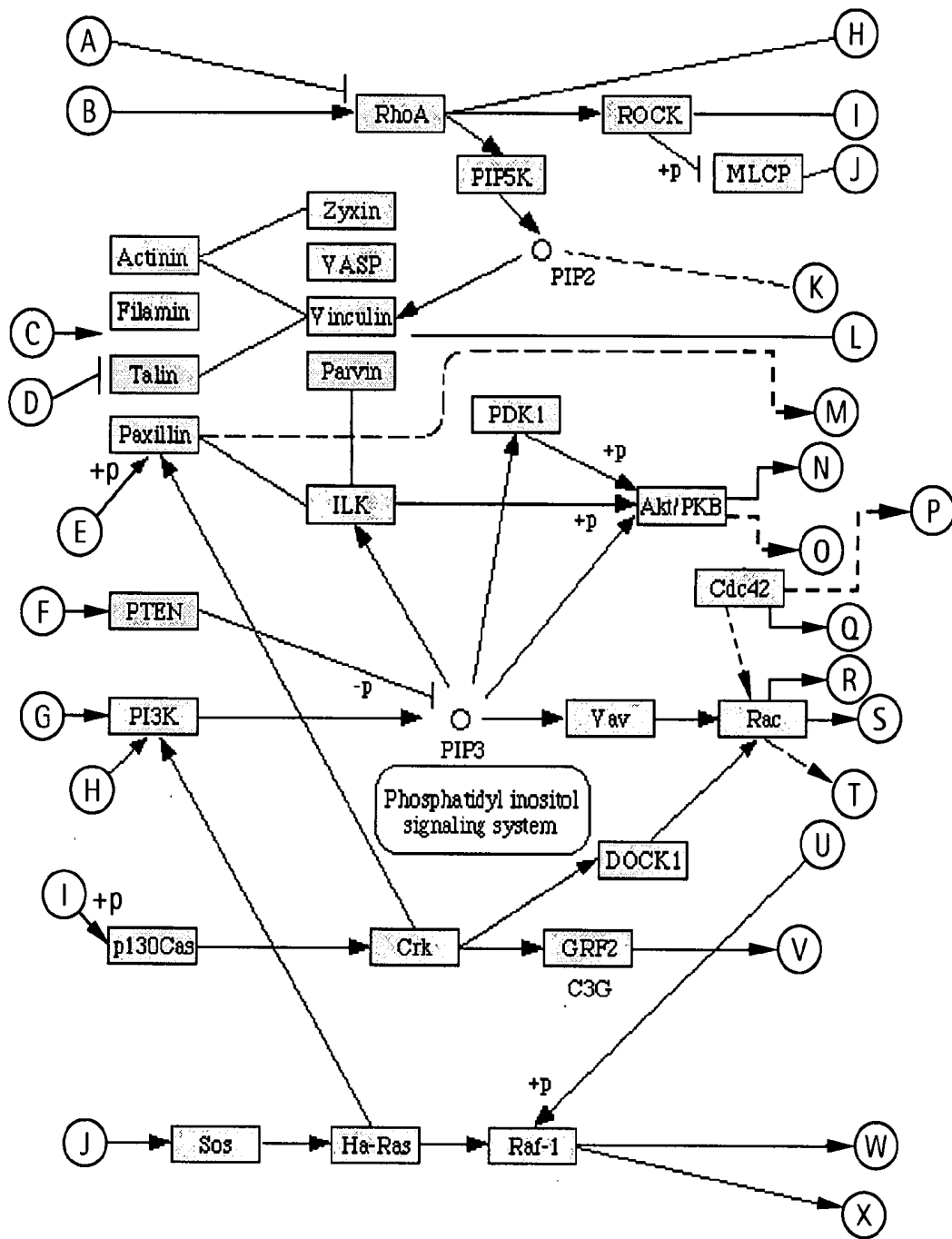


FIG. 1F-3

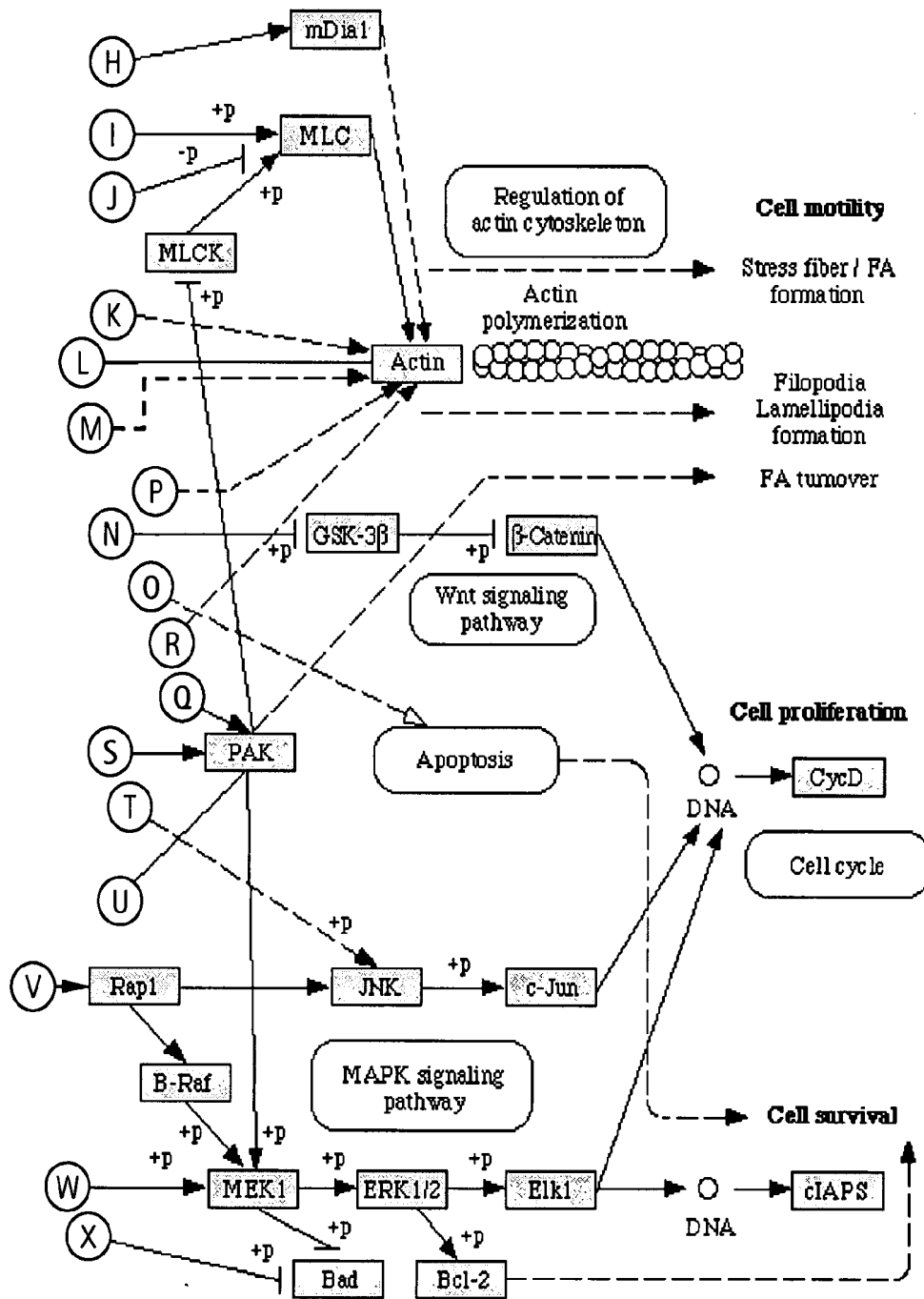


FIG. 1G-2

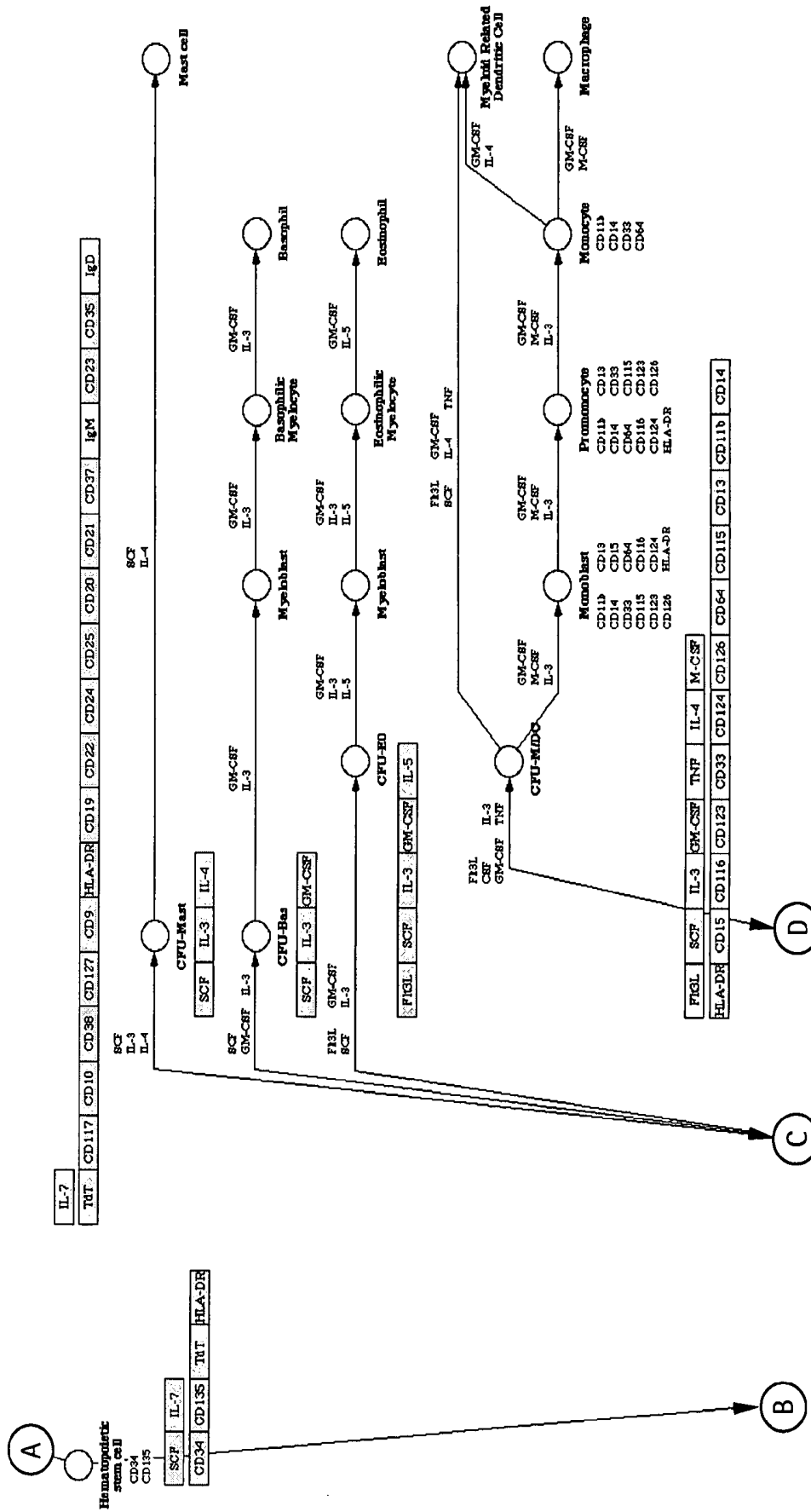


FIG. 1H-1

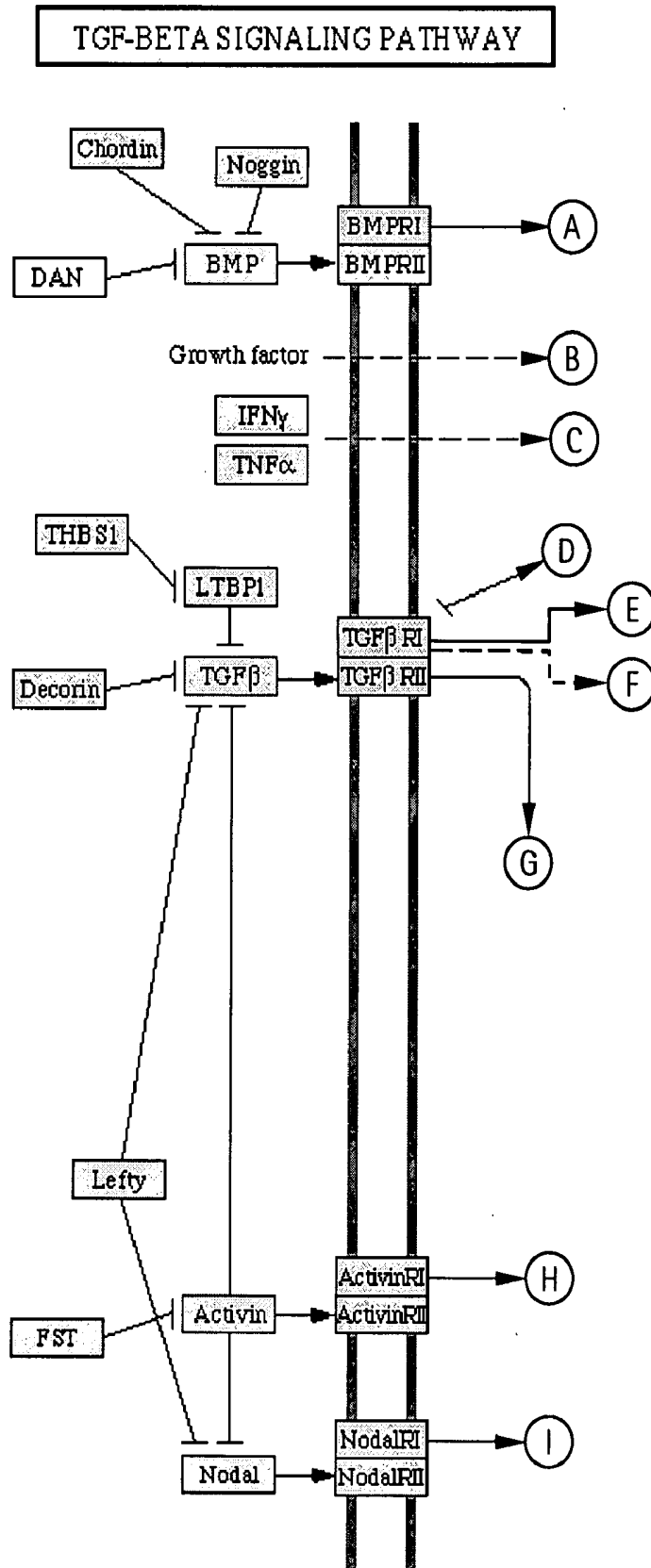


FIG. 1H-2

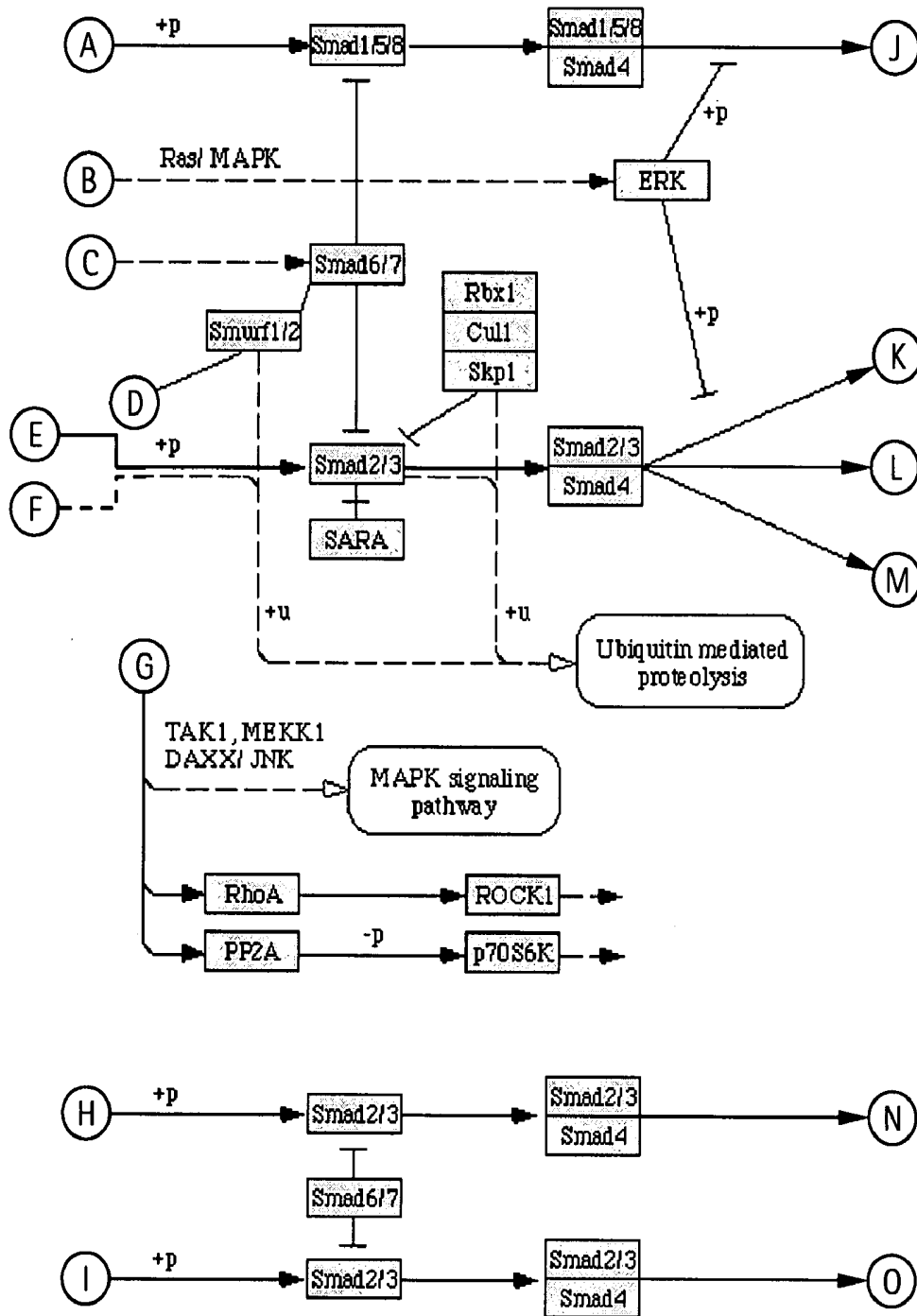


FIG. 1H-3

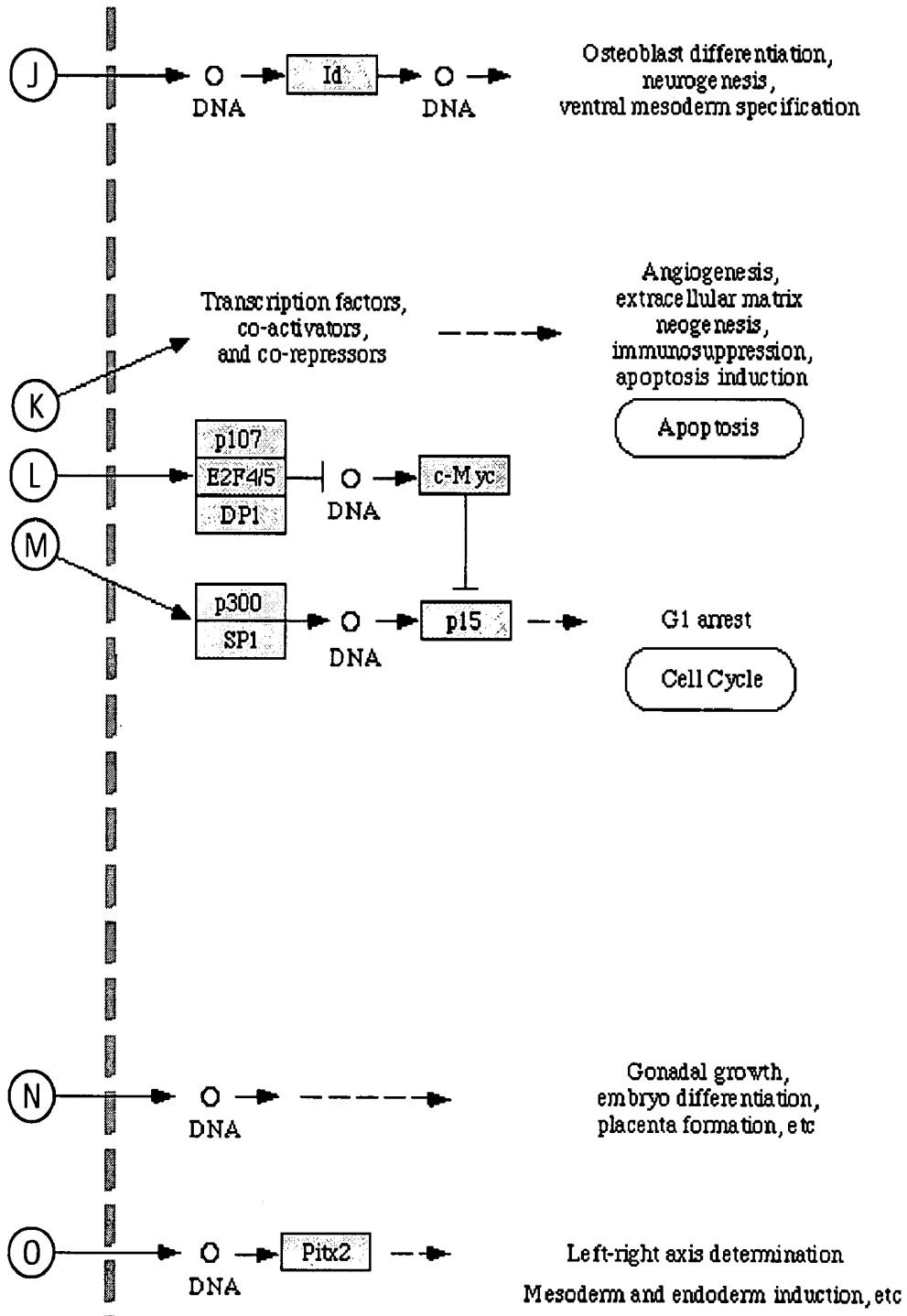


FIG. 11-1

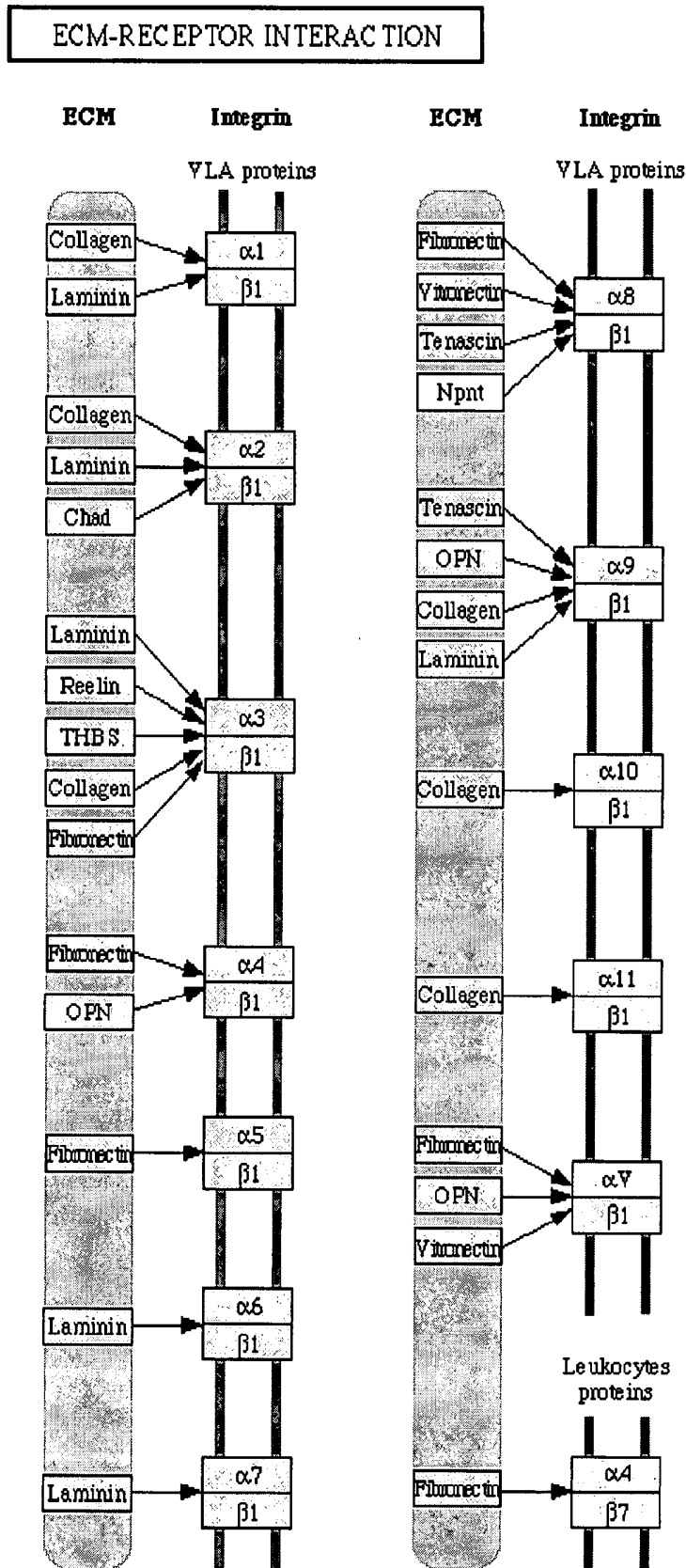


FIG. 11-2

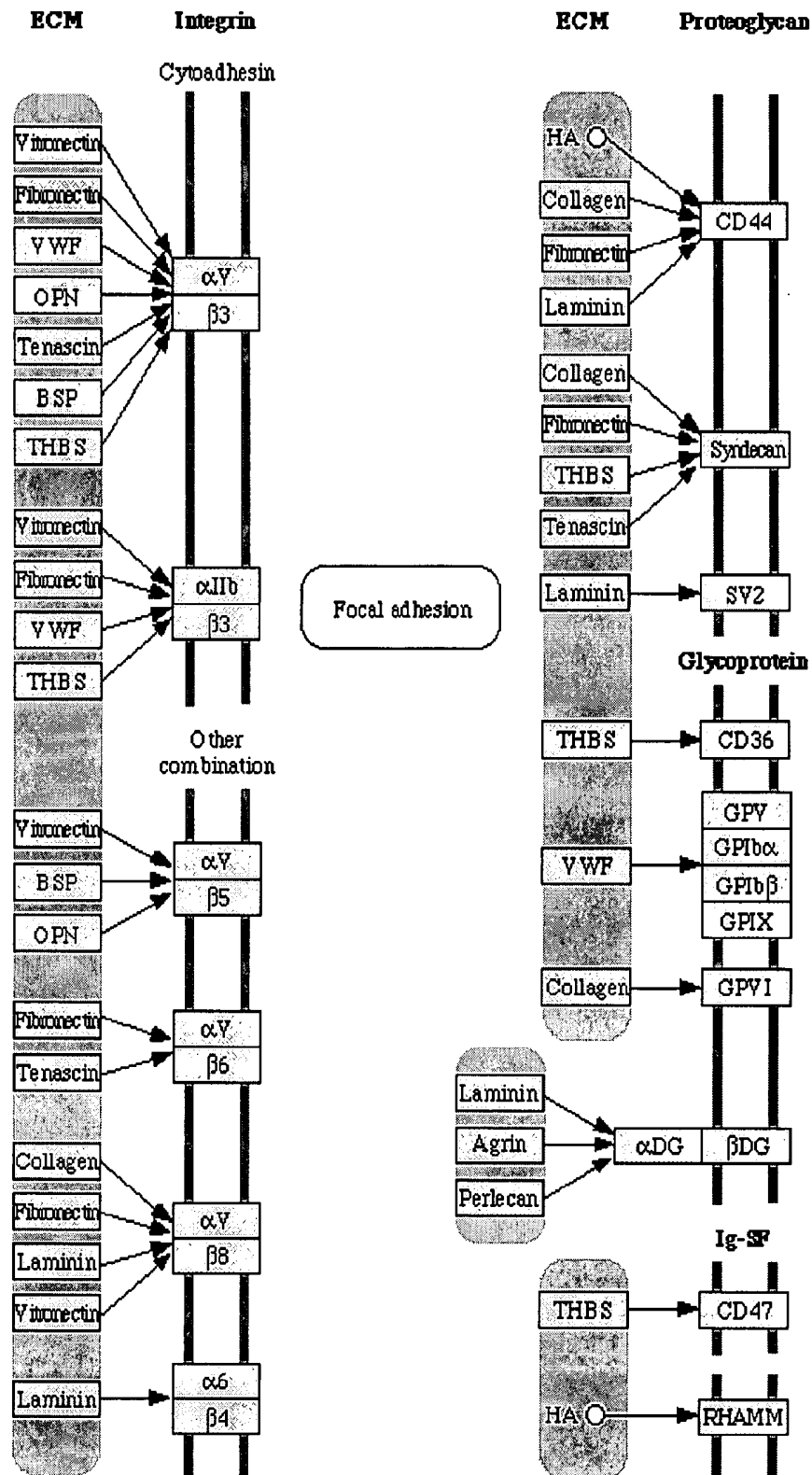


FIG. 1J-1

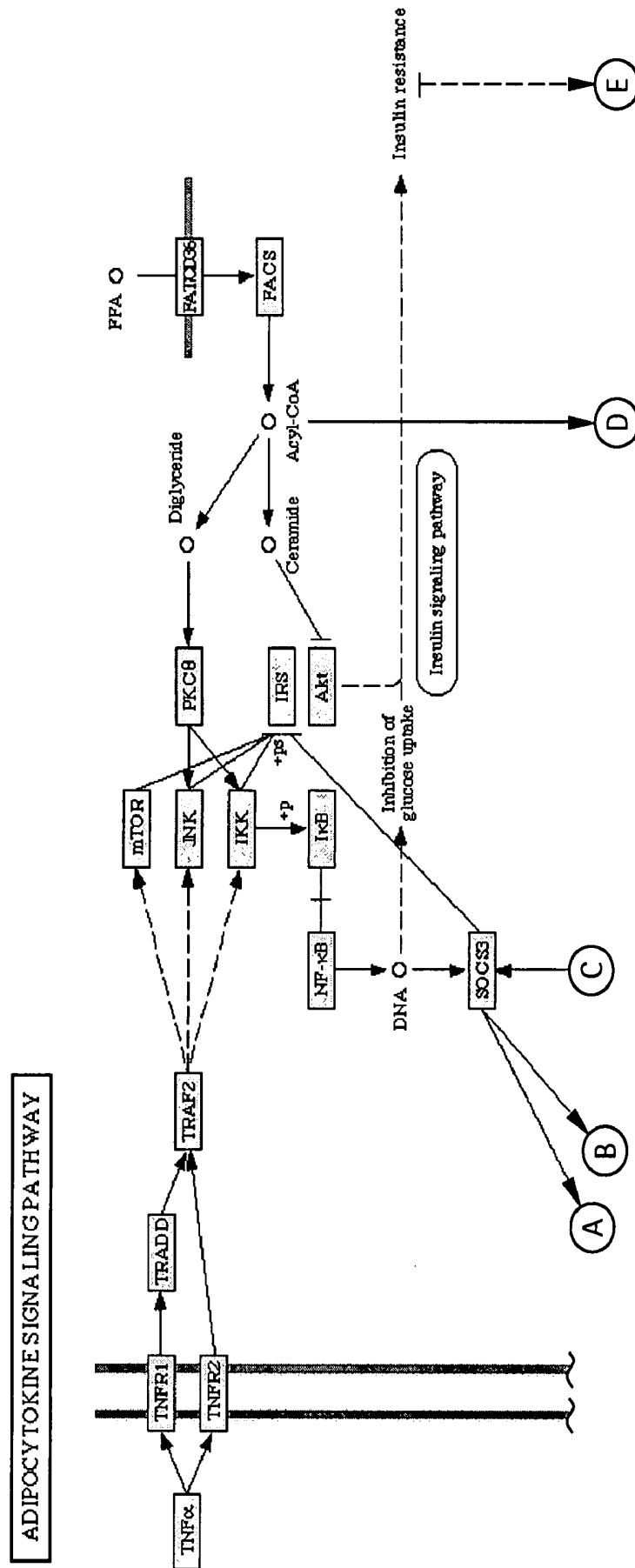


FIG. 1J-2

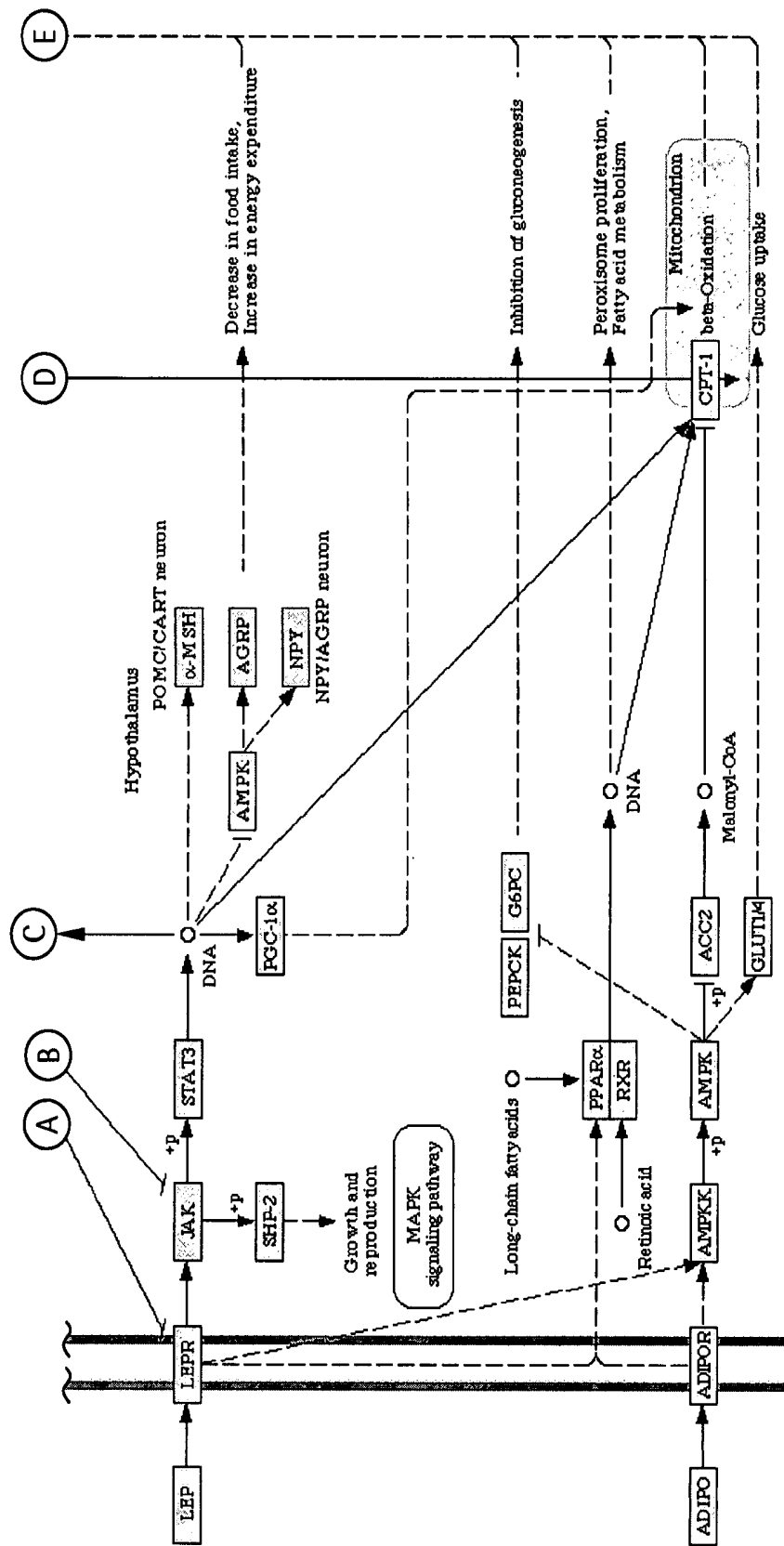
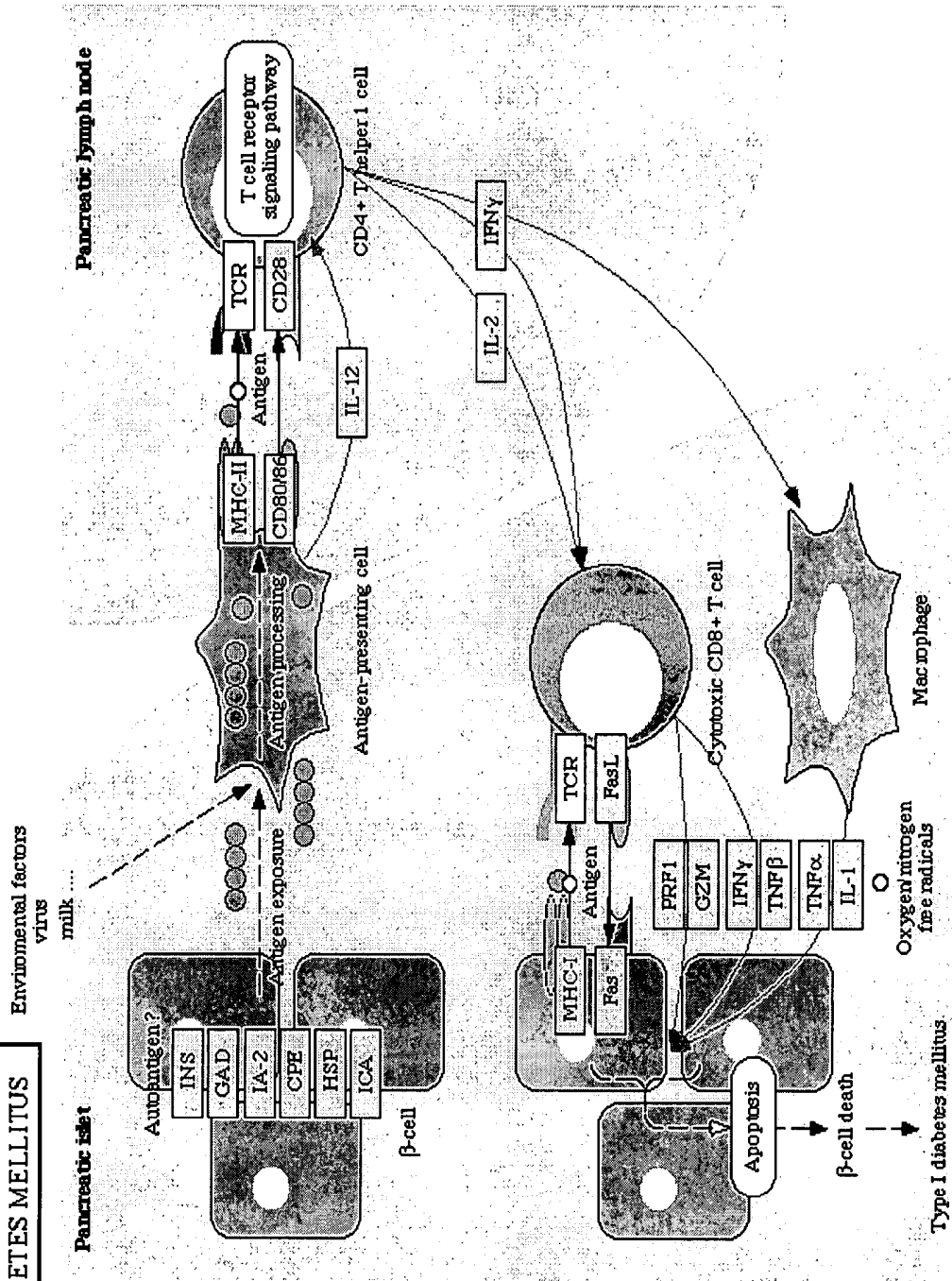


FIG. 1K

TYPE 1 DIABETES MELLITUS



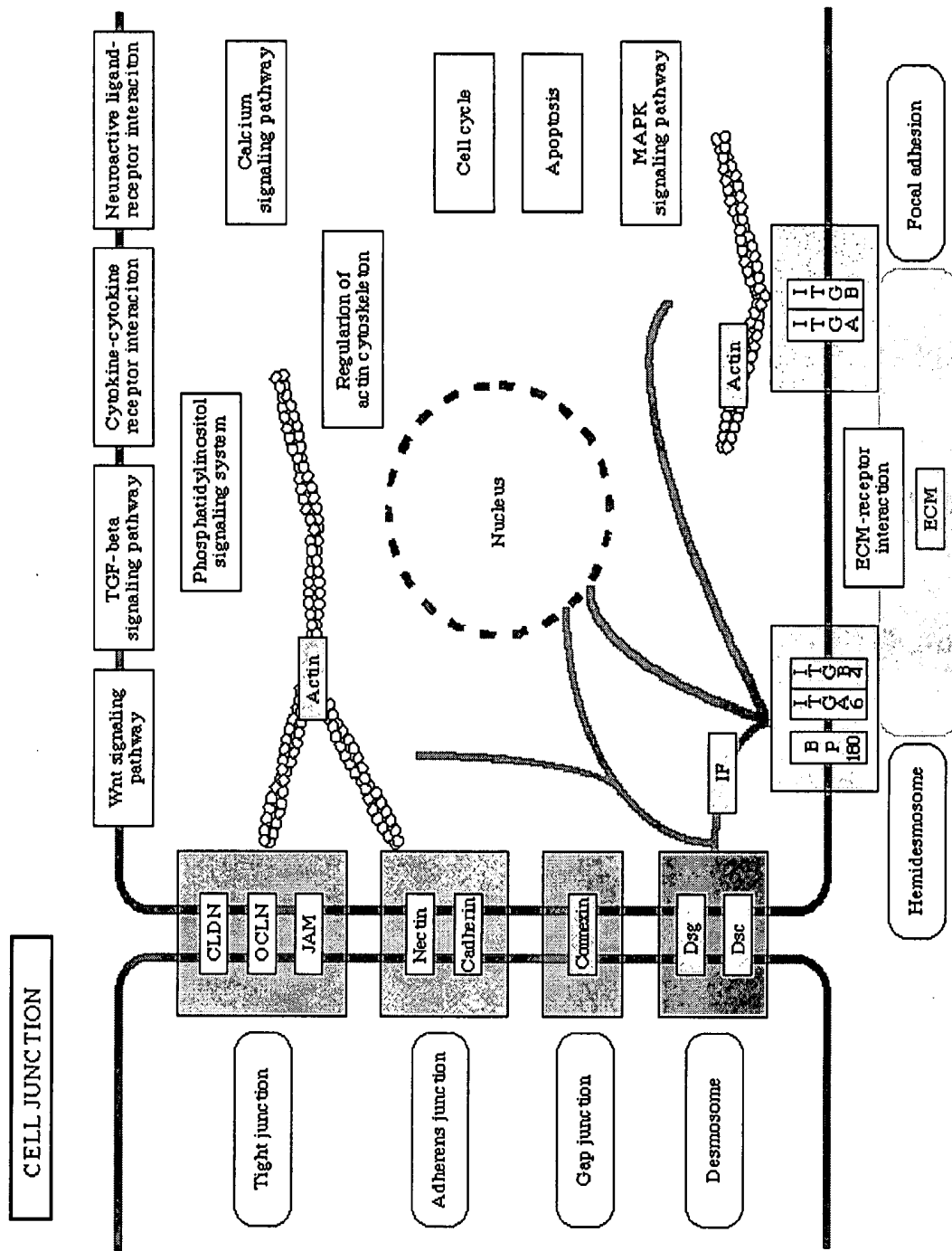


FIG. 1L

FIG. 1M-1

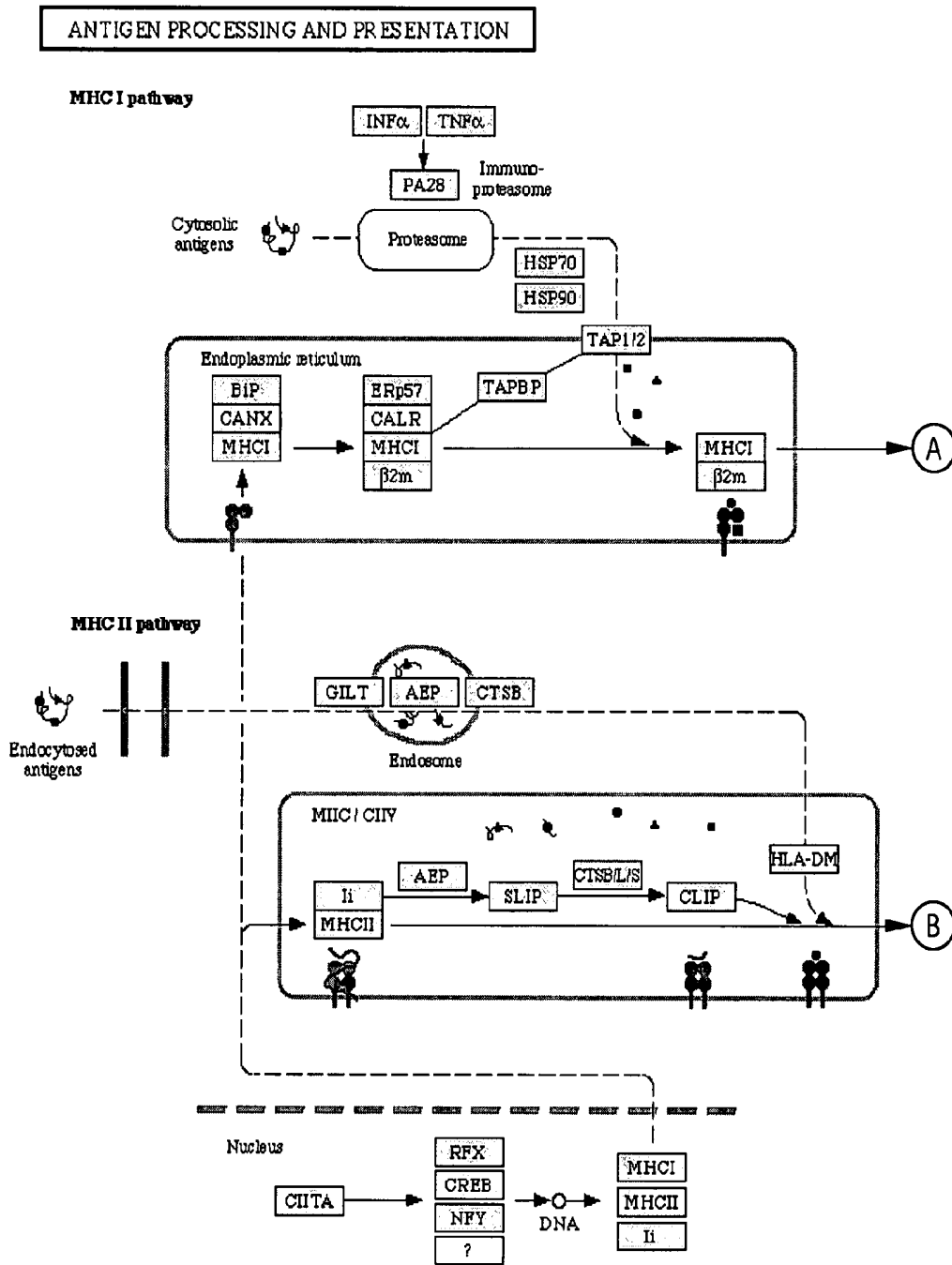


FIG. 1M-2

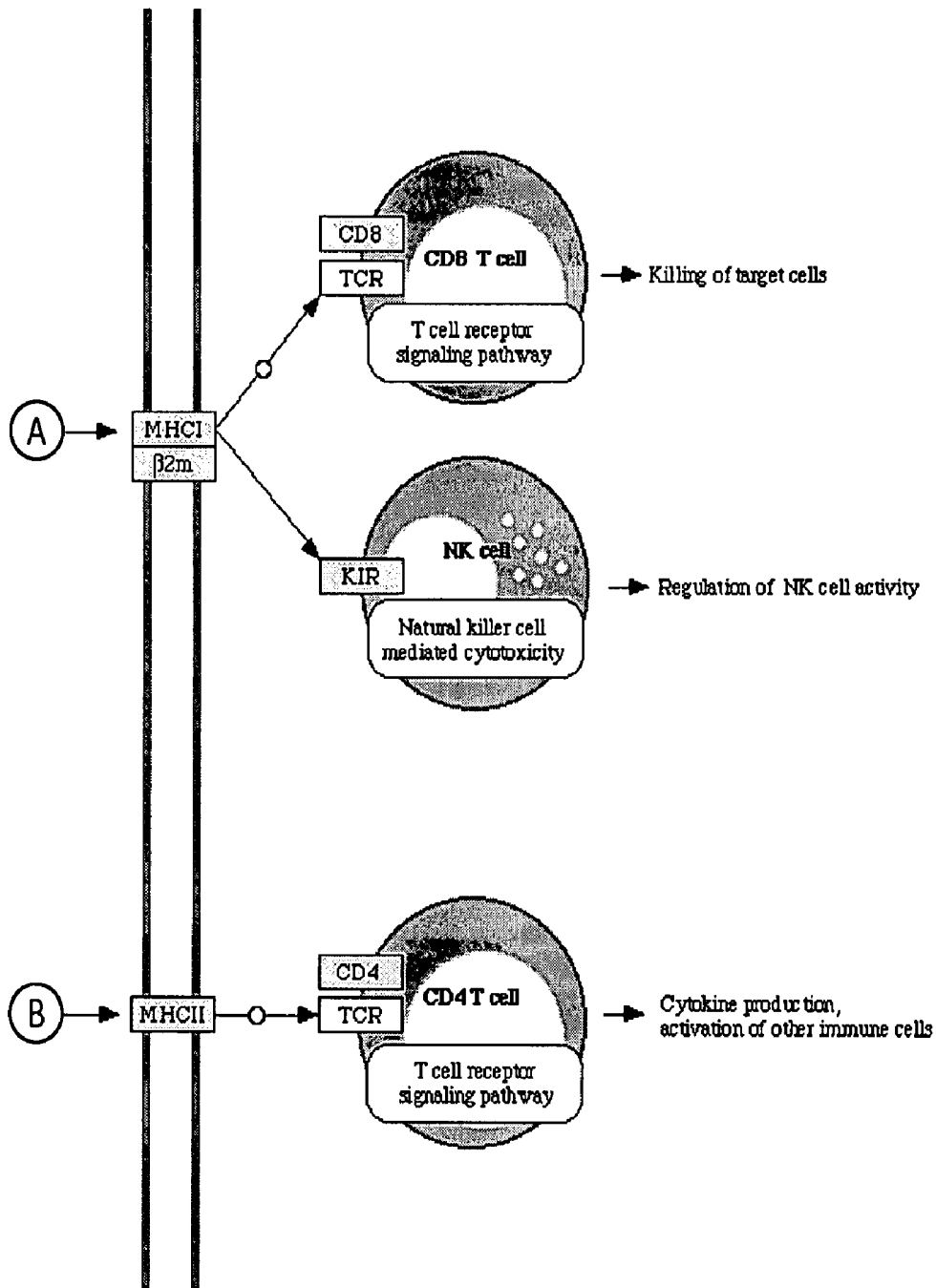


FIG. 1N-1

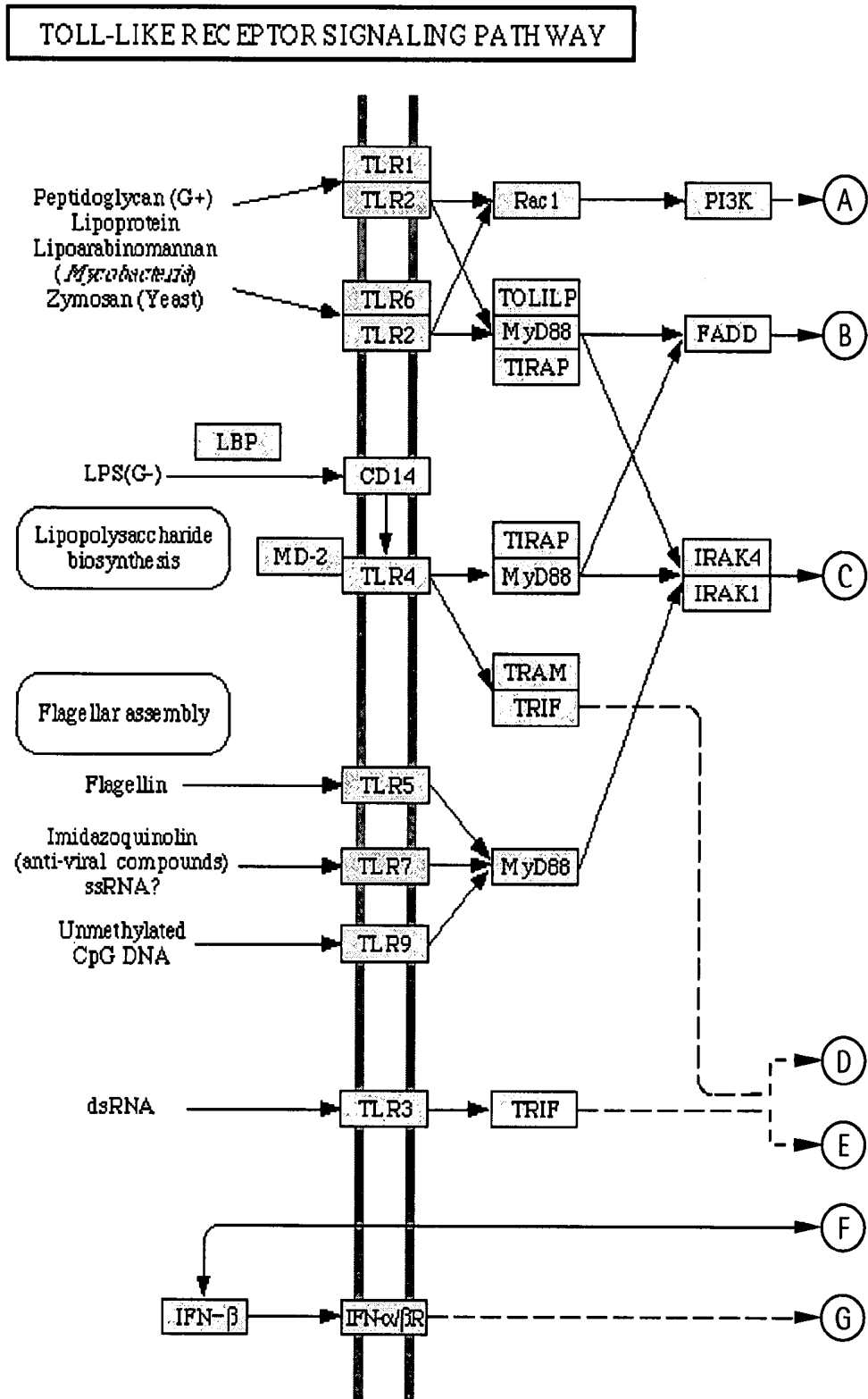


FIG. 1N-2

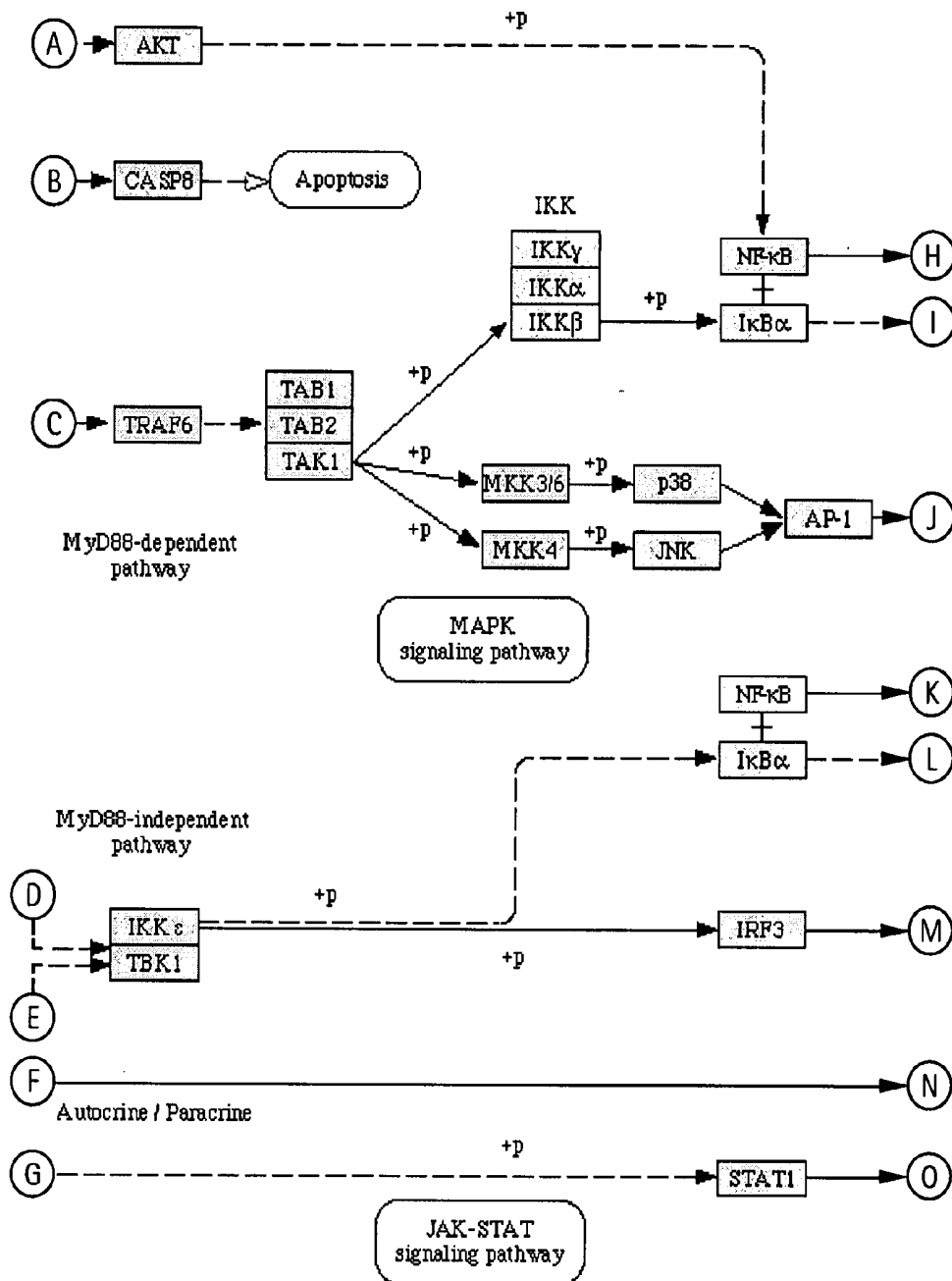


FIG. 1N-3

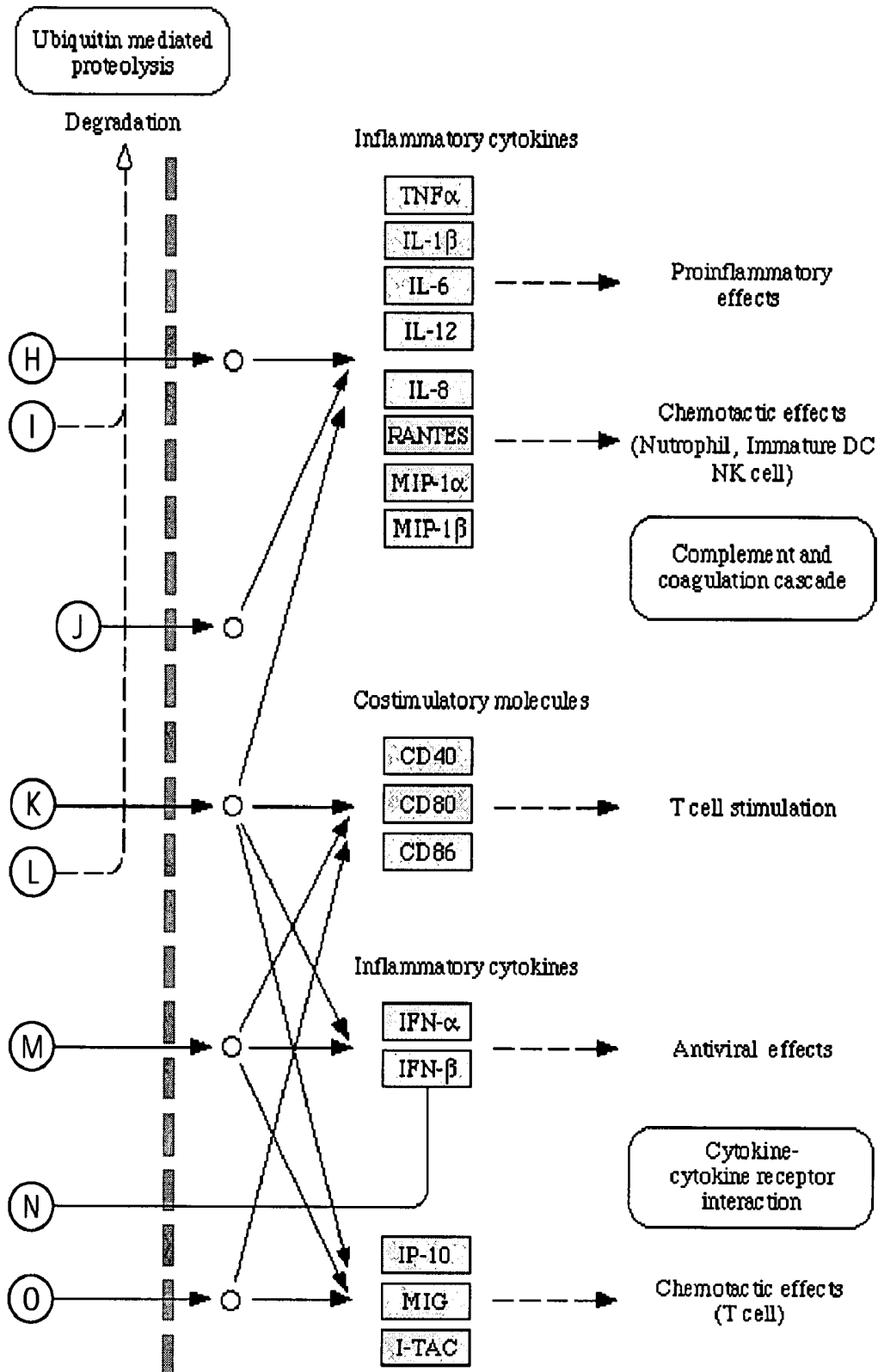


FIG. 10-1

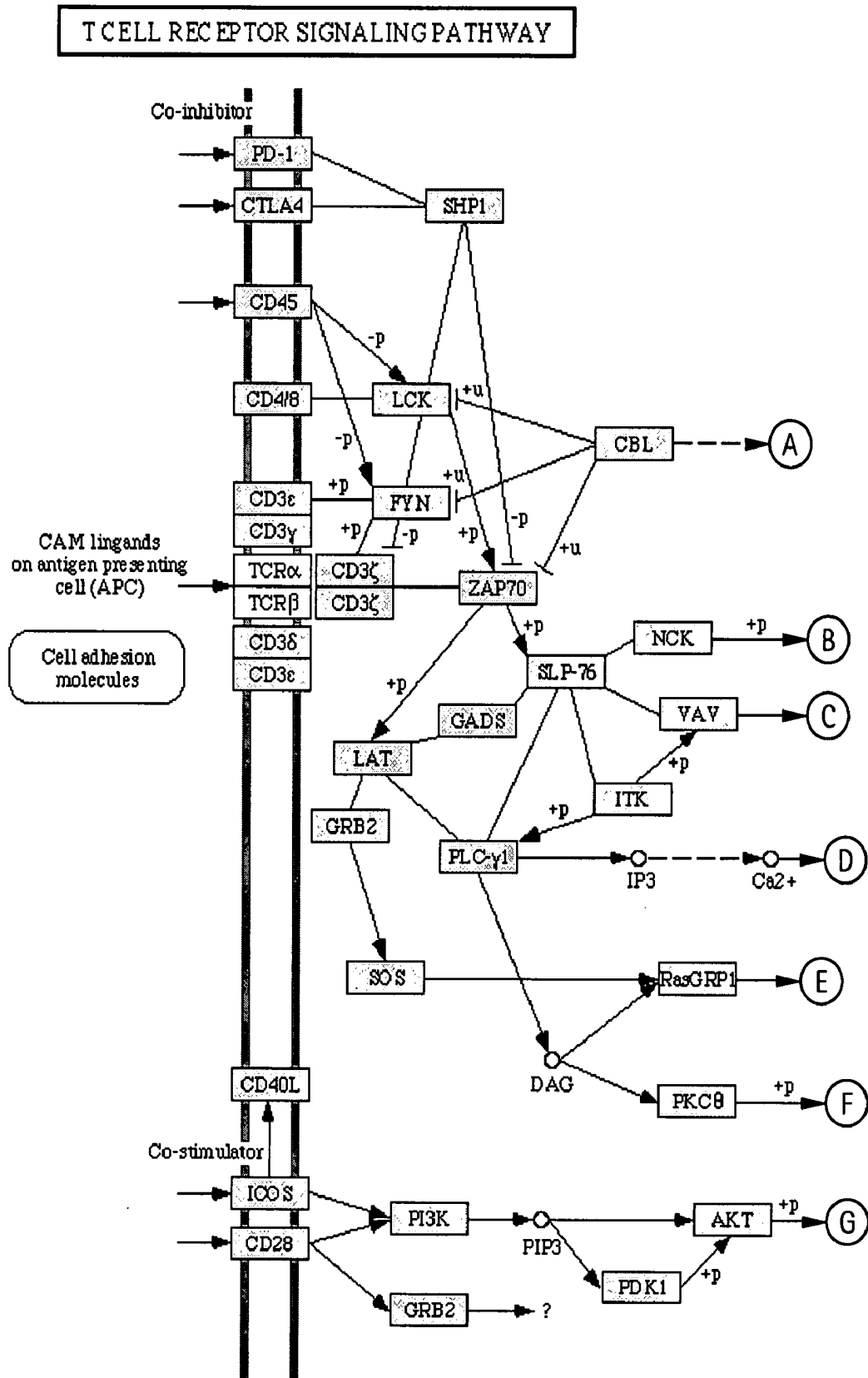


FIG. 10-2

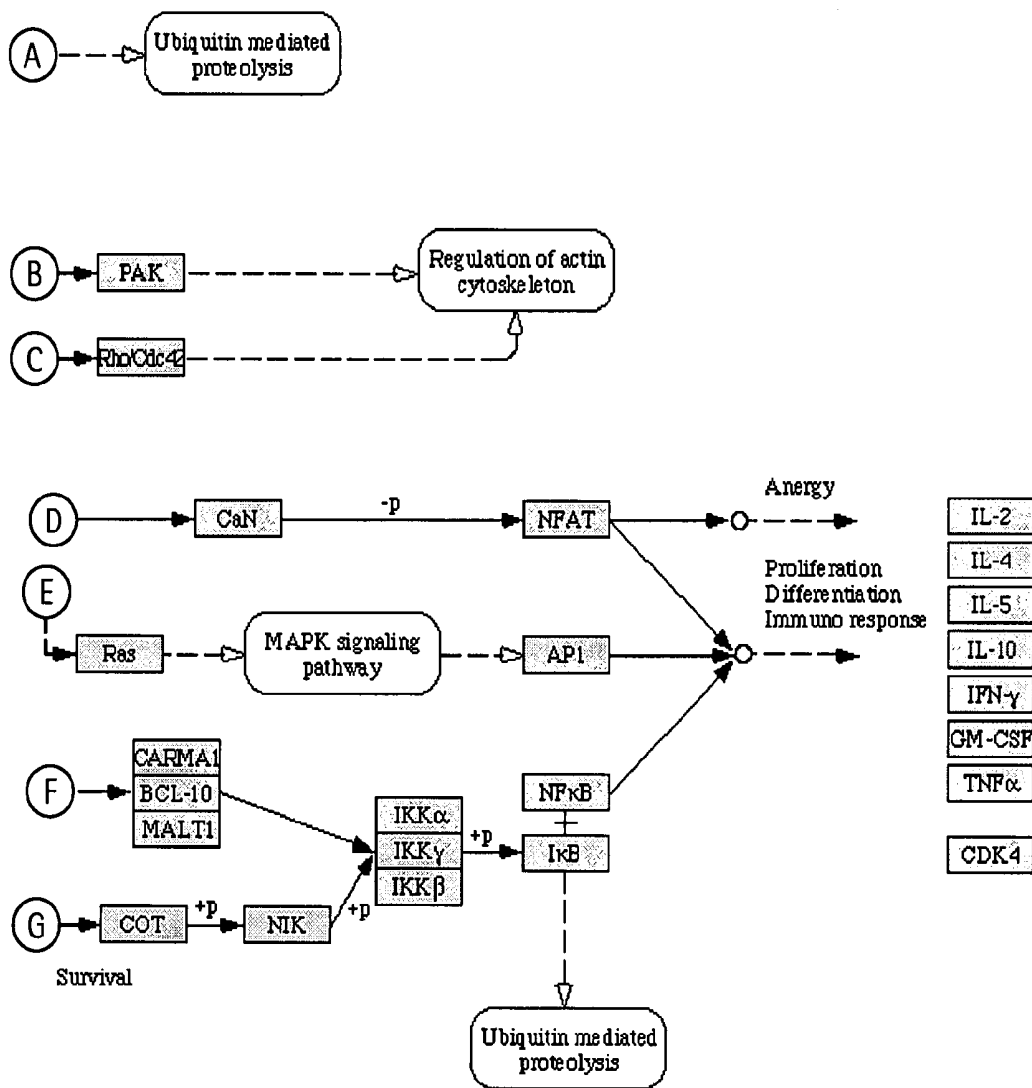


FIG. 1P-1

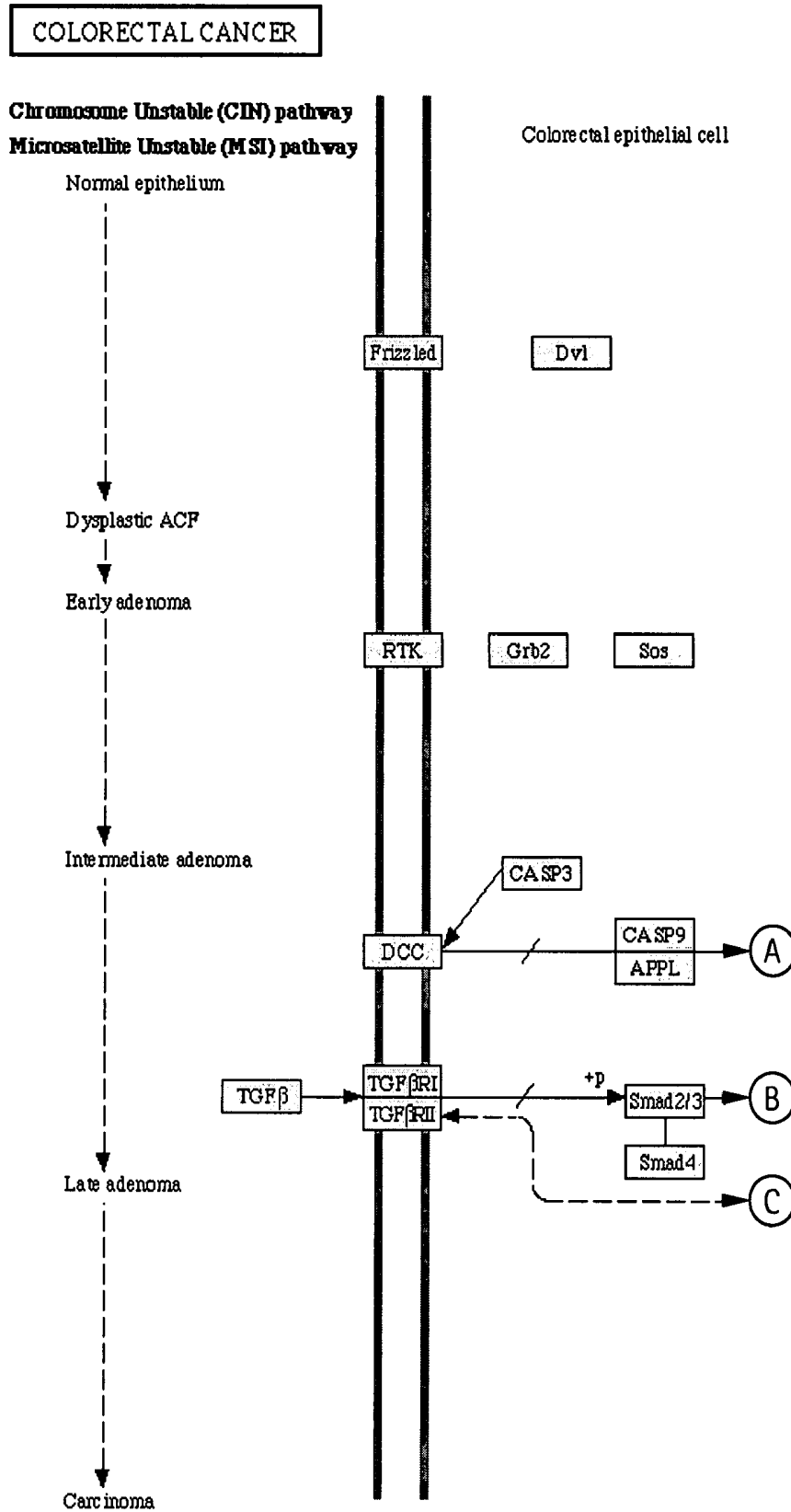


FIG. 1P-2

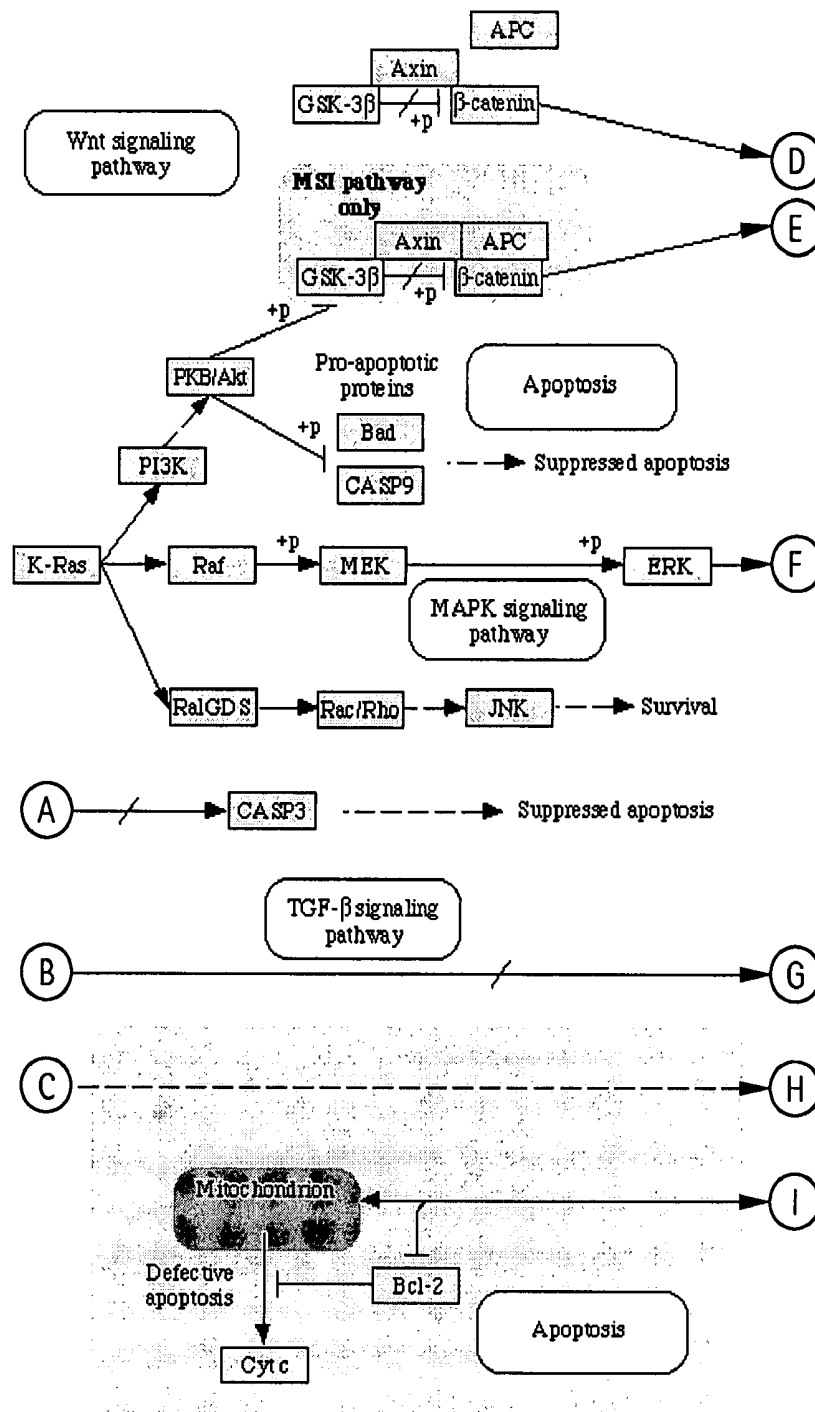


FIG. 1P-3

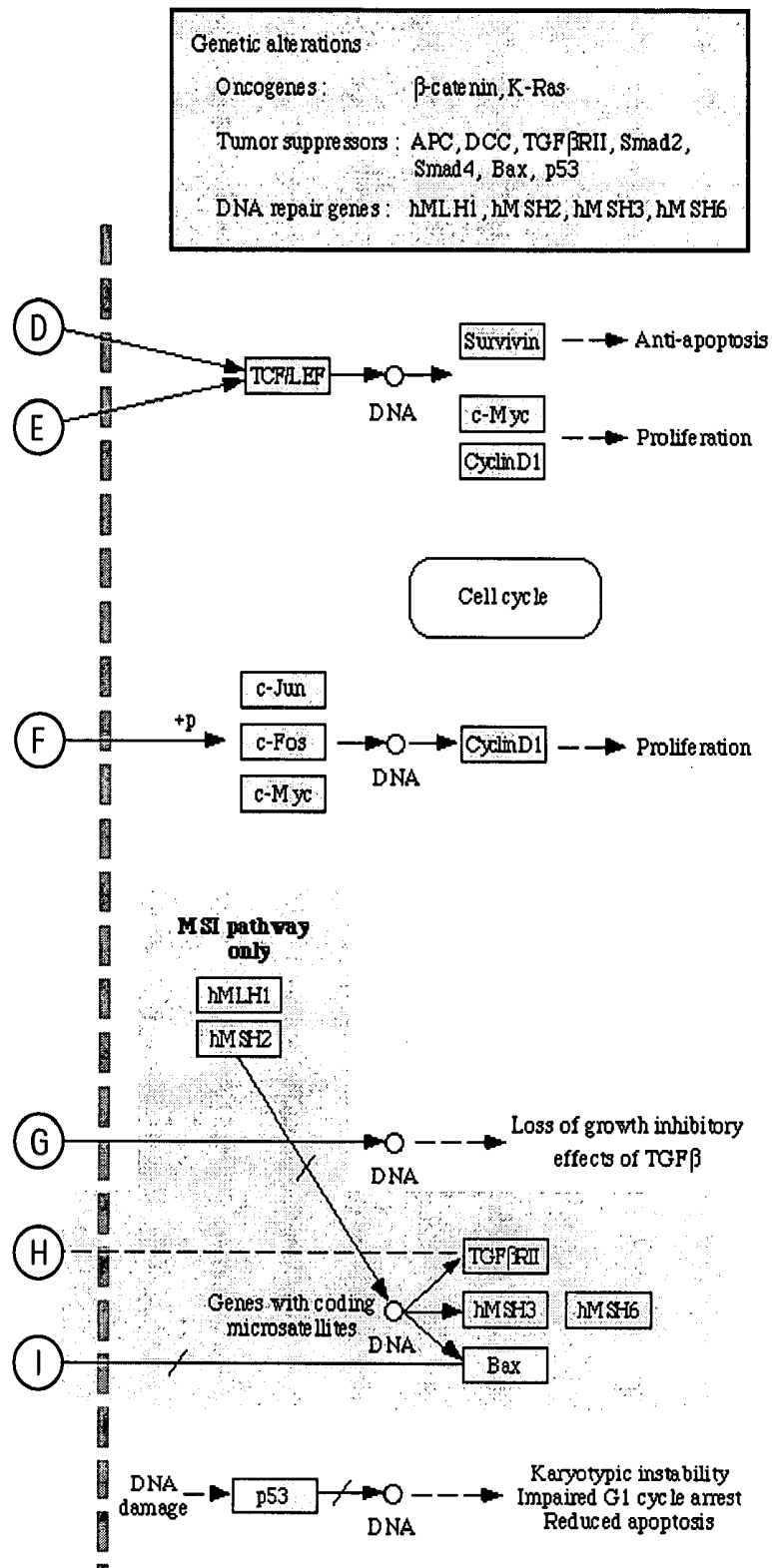


FIG. 10

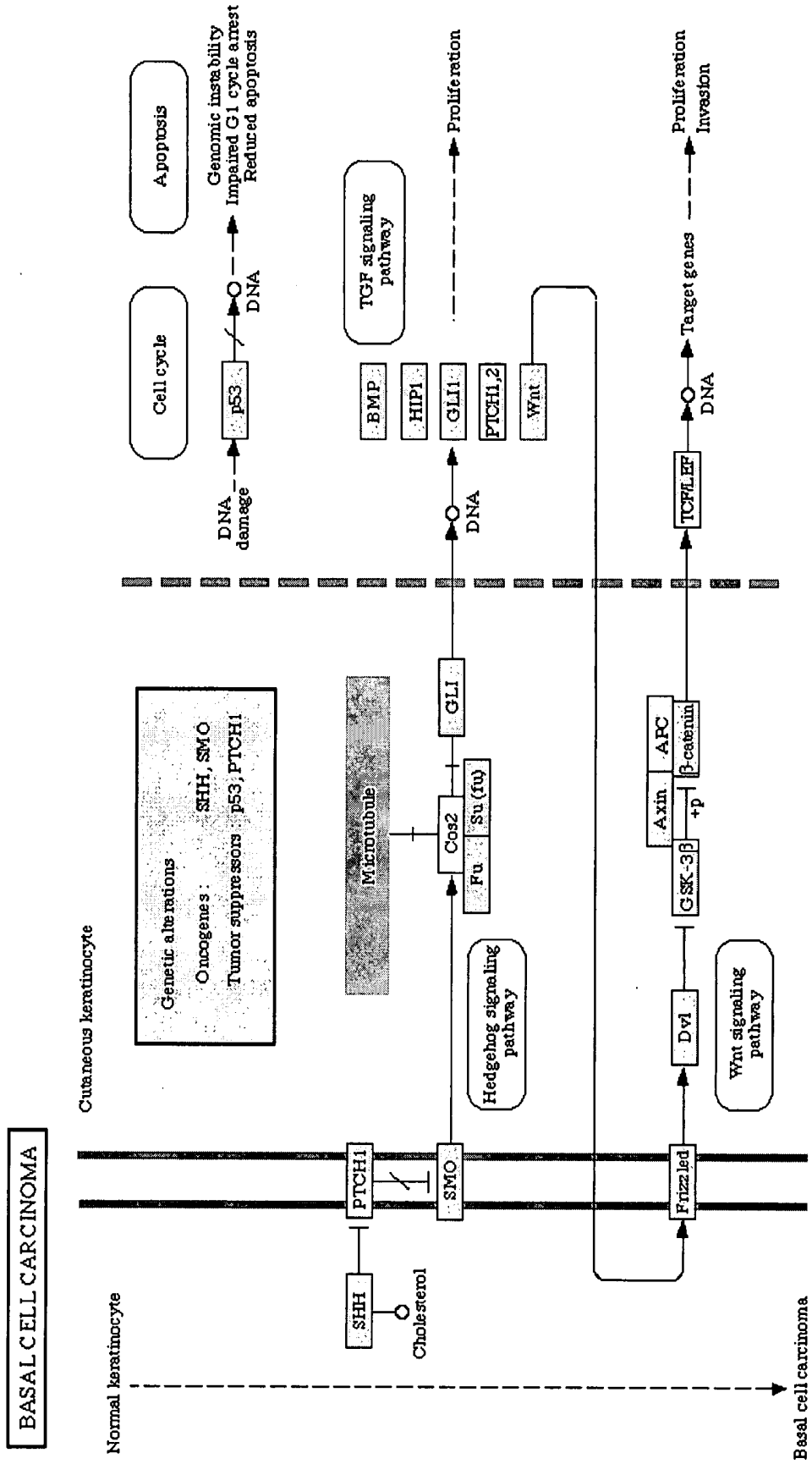


FIG. 1R-1

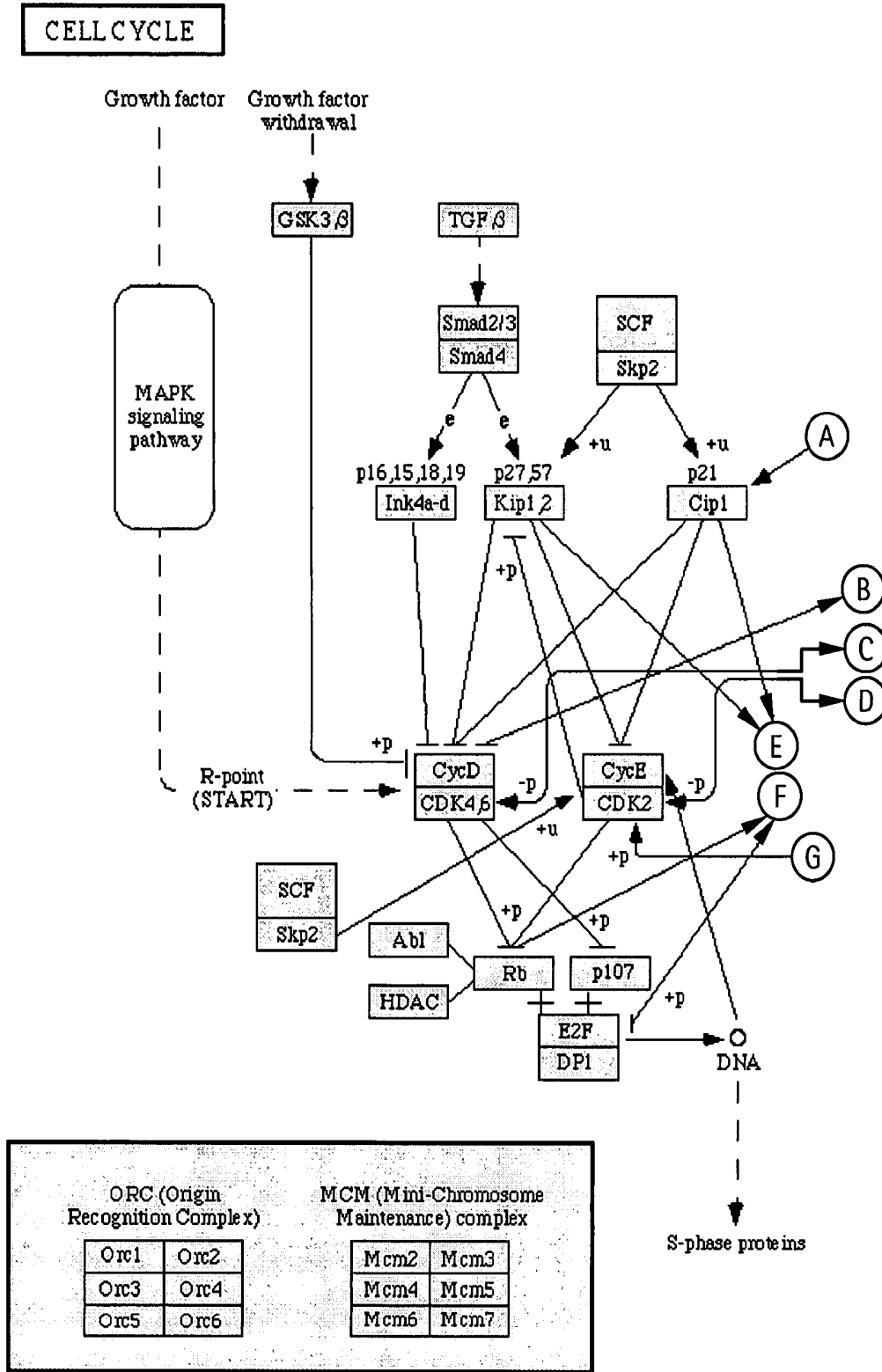


FIG. 1R-2

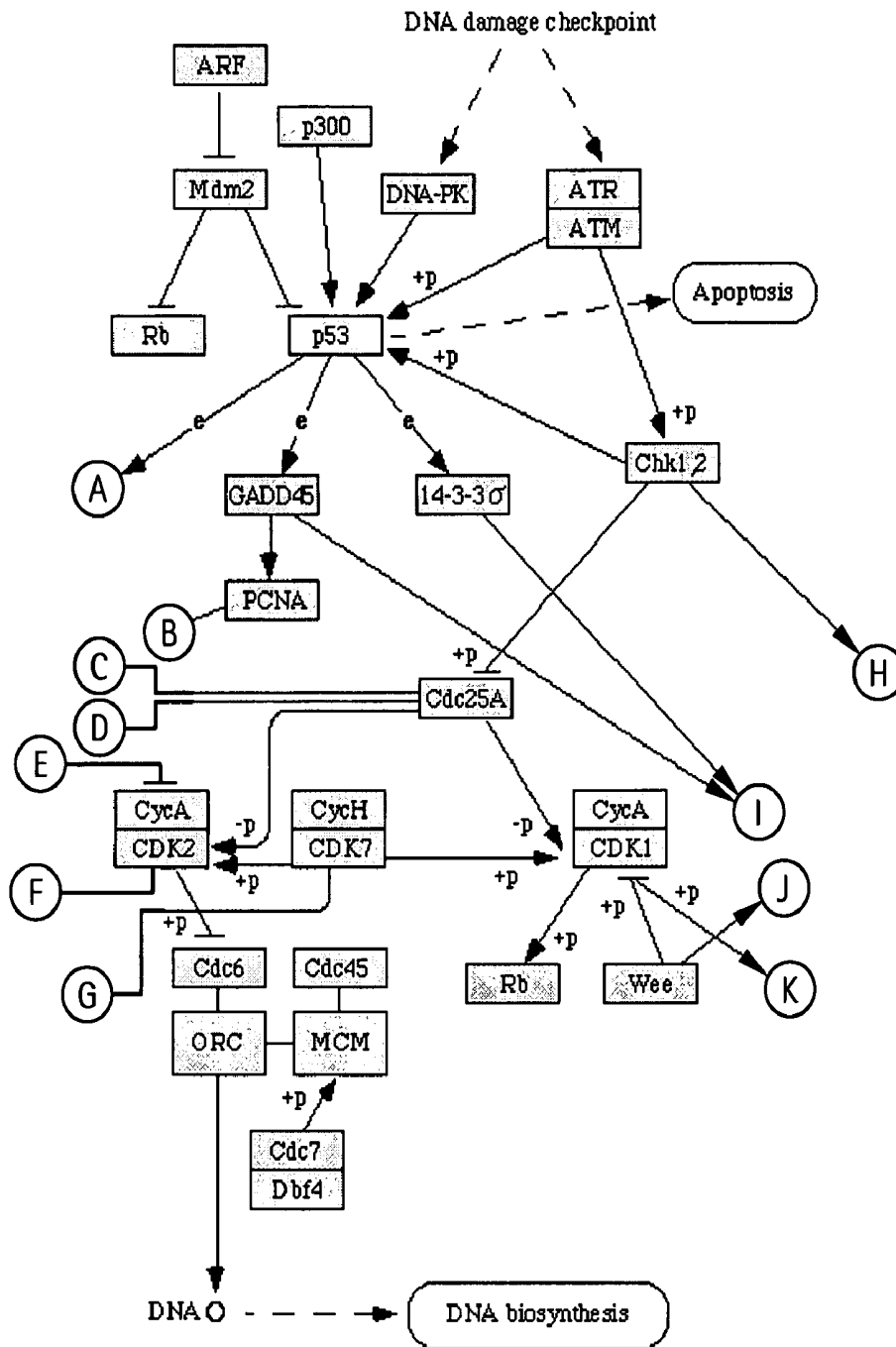
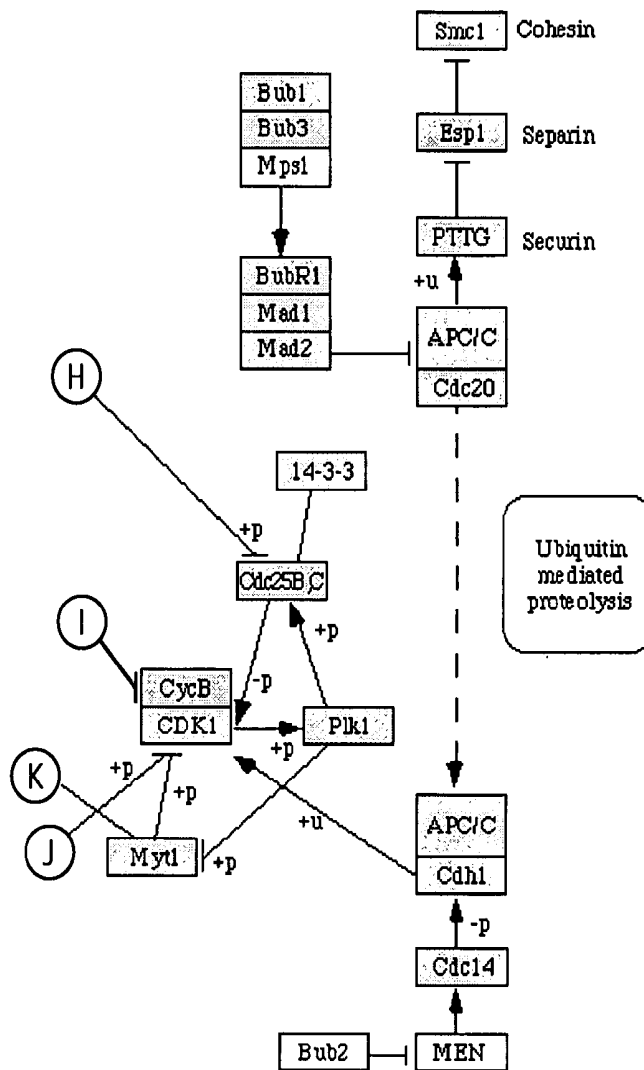


FIG. 1R-3



G2

M

FIG. 1S-1

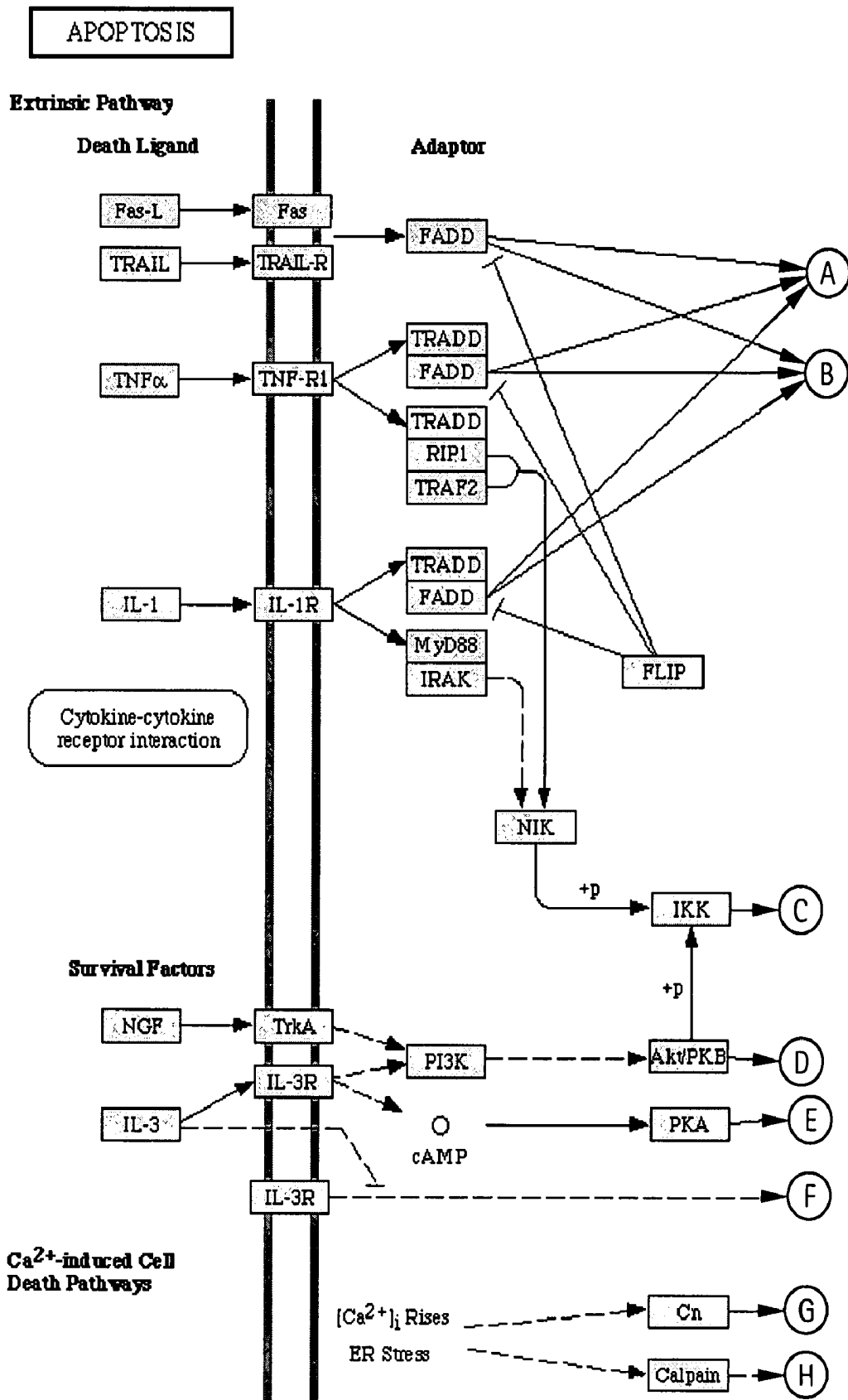


FIG. 1S-2

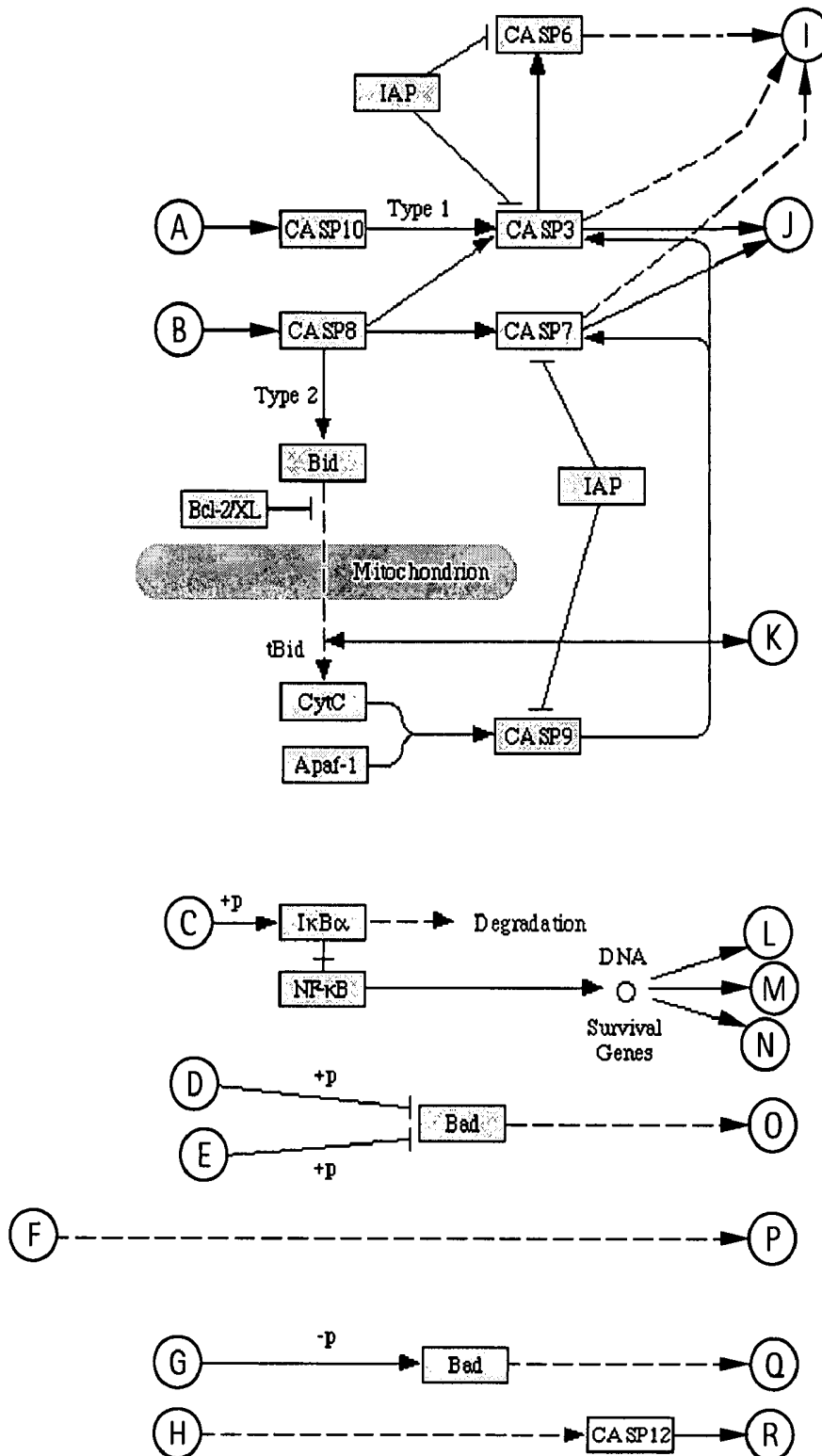


FIG. 1S-3

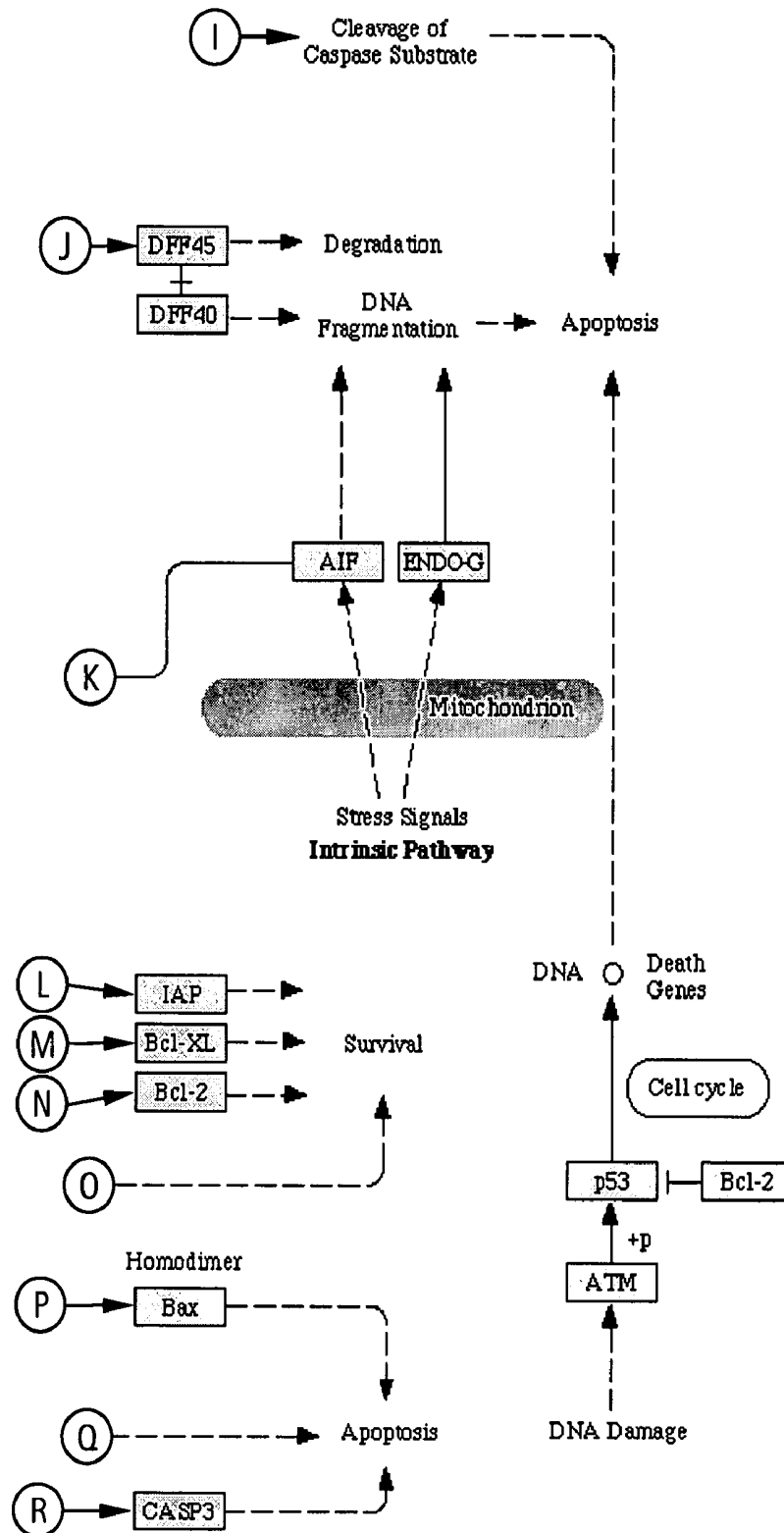


FIG. 1T

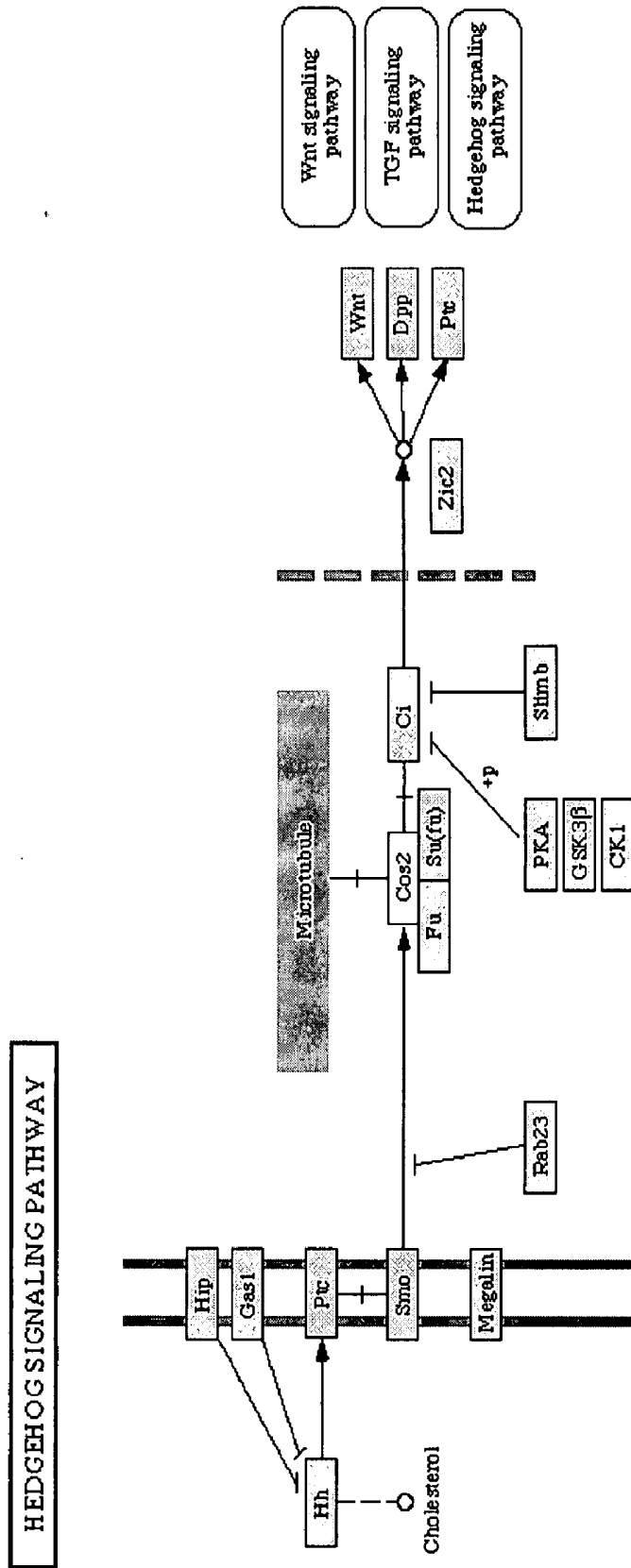


FIG. 1U-1

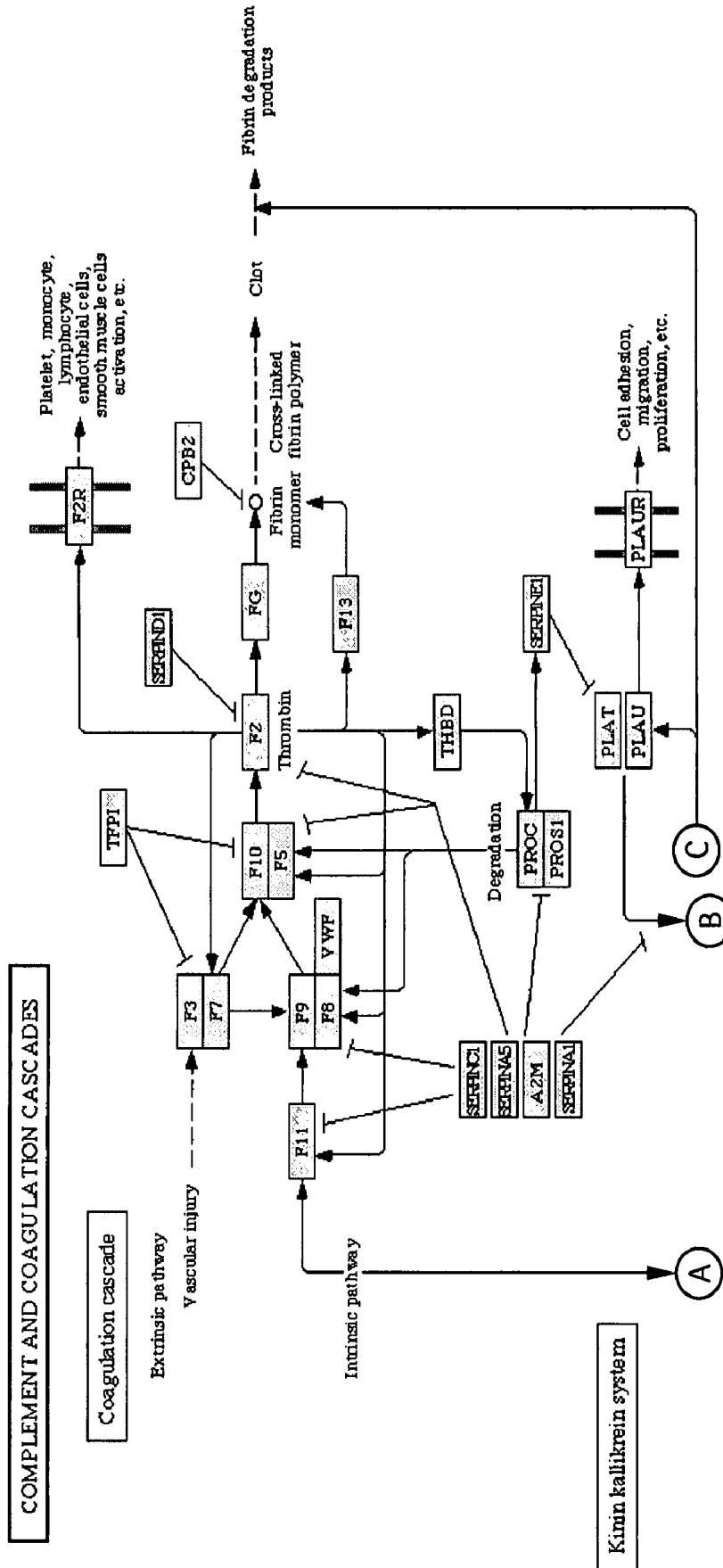


FIG. 1V-1

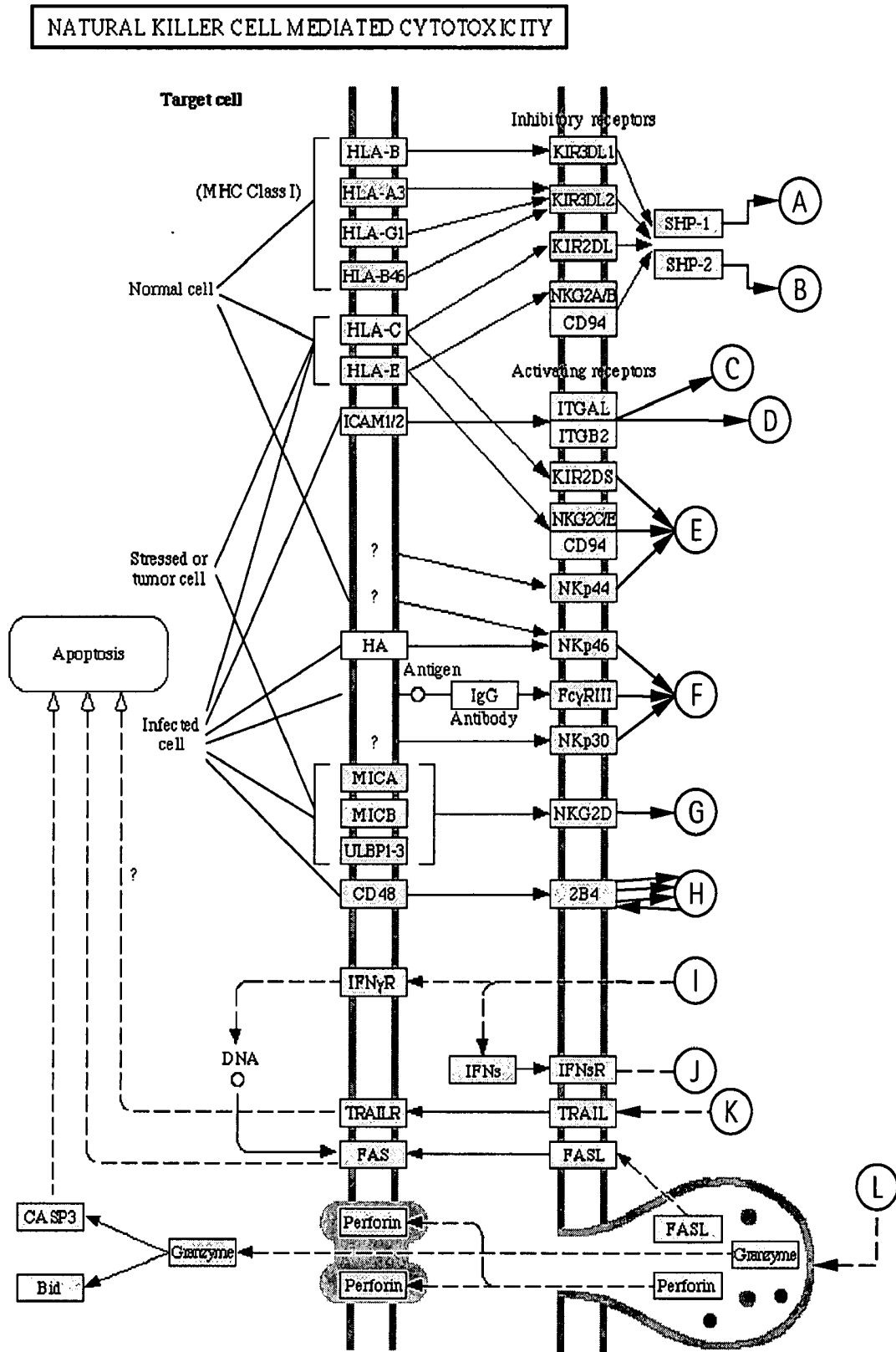


FIG. 1V-2

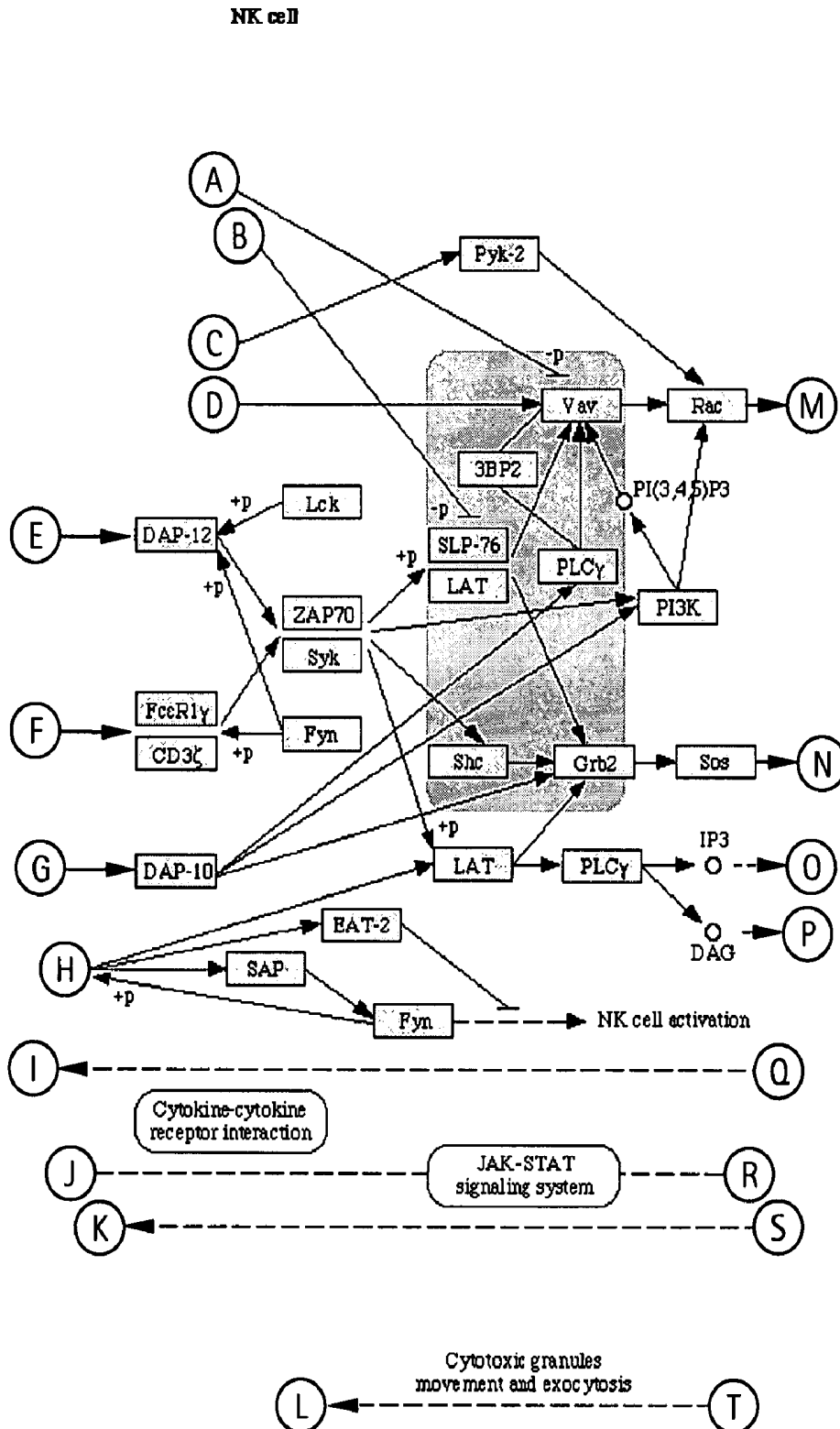


FIG. 1V-3

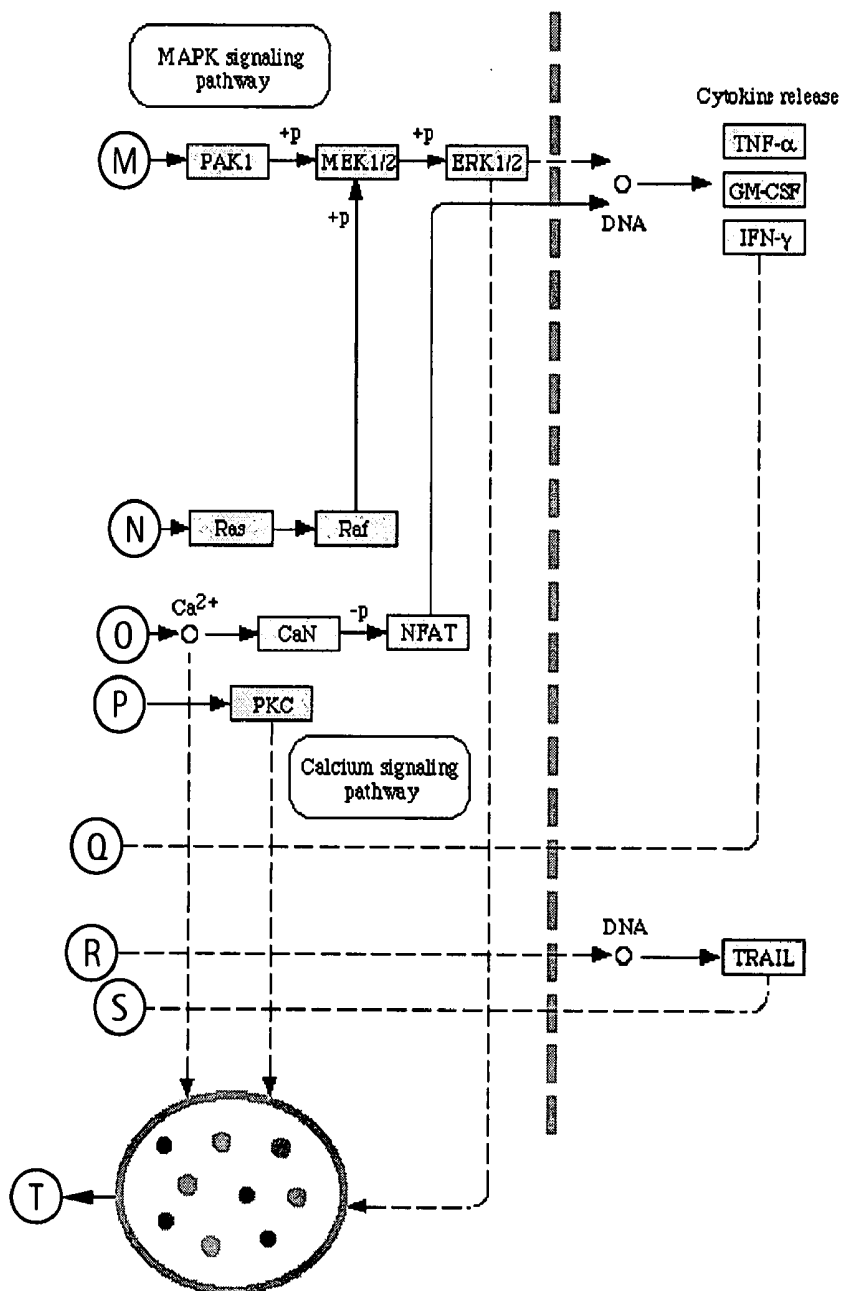


FIG. 1W-1

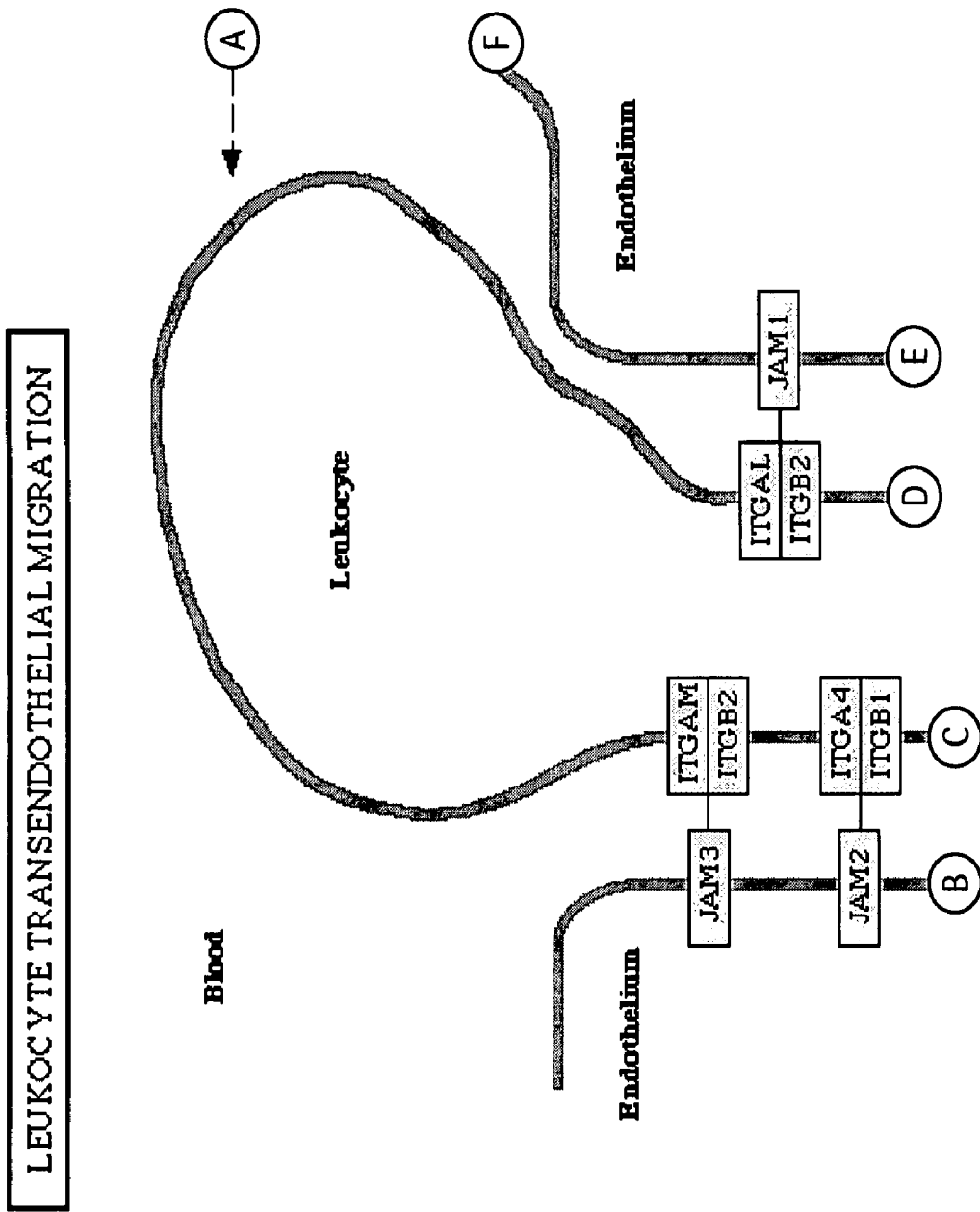


FIG. 1W-2

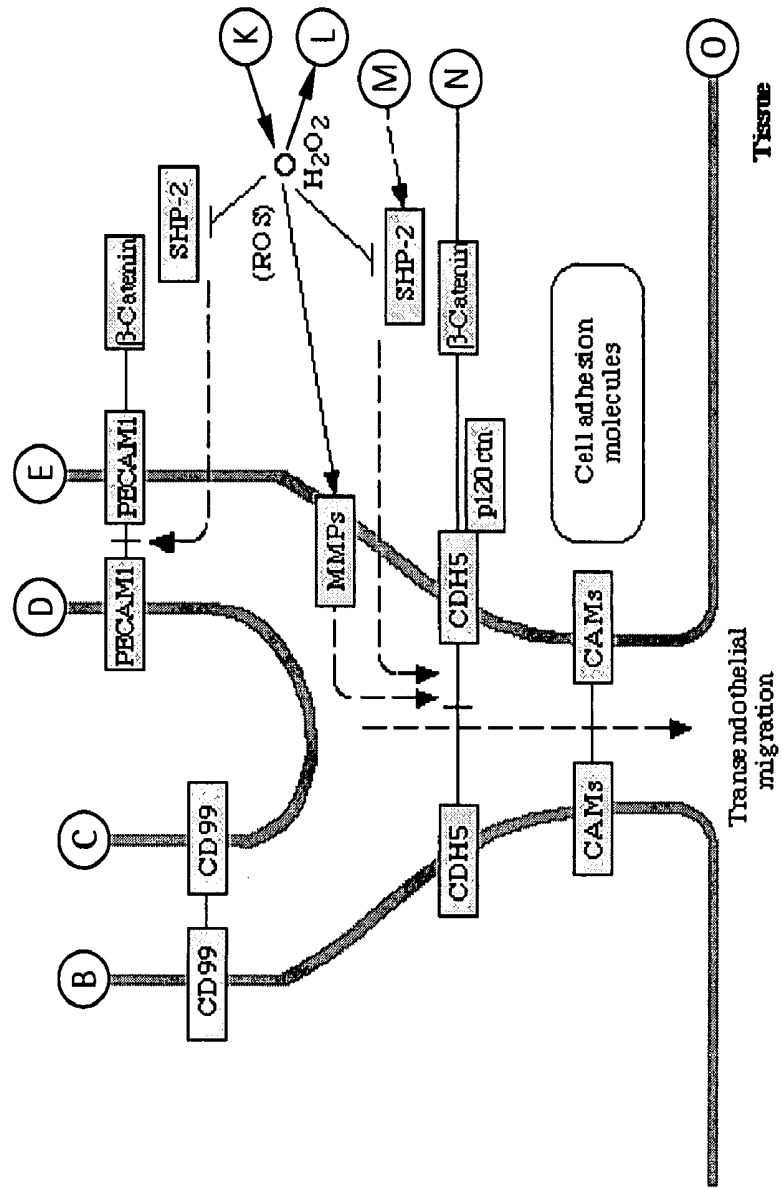


FIG. 1X-1

REGULATION OF ACTIN CYTOSKELETON

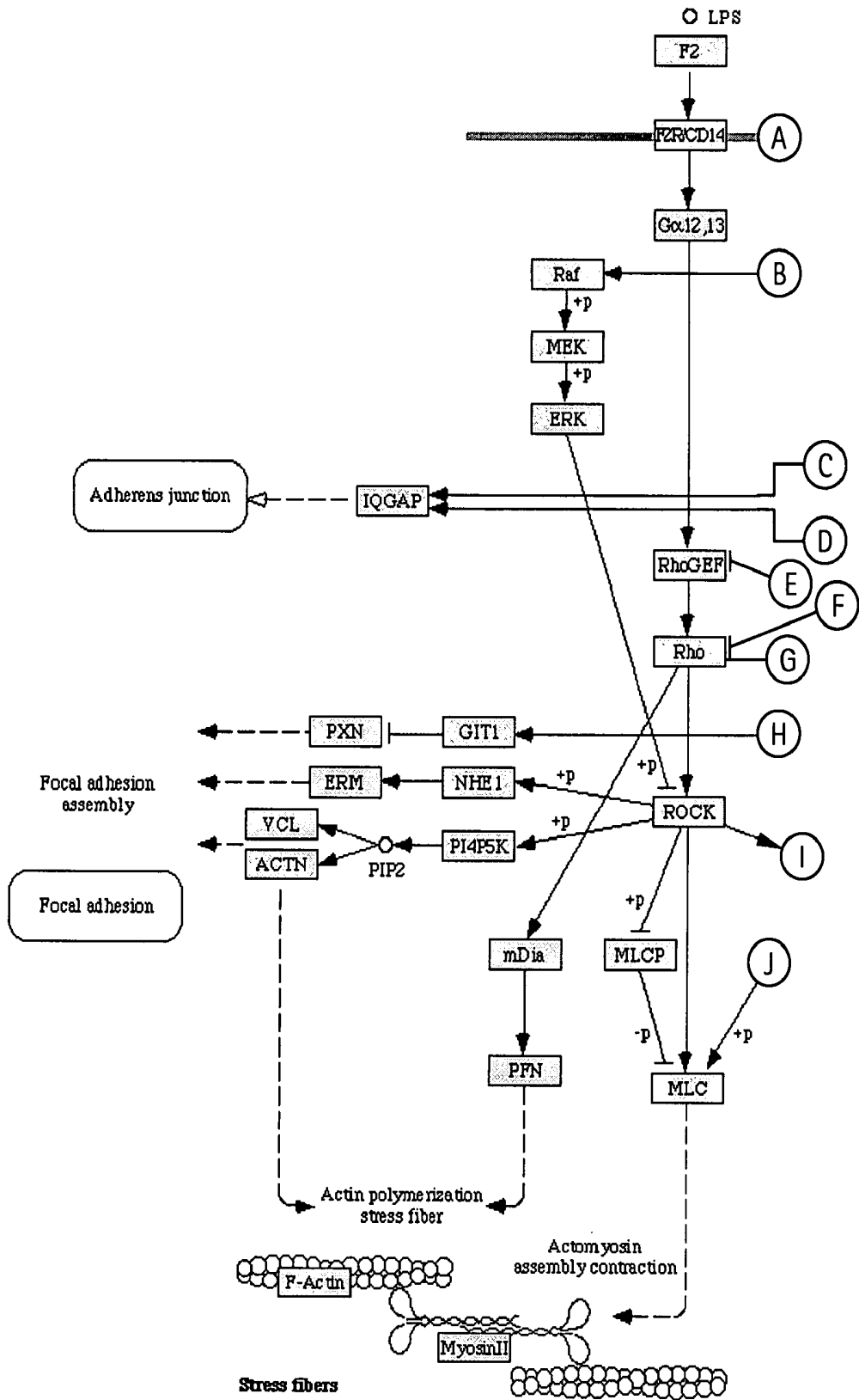


FIG. 1X-2

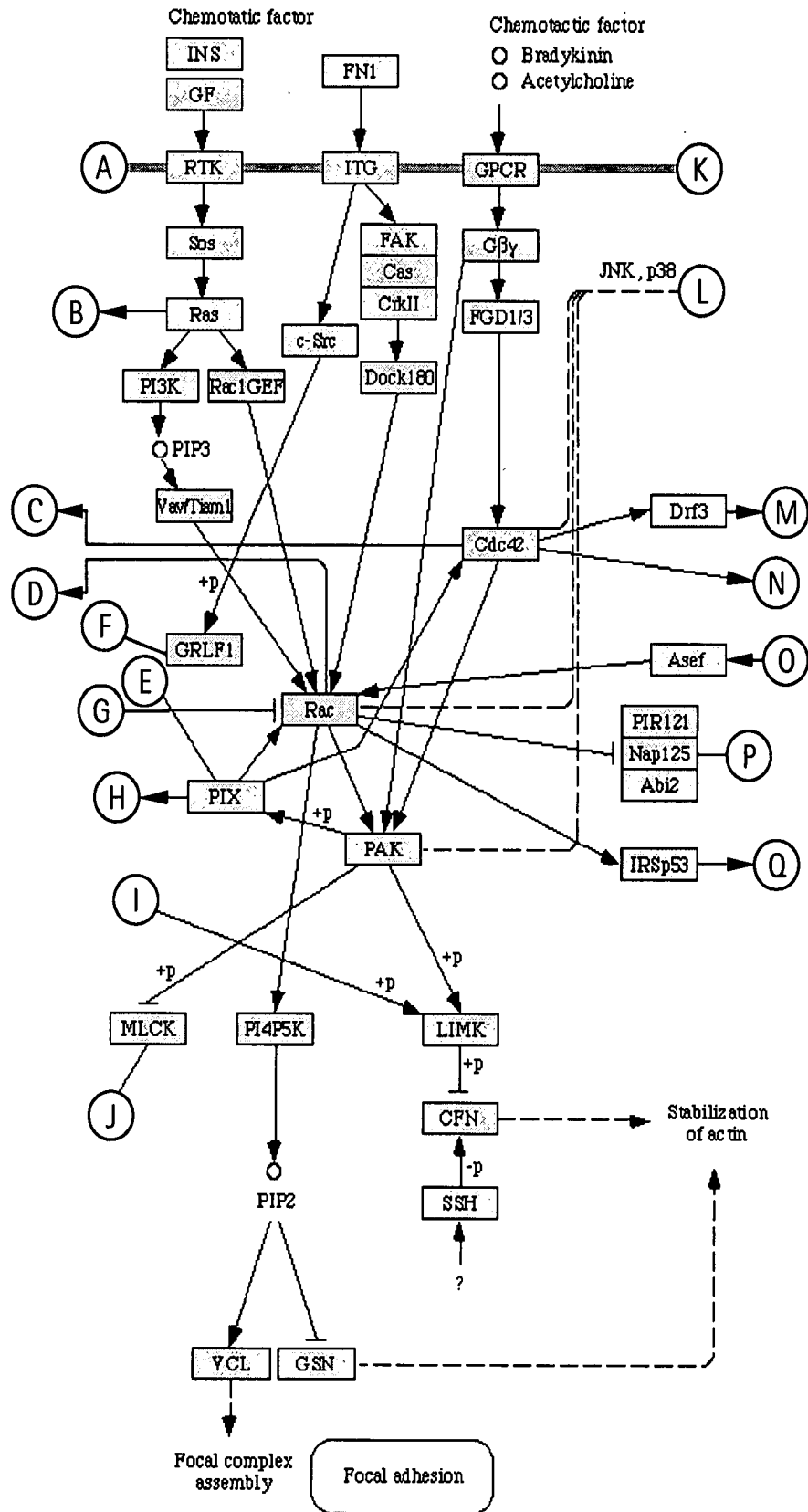


FIG. 1X-3

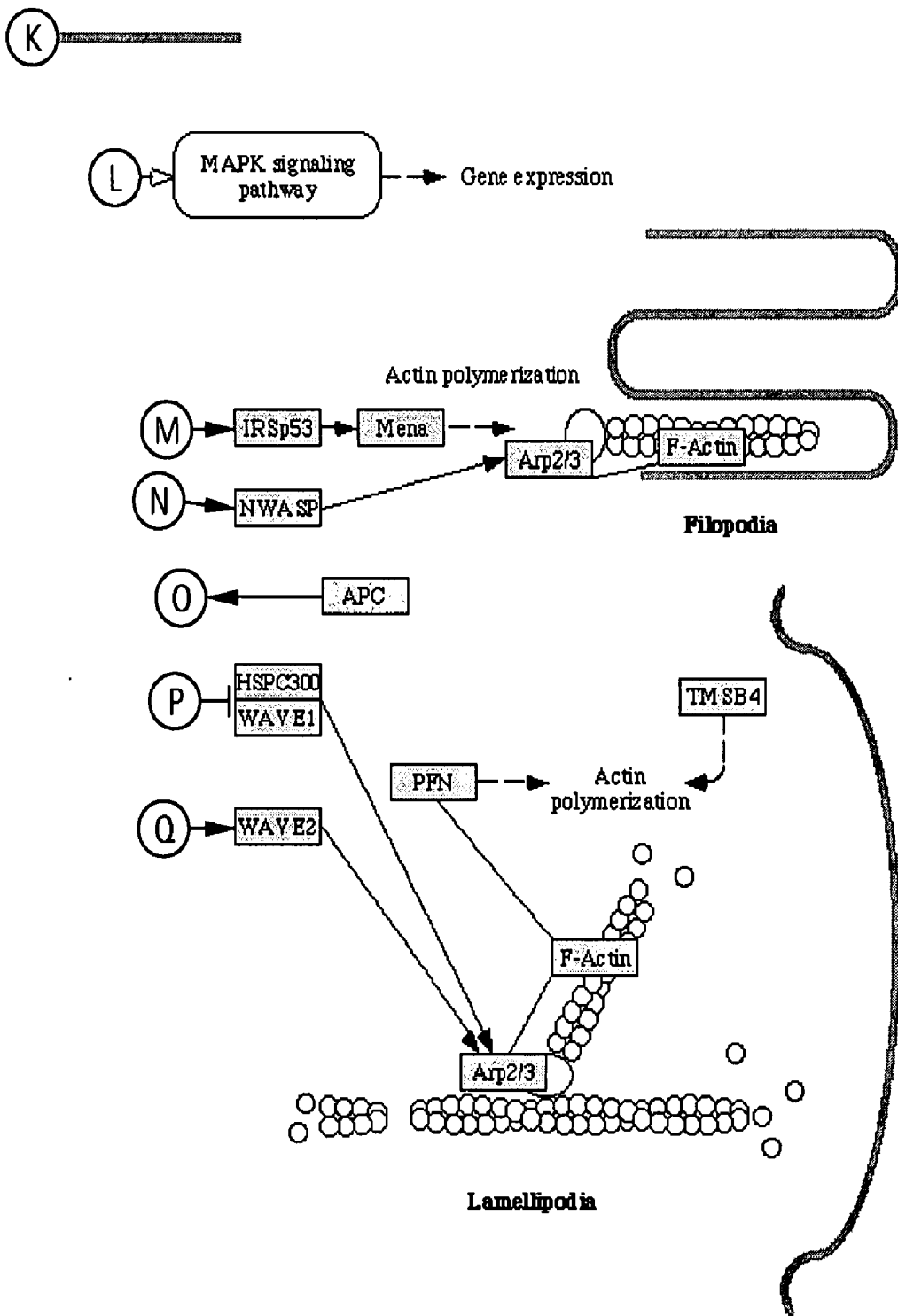


FIG. 1Y-1

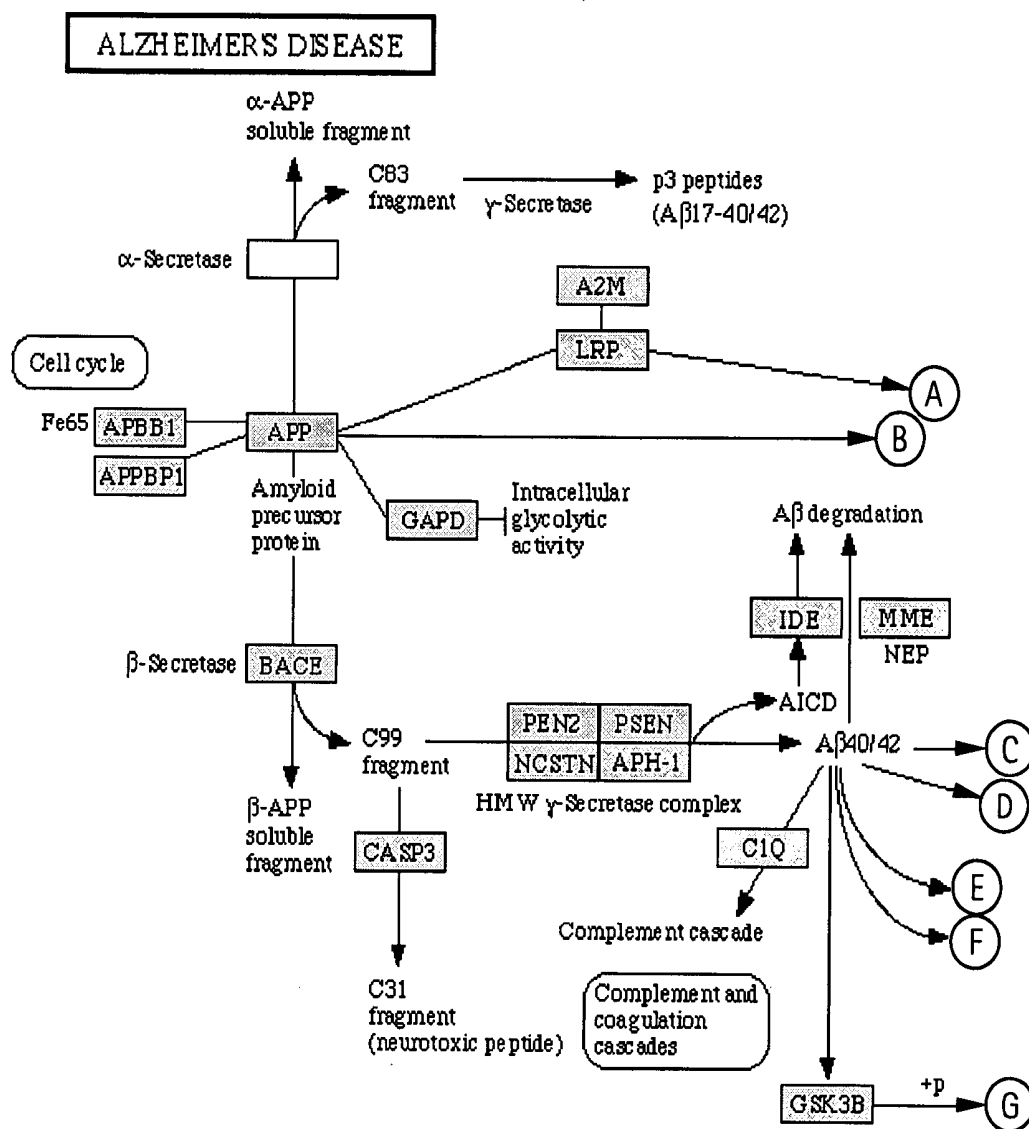


FIG. 1Y-2

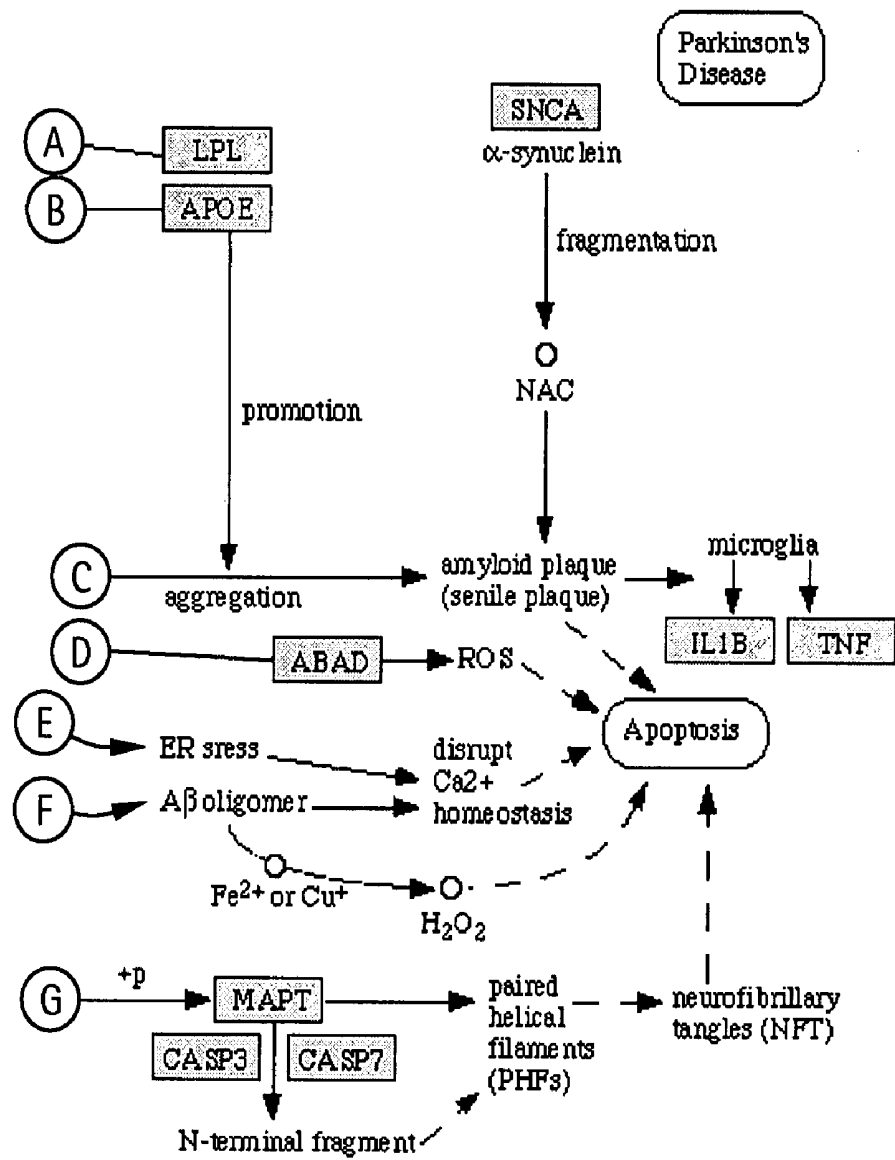


FIG. 1Z-1

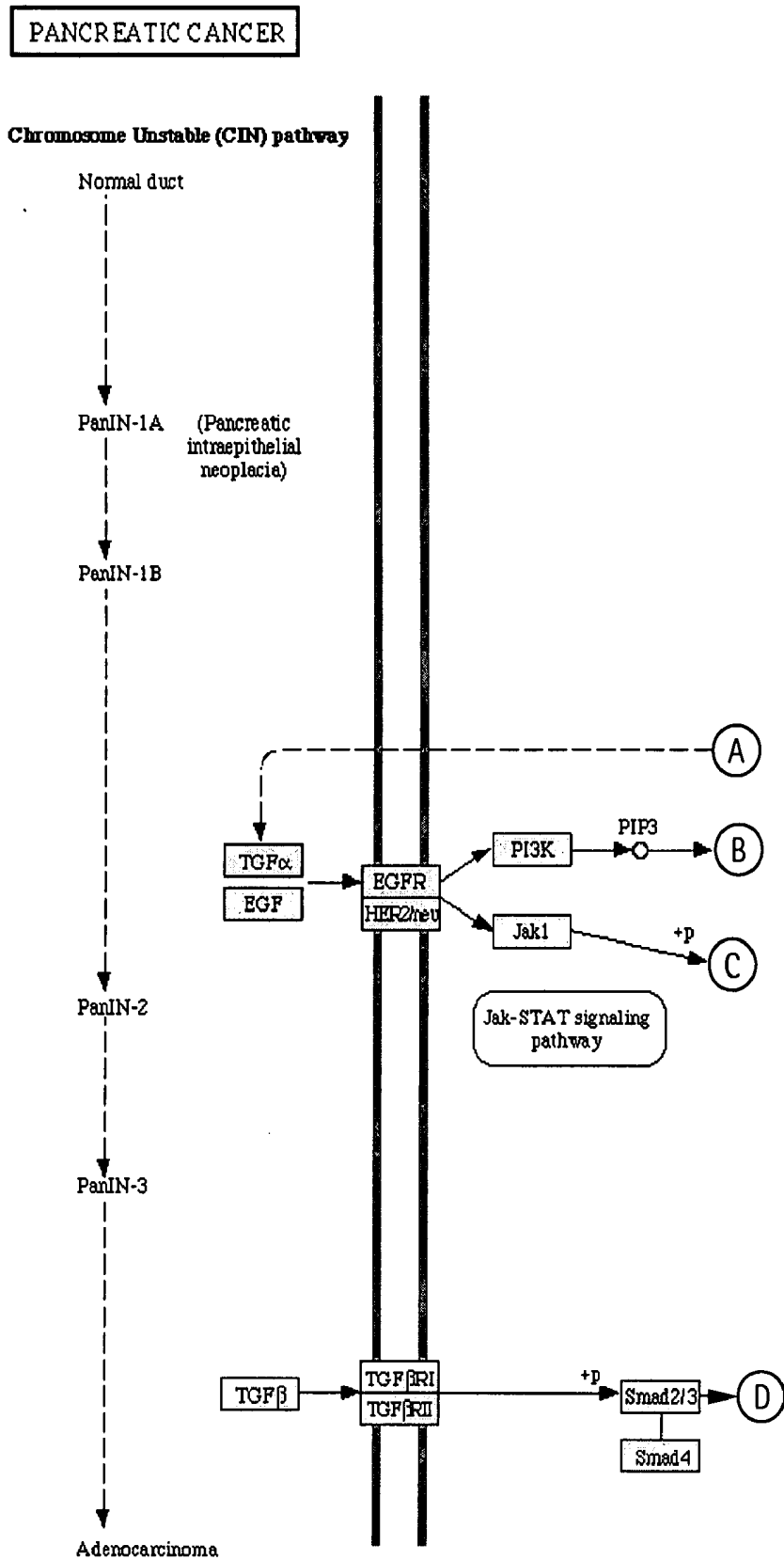


FIG. 1Z-2

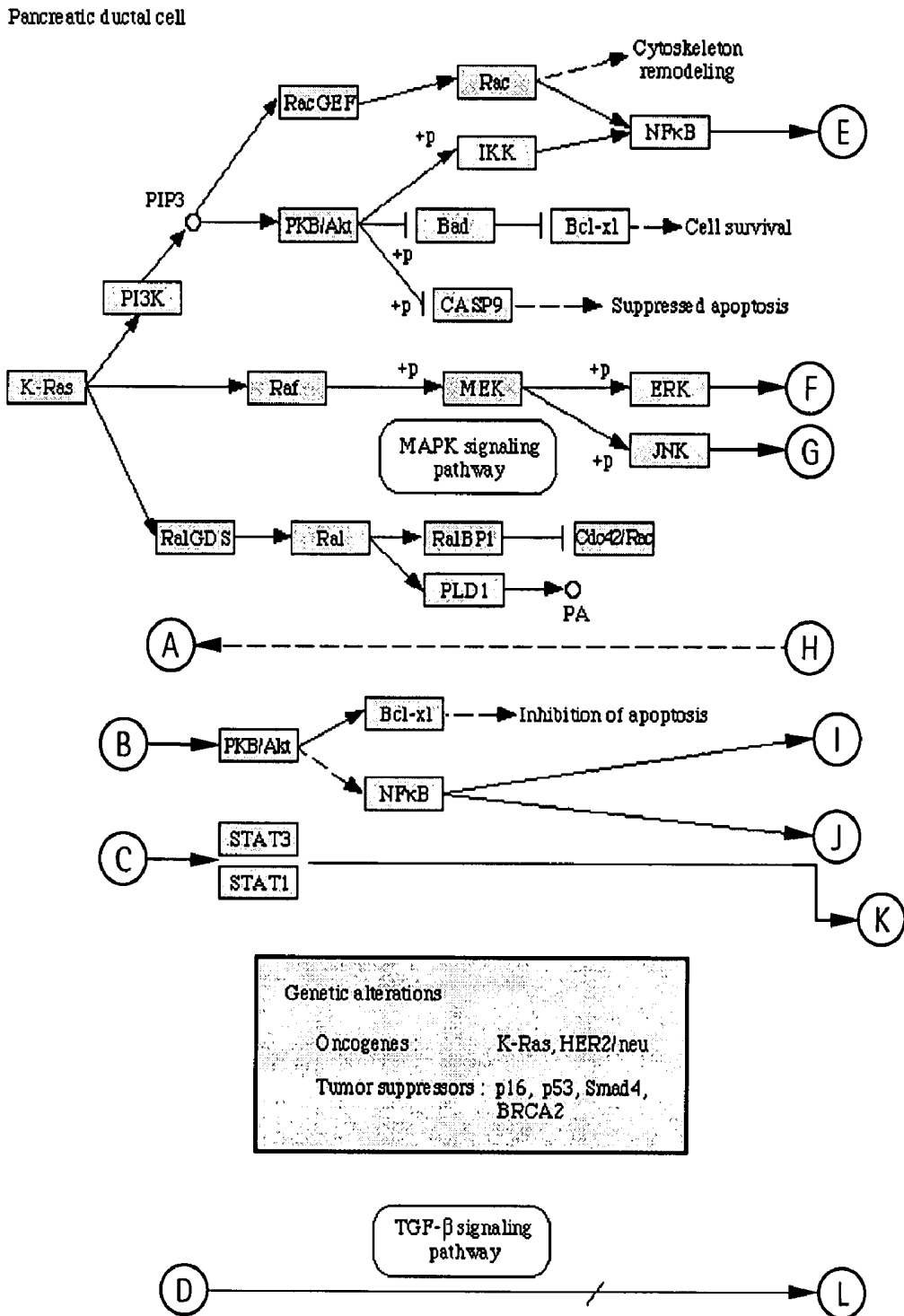


FIG. 1Z-3

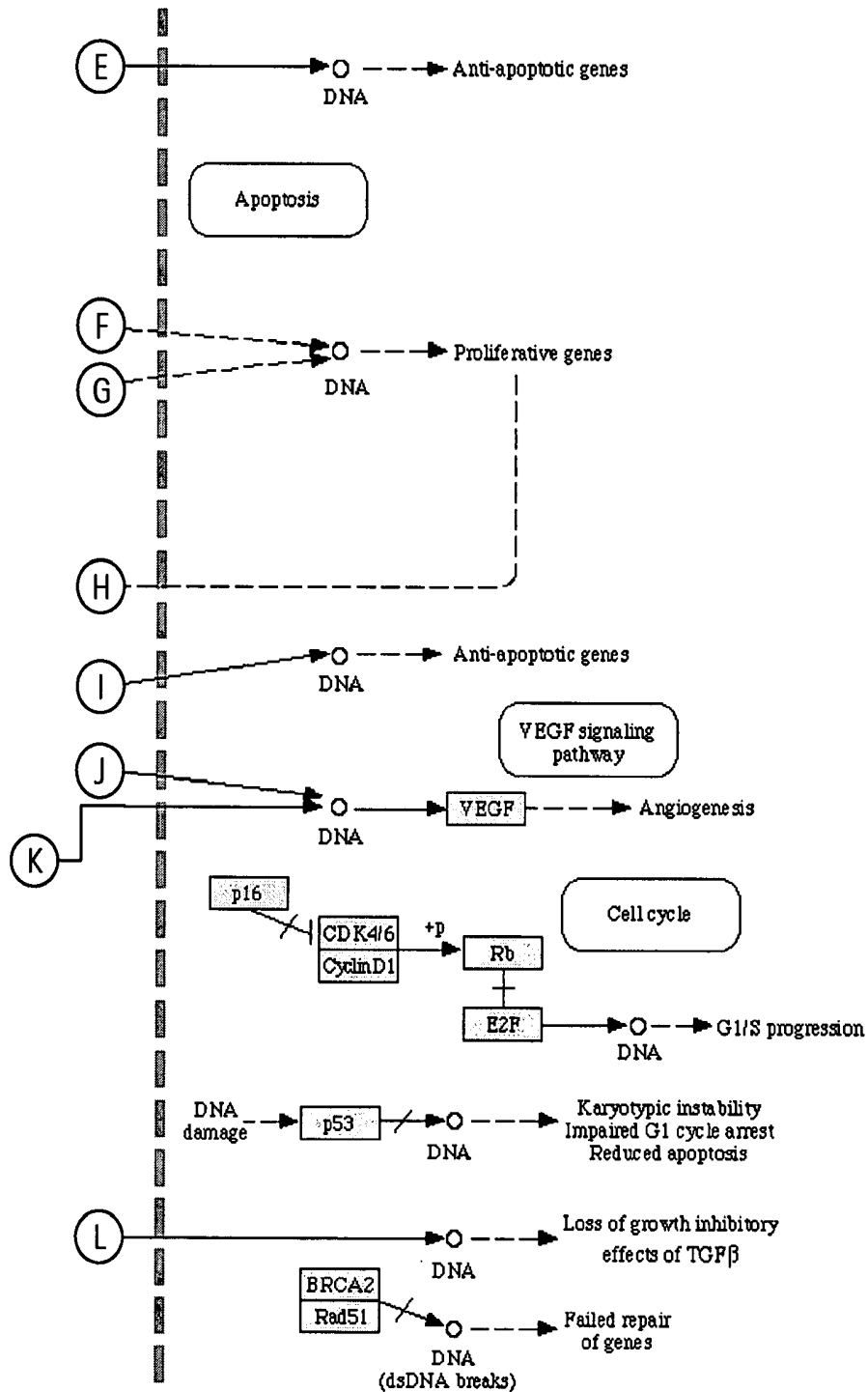


FIG. 1AA-1

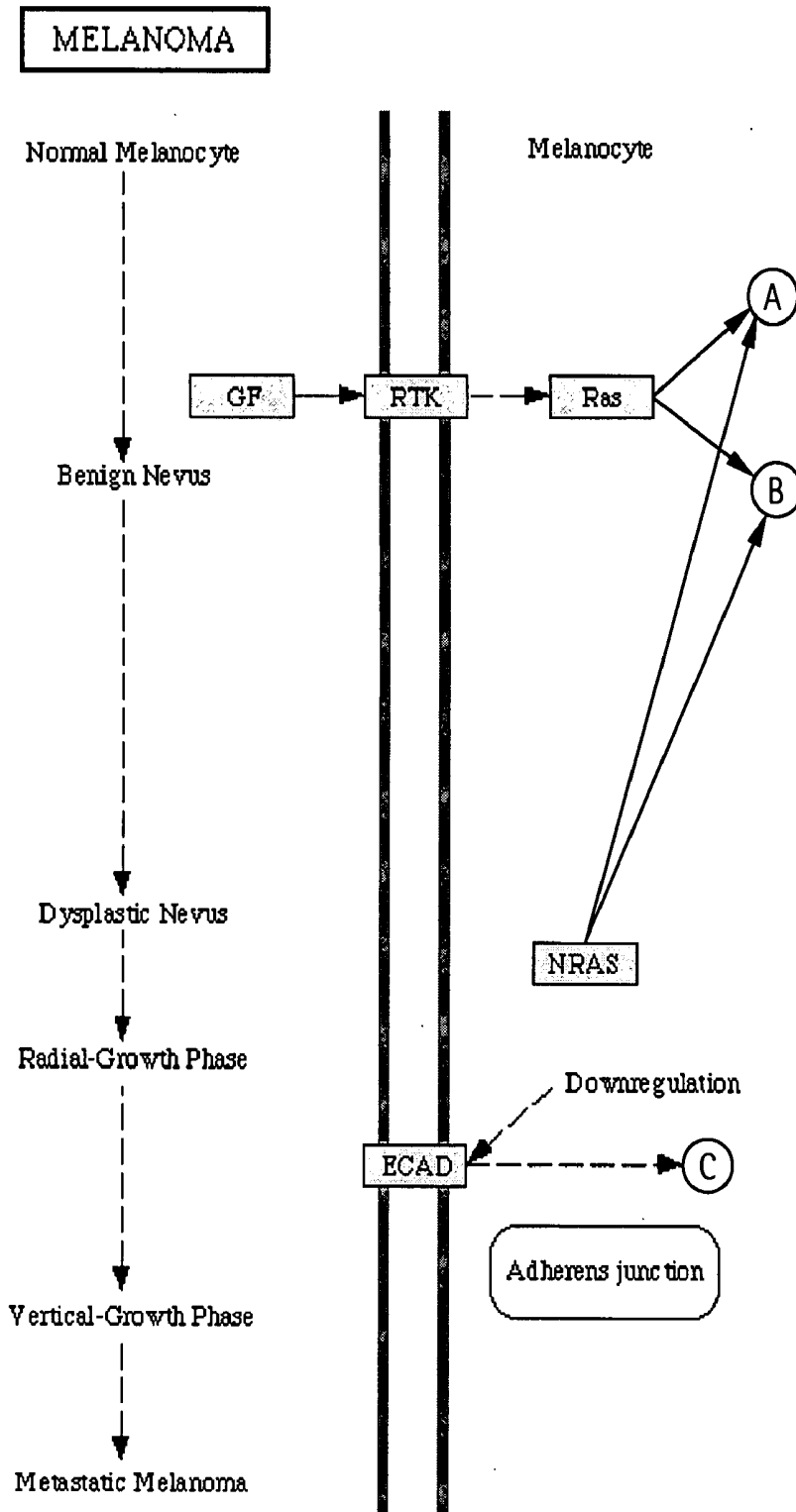


FIG. 1AA-2

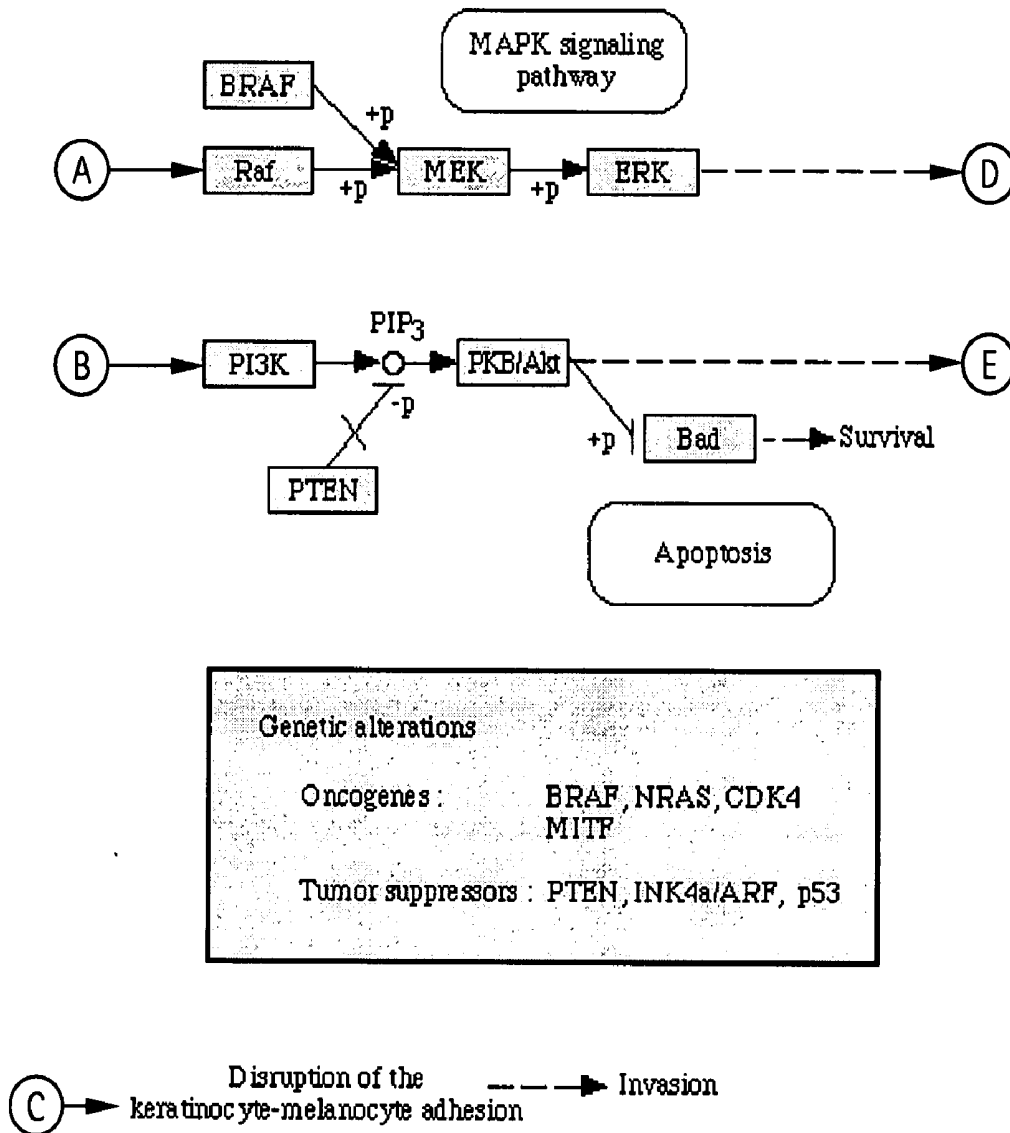


FIG. 1AA-3

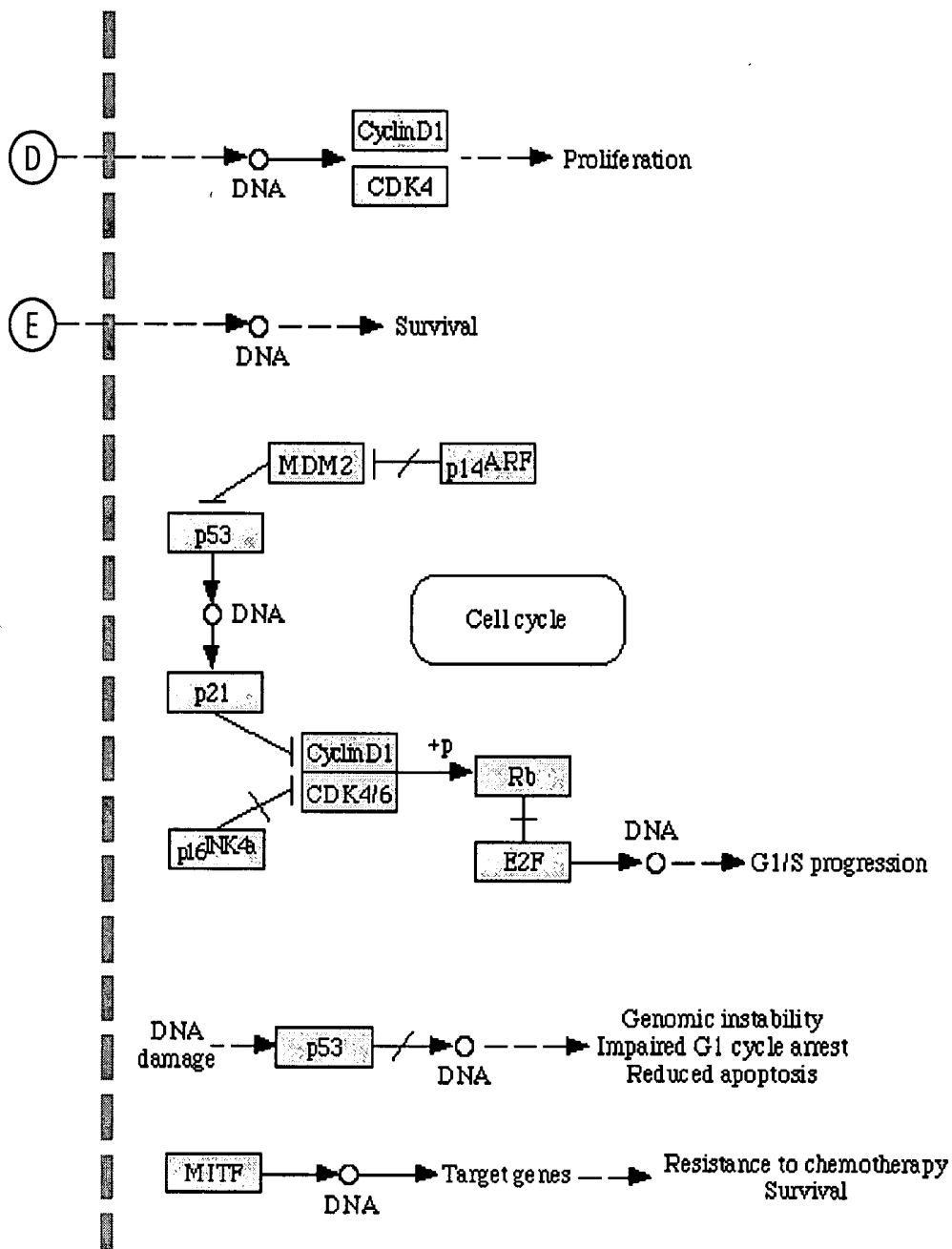


FIG. 2A

2 Or Fewer OSTEORISKMARKERS IDENTIFIED In Pathway

Pathway Search Result

- hsa00230 Purine metabolism** 5142 PDE4B, DPDE4; phosphodiesterase 4B, cAMP-specific (phosphodiesterase E4 dunce homolog, Drosophila) [EC:3.1.4.17] 5144 PDE4D; phosphodiesterase 4D, cAMP-specific (phosphodiesterase E3 dunce homolog, Drosophila) [EC:3.1.4.17] [SP:PDE4D_HUMAN]
- hsa00361 gamma-Hexachlorocyclohexane degradation** 249 ALPL, HOPS; alkaline phosphatase, liver/bone/kidney [EC:3.1.3.1] [SP:PPBT_HUMAN] 54 ACP5; acid phosphatase 5, tartrate resistant [EC:3.1.3.2]
- hsa00534 Heparan sulfate biosynthesis** 2131 EXT1; exostoses (multiple) 1 [EC:2.4.1.224 2.4.1.225] [SP:EXT1_HUMAN] 2132 EXT2; exostoses (multiple) 2 [EC:2.4.1.224 2.4.1.225] [SP:EXT2_HUMAN]
- hsa00590 Arachidonic acid metabolism** 246 ALOX15; arachidonate 15-lipoxygenase [EC:1.13.11.33] [SP:LOX15_HUMAN] 5743 PTGS2; prostaglandin-endoperoxide synthase 2 (prostaglandin G/H synthase and cyclooxygenase) [EC:1.14.99.1] [SP:PGH2_HUMAN]
- hsa01030 Glycan structures - biosynthesis** 1 2131 EXT1; exostoses (multiple) 1 [EC:2.4.1.224 2.4.1.225] [SP:EXT1_HUMAN] 2132 EXT2; exostoses (multiple) 2 [EC:2.4.1.224 2.4.1.225] [SP:EXT2_HUMAN]
- hsa01510 Neurodegenerative Disorders** 3309 HSPA5; heat shock 70kDa protein 5 (glucose-regulated protein, 78kDa) [SP:GRP78_HUMAN] 348 APOE; apolipoprotein E [SP:APOE_HUMAN]
- hsa03320 PPAR signaling pathway** 1593 CYP27A1; cytochrome P450, family 27, subfamily A, polypeptide 1 [EC:1.14.13.15] [SP:CP27A_HUMAN] 5468 PPARC; peroxisome proliferative activated receptor, gamma
- hsa04020 Calcium signaling pathway** 492 ATP2B3; ATPase, Ca⁺⁺ transporting, plasma membrane 3 [EC:3.6.3.8] 5481 PPID; peptidylprolyl isomerase D (cyclophilin D) [EC:5.2.1.8] [SP:PPID_HUMAN]
- hsa04150 mTOR signaling pathway** 3479 IGF1; insulin-like growth factor 1 (somatomedin C) [SP:IGF1A_HUMAN] 7422 VEGF; vascular endothelial growth factor
- hsa04664 Fc epsilon RI signaling pathway** 3565 IL4; interleukin 4 [SP:IL4_HUMAN] 7124 TNF; tumor necrosis factor (TNF superfamily, member 2) [SP:TNFA_HUMAN]
- hsa05060 Prion disease** 3309 HSPA5; heat shock 70kDa protein 5 (glucose-regulated protein, 78kDa) [SP:GRP78_HUMAN] 7124 TNF; tumor necrosis factor (TNF superfamily, member 2) [SP:TNFA_HUMAN]
- hsa05120 Epithelial cell signaling in Helicobacter pylori infection** 10312 TCIRG1; T-cell, immune regulator 1, ATPase, H⁺ transporting, lysosomal V0 subunit A3 [EC:3.6.3.14] 3576 IL8; interleukin 8 [SP:IL8_HUMAN]
- hsa05216 Thyroid cancer** 1499 CTNNB1; catenin (cadherin-associated protein), beta 1, 88kDa [SP:CTNB1_HUMAN] 5468 PPARC; peroxisome proliferative activated receptor, gamma

FIG. 2B

2 Or Fewer OSTEORISKMARKERS IDENTIFIED In Pathway (Cont'd)

Pathway Search Result

hsa05220 Chronic myeloid leukemia_7040 TGFB1; transforming growth factor, beta 1 (Camurati-Engelmann disease) [SP: TGFB1_HUMAN] 7042 TGFB2; transforming growth factor, beta 2 [SP: TGF2_HUMAN]
hsa00100 Biosynthesis of steroids 1594 CYP27B1, VDD1, PDDR; cytochrome P450, family 27, subfamily B, polypeptide 1 [EC:1.14.13.13] [SP: CP27B_HUMAN]
hsa00120 Bile acid biosynthesis 1593 CYP27A1; cytochrome P450, family 27, subfamily A, polypeptide 1 [EC:1.14.13.15] [SP: CP27A_HUMAN]
hsa00140 C21-Steroid hormone metabolism 1586 CYP17A1, CYP17; cytochrome P450, family 17, subfamily A, polypeptide 1 [EC:1.14.99.9] [SP: CP17A_HUMAN]
hsa00190 Oxidative phosphorylation 10312 TCIRG1; T-cell, immune regulator 1, ATPase, H+-transporting, lysosomal V0 subunit A3 [EC:3.6.3.14]
hsa00380 Tryptophan metabolism 1543 CYP1A1, CYP1; cytochrome P450, family 1, subfamily A, polypeptide 1 [EC:1.13.11.33] [SP: LOX15_HUMAN]
hsa00591 Linoleic acid metabolism 246 ALOX15; arachidonate 15-lipoxygenase [EC:1.13.11.33] [SP: LOX15_HUMAN]
hsa00670 One carbon pool by folate 4524 MTHFR; 5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (NADPH) [EC:1.5.1.20] [SP: MTHR_HUMAN]
hsa00680 Methane metabolism 4524 MTHFR; 5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (NADPH) [EC:1.5.1.20] [SP: MTHR_HUMAN]
hsa00740 Riboflavin metabolism 54 ACP5; acid phosphatase 5, tartrate resistant [EC:3.1.3.2]
hsa00790 Folate biosynthesis 249 ALPL, HOPS; alkaline phosphatase, liver/bone/kidney [EC:3.1.3.1] [SP: PPBT_HUMAN]
hsa00980 Metabolism of xenobiotics by cytochrome P450 1543 CYP1A1, CYP1; cytochrome P450, family 1, subfamily A, polypeptide 1 [EC:1.14.14.1] [SP: CP1A1_HUMAN]
hsa04120 Ubiquitin mediated proteolysis 7322 UBE2D2; ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2D 2 (UBC45 homolog, yeast) [EC:6.3.2.19] [SP: UB5B_HUMAN]
hsa04370 VEGF signaling pathway 7422 VEGF; vascular endothelial growth factor
hsa04514 Cell adhesion molecules (CAMs) 3105 HLA-A; major histocompatibility complex, class I, A [SP: 1A01_HUMAN]
hsa04520 Adherens junction 1499 CTNNB1; catenin (cadherin-associated protein), beta 1, 88kDa [SP: CTNB1_HUMAN]
hsa04530 Tight junction 1499 CTNNB1; catenin (cadherin-associated protein), beta 1, 88kDa [SP: CTNB1_HUMAN]
hsa04730 Long-term depression 3479 IGF1; insulin-like growth factor 1 (somatomedin C) [SP: IGF1A_HUMAN]
hsa04912 GnRH signaling pathway 4313 MMP2; matrix metalloproteinase 2 (gelatinase A, 72kDa gelatinase, 72kDa type IV collagenase) [EC:3.4.24.24] [SP: MMP2_HUMAN]
hsa04930 Type II diabetes mellitus 7124 TNF; tumor necrosis factor (TNF superfamily, member 2) [SP: TNFA_HUMAN]
hsa04950 Maturity onset diabetes of the young 3375 IAPP; islet amyloid polypeptide [SP: IAPP_HUMAN]
hsa05130 Pathogenic Escherichia coli infection - EHEC 1499 CTNNB1; catenin (cadherin-associated protein), beta 1, 88kDa [SP: CTNB1_HUMAN]
hsa05131 Pathogenic Escherichia coli infection - EPEC 1499 CTNNB1; catenin (cadherin-associated protein), beta 1, 88kDa [SP: CTNB1_HUMAN]
hsa05214 Glioma 3479 IGF1; insulin-like growth factor 1 (somatomedin C) [SP: IGF1A_HUMAN]

FIG. 3-1

Selected OSTEORISKMARKERS of Bone Formation and Bone Resorption

Bone Formation

ALPL (Bone-specific alkaline phosphatase, BAP, bone ALP)

BGLAP (Osteocalcin, OC)

BMP2

BMP6

CALCA

CALCR

CASR

CHRD2

CTNNA1

ESR1

FGF2

FRZB

GH1

IAPP

IGF1

IGFBP3

IGFBP5

IL1RN

LIF

LRP5

LRP6

PICP (C-terminal propeptide of type I collagen)

PINP (N-terminal propeptide of type I collagen)

PTGER4

PTGS2

PTH

PTH1H

PTH1R

RUNX2

SOST

SPARC

SPP1

TGFB1

TNF

VEGF

WNT16

FIG. 3-2

Bone Resorption

ACP (TRAcP 5b)

AR

BGLAP Fragments (ufOC, U-Mid-OC, U-LongOC)

*CALCA**CALCR**CD4**CD44*

CSF1

CTNNB1

CTSK (Cathepsin K)

CTSL (Cathepsin L)

CTX-I (C-terminal x-linked telopeptide of type I collagen, isomeric)

DPD (Deoxypyridinoline)

GGHL/GHL (Hydroxylysine-glycosides)

HELP (Collagen I alpha 1 helicoidal peptide)

IAPP

IBSP (Bone Sialoprotein, BSP)

ICTP, CTX-MMP (C-terminal x-linked telopeptide of type I collagen)

IGF1

IGF2

IL1A

IL1B

IL6

IL6R

KL

LIF

NTX-I (N-terminal x-linked telopeptide of type I collagen)

OHP (Hydroxyproline, Hyp)

PTGER4

PTGS2

PTH

PTHLH

PTHR1

PYD (Pyridinoline)

SPARC

SPP1

TNF

*TNFRSF11A**TNFRSF11B**TNFRSF1B*

TNFSF11

TRAF6

TYROBP

FIG. 4-1

Additional OSTEORISKMARKERS By Functional Categories

A. Osteoclast Metabolism B. Osteocyte Metabolism C. Osteoblast Metabolism D. Calcium Metabolism

<i>CNR2</i>	BMP4	BMP4	ATP2A1
CYP27B1	CYP27B1	DKK1	<i>ATP2B3</i>
FOS	FOS	ESR2	CALR
FOSL1	FOSL1	FOS	<i>CCR3</i>
IFNG	IFNG	FOSL1	<i>CD59</i>
<i>IL1R1</i>	<i>IL1R1</i>	IFNG	<i>CD8A</i>
IL4	IL4	PPARG	CYP27B1
INHA	INHA	<i>SFRP1</i>	EDN3
<i>ITGB3</i>	<i>ITGB3</i>	SHBG	EPO
NF1	<i>OSTM1</i>	SP7	F2
<i>OSTM1</i>	PPARG	<i>TCIRG1</i>	FGF7
SHBG	SHBG	VDR	GC
TXNIP	SP7		GCG
	VDR		GNRH1
			HSPA5
			IFNG
			IL2
			IL4
			IL8
			INS
			<i>LAT</i>
			LEP
			LPA
			NPPB
			<i>NPY</i>
			OXT
			PLG
			POMC
			<i>PTGFR</i>
			TGFA
			VDR

FIG. 4-2

E. Bone Mineralization And/Or Calcification F. Skeletal Development G. Muscle Cell Metabolism H. Eicosanoid Metabolism

BGN	BGN	APOE	ALB
BMP4	BMP4	BMP4	<i>CCR3</i>
EN1	COL10A1	CDKN1C	F2
FGF23	COL1A1	EPO	GNRH1
MGP	COL1A2	F2	IFNG
MMP13	COL2A1	GDF8	IL10
PHEX	DLX5	IFNG	IL2
SOX9	EN1	IL4	IL4
VDR	EXT1	INS	IL8
	EXT2	LEP	INHA
	FGF23	LPA	LEP
	INHA	MMP2	<i>LEPR</i>
	LTBP3	PAPPA	NPPB
	MGP	PLAT	PLG
	MMP13	PLG	POMC
	PHEX	SERPINE1	STAR
	POSTN		TGFA
	SOX9		
	VDR		

FIG. 4-3

I. Other
Metabolism

J. Other Bone-Related
Physiology

<i>AGER</i>	Gender
APOE	Age
<i>CD36</i>	Race
CRP	BMD
CYP27A1	Poor Vision
FOXP3	Neuromuscular Disorders
GC	Menopause
GCG	Amenorrhoea
IGFBP1	Hypogonadism
<i>IL1R1</i>	Previous Fracture
INS	Familial History of Fracture
MTHFR	Low Body Weight
<i>NPY</i>	Body Mass Index
NR3C1	Smoking
OXT	High Alcohol Consumption
PHEX	Use of Systemic Steroids
PLIN	Prolonged Immobilization
PPARG	Low Dietary Calcium
REN	Vitamin D Deficiency
TXNIP	Rheumatoid Arthritis

FIG. 5-1

1 Category	2 Category	3 Category		
A	AB	ABC	BCH	CGI
B	AC	ABD	BCI	CGJ
C	AD	ABE	BCJ	CHI
D	AE	ABF	BDE	CHJ
E	AF	ABG	BDF	CIJ
F	AG	ABH	BDG	DEF
G	AH	ABI	BDH	DEG
H	AI	ABJ	BDI	DEH
I	AJ	ACD	BDJ	DEI
J	BC	ACE	BEF	DEJ
	BD	ACF	BEG	DFG
	BE	ACG	BEH	DFH
	BF	ACH	BEI	DFI
	BG	ACI	BEJ	DFJ
	BH	ACJ	BFG	DGH
	BI	ADE	BFH	DGI
	BJ	ADF	BFJ	DGJ
	CD	ADG	BFJ	DHI
	CE	ADH	BGH	DHJ
	CF	ADI	BGI	DIJ
	CG	ADJ	BGJ	EFG
	CH	AEF	BHI	EFH
	CI	AEG	BHJ	EFI
	CJ	AEH	BIJ	EFJ
	DE	AEI	CDE	EGH
	DF	AEJ	CDF	EGI
	DG	AFG	CDG	EGJ
	DH	AFH	CDH	EHI
	DI	AFI	CDI	EHJ
	DJ	AFJ	CDJ	EIJ
	EF	AGH	CEF	FGH
	EG	AGI	CEG	FGI
	EH	AGJ	CEH	FGJ
	EI	AHI	CEI	FHI
	EJ	AHJ	CEJ	FHJ
	FG	AIJ	CFG	FIJ
	FH	BCD	CFH	GHI
	FI	BCE	CFI	GHJ
	FJ	BCF	CFJ	GIJ
	GH	BCG	CGH	HIJ
	GI			
	GJ			
	HI			
	HJ			
	IJ			

FIG. 5-2

4 Category				
ABCD	ACFJ	BCDE	BEGJ	CFHI
ABCE	ACGH	BCDF	BEHI	CFHJ
ABCF	ACGI	BCDG	BEHJ	CFIJ
ABCG	ACGJ	BCDH	BEIJ	CGHI
ABCH	ACHI	BCDI	BFGH	CGHJ
ABCI	ACHJ	BCDJ	BFGI	CGIJ
ABCJ	ACIJ	BCEF	BFGJ	CHIJ
ABDE	ADEF	BCEG	BFHI	DEFG
ABDF	ADEG	BCEH	BFHJ	DEFH
ABDG	ADEH	BCEI	BFIJ	DEFI
ABDH	ADEI	BCEJ	BGHI	DEFJ
ABDI	ADEJ	BCFG	BGHJ	DEGH
ABDJ	ADFG	BCFH	BGIJ	DEGI
ABEF	ADFH	BCFI	BHIJ	DEGJ
ABEG	ADFI	BCFJ	CDEF	DEHI
ABEH	ADFJ	BCGH	CDEG	DEHJ
ABEI	ADGH	BCGI	CDEH	DEIJ
ABEJ	ADGI	BCGJ	CDEI	DFGH
ABFG	ADGJ	BCHI	CDEJ	DFGI
ABFH	ADHI	BCHJ	CDFG	DFGJ
ABFI	ADHJ	BCIJ	CDFH	DFHI
ABFJ	ADIJ	BDEF	CDFI	DFHJ
ABGH	AIEG	BDEG	CDFJ	DFIJ
ABGI	AEFH	BDEH	CDGH	DGHI
ABGJ	AEFI	BDEI	CDGI	DGHJ
ABHI	AEFJ	BDEJ	CDGJ	DGIJ
ABHJ	AEGH	BDFG	CDHI	DHIJ
ABIJ	AEGI	BDFH	CDHJ	EFGH
ACDE	AEGJ	BDFI	CDIJ	EFGI
ACDF	AEHI	BDFJ	CEFG	EFGJ
ACDG	AEHJ	BDGH	CEFH	EFHI
ACDH	AEIJ	BDGI	CEFI	EFHJ
ACDI	AFGH	BDGJ	CEFJ	EFIJ
ACDJ	AFGI	BDHI	CEGH	EGHI
ACEF	AFGJ	BDHJ	CEGI	EGHJ
ACEG	AFHI	BDIJ	CEGJ	EGIJ
ACEH	AFHJ	BEFG	CEHI	EHIJ
ACEI	AFIJ	BEFH	CEHJ	FGHI
ACEJ	AGHI	BEFI	CEIJ	FGHJ
ACFG	AGHJ	BEFJ	CFGH	FGIJ
ACFH	AGIJ	BEGH	CFGJ	FHIJ
ACFI	AHIJ	BEGI	CFGJ	GHIJ

FIG. 5-3

5 Category					
ABCDE	ABEGJ	ACFHI	BCDEF	BDEHI	CDFHJ
ABCDF	ABEHI	ACFHJ	BCDEG	BDEHJ	CDFIJ
ABCDG	ABEHJ	ACFIJ	BCDEH	BDEIJ	CDGHI
ABCDH	ABEIJ	ACGHI	BCDEI	BDFGH	CDGHJ
ABCDI	ABFGH	ACGHJ	BCDEJ	BDFGI	CDGIJ
ABCDJ	ABFGI	ACGIJ	BCDFG	BDFGJ	CDHIJ
ABCEF	ABFGJ	ACHIJ	BCDFH	BDFHI	CEFGH
ABCEG	ABFHI	ADEFG	BCDFI	BDFHJ	CEFGI
ABCEH	ABFHJ	ADEFH	BCDFJ	BDFIJ	CEFGJ
ABCEI	ABFIJ	ADEFI	BCDGH	BDGHI	CEFHI
ABCEJ	ABGHI	ADEFJ	BCDGI	BDGHJ	CEFHJ
ABCFG	ABGHJ	ADEGH	BCDGJ	BDGIJ	CEFIJ
ABCFH	ABGIJ	ADEGI	BCDHI	BDHIJ	CEGHI
ABCFI	ABHIJ	ADEGJ	BCDHJ	BEFGH	CEGHJ
ABCFJ	ACDEF	ADEHI	BCDIJ	BEFGI	CEGIJ
ABCGH	ACDEG	ADEHJ	BCEFG	BEFGJ	CEHIJ
ABCGI	ACDEH	ADEIJ	BCEFH	BEFHI	CFGHI
ABCGJ	ACDEI	ADFGH	BCEFI	BEFHJ	CFGHJ
ABCHI	ACDEJ	ADFGI	BCEFJ	BEFIJ	CFGIJ
ABCHJ	ACDFG	ADFGJ	BCEGH	BEGHI	CFHIJ
ABCIJ	ACDFH	ADFHJ	BCEGI	BEGHJ	CGHIJ
ABDEF	ACDFI	ADFHJ	BCEGJ	BEGIJ	DEFGH
ABDEG	ACDFJ	ADFIJ	BCEHI	BEHIJ	DEFGI
ABDEH	ACDGH	ADGHI	BCEHJ	BFGHI	DEFGJ
ABDEI	ACDGI	ADGHJ	BCEIJ	BFGHJ	DEFHI
ABDEJ	ACDGJ	ADGIJ	BCFGH	BFGIJ	DEFHJ
ABDFG	ACDHI	ADHIJ	BCFGI	BFHIJ	DEFIJ
ABDFH	ACDHJ	AIEFGH	BCFGJ	BGHIJ	DEGHI
ABDFI	ACDIJ	AIEFGI	BCFHI	CIEFG	DEGHJ
ABDFJ	ACEFG	AIEFGJ	BCFHJ	CIEFH	DEGIJ
ABDGH	ACEFH	AIEFHI	BCFIJ	CIEFI	DEHIJ
ABDGI	ACEFI	AIEFHJ	BCGHI	CIEFJ	DFGHI
ABDGJ	ACEFJ	AIEFIJ	BCGHJ	CIEGH	DFGHJ
ABDHI	ACEGH	AIEGHI	BCGIJ	CIEGI	DFGIJ
ABDHJ	ACEGI	AIEGHJ	BCHIJ	CIEGJ	DFHIJ
ABDIJ	ACEGJ	AIEGIJ	BIEFG	CIEHI	DGHIJ
ABIEFG	ACEHI	AIEHIJ	BIEFH	CIEHJ	EFGHI
ABIEFH	ACEHJ	AIEGHI	BIEFI	CIEIJ	EFGHJ
ABIEFI	ACEIJ	AIEGHJ	BIEFJ	CIEFGH	EFGIJ
ABIEFJ	ACIEGH	AIEGIJ	BIEGH	CIEFGI	EFHIJ
ABIEGH	ACIEGI	AIEHIJ	BIEGI	CIEFGJ	EGHIJ
ABIEGI	ACIEGJ	AIEGHI	BIEGJ	CIEFHI	FGHIJ

FIG. 5-4

6 Category					
ABCDEF	ABDEFG	ACDEFG	ADEFGH	BCDFHJ	BDGHIJ
ABCDEG	ABDEFH	ACDEFH	ADEFGI	BCDFIJ	BEFGHI
ABCDEH	ABDEFI	ACDEFI	ADEFGJ	BCDGHJ	BEFGHJ
ABCDEI	ABDEFJ	ACDEFJ	ADEFHI	BCDGHJ	BEFGIJ
ABCDEJ	ABDEGH	ACDEGH	ADEFHJ	BCDGIJ	BEFHJ
ABCDG	ABDEGI	ACDEGI	ADEFIJ	BCDHJ	BEGHIJ
ABCDGH	ABDEGJ	ACDEGJ	ADEGHI	BCEFGH	BFGHIJ
ABCDHI	ABDEHJ	ACDEHJ	ADEGHJ	BCEFGI	CDEFGH
ABCDIJ	ABDEIJ	ACDEIJ	ADEHIJ	BCEFGJ	CDEFGI
ABCDFG	ABDFGH	ACDFGH	ADFGHI	BCEFGH	CDEFGJ
ABCDFH	ABDFGI	ACDFGI	ADFGHJ	BCEFIJ	CDEFHI
ABCDFI	ABDFGJ	ACDFGJ	ADFGIJ	BCEFIJ	CDEFHJ
ABCDFJ	ABDFHI	ACDFHI	ADFHIJ	BCEGHI	CDEFIJ
ABCDGH	ABDFHJ	ACDFHJ	ADGHIJ	BCEGHJ	CDEGHI
ABCDGI	ABDFIJ	ACDFIJ	ADEFGHI	BCEGIJ	CDEGHJ
ABCDGJ	ABDGHJ	ACDGHJ	ADEFGHJ	BCEHIJ	CDEGIJ
ABCDHI	ABDGHJ	ACDGHJ	ADEFGIJ	BCFGHI	CDEHIJ
ABCDIJ	ABDGIJ	ACDGIJ	ADEFHIJ	BCFGHJ	CDFGHI
ABCEFG	ABDHIJ	ACDHIJ	ADEFGHJ	BCFGIJ	CDFGHIJ
ABCEFH	ABDFGH	ACDFGH	ADEFGIJ	BCFHIJ	CDFGIJ
ABCEFI	ABDFGJ	ACDFGJ	ADEFGHJ	BCGHIJ	CDFHIJ
ABCEFJ	ABDFHI	ACDFHI	ADEFGIJ	BDEFGH	CDGHIJ
ABCEGH	ABDFIJ	ACDFIJ	ADEFGHJ	BDEFGI	CEFGHI
ABCEGI	ABDFHJ	ACDFHJ	ADEFGHJ	BDEFGJ	CEFGHJ
ABCEGJ	ABDFIJ	ACDFIJ	ADEFGHJ	BDEFHI	CEFGIJ
ABCEHI	ABDFHJ	ACDFHJ	ADEFGHJ	BCDEGH	CEFHJ
ABCEHJ	ABDFIJ	ACDFIJ	ADEFGHJ	BCDEGI	CEGHIJ
ABCEIJ	ABDFHJ	ACDFHJ	ADEFGHJ	BCDEGI	CEGHIJ
ABCDFG	ABEFGH	ACEFGH	BCDEFG	BDEFGH	CEFGHI
ABCDFH	ABEFGI	ACEFGI	BCDEFH	BDEFGI	CEFGHJ
ABCDFI	ABEFGJ	ACEFGJ	BCDEFI	BDEFGJ	CEFGIJ
ABCDFJ	ABEFHI	ACEFHI	BCDEFJ	BDEFHI	CEFGIJ
ABCDFG	ABEFHJ	ACEFHJ	BCDEGH	BDEFHJ	CEFHJ
ABCDFH	ABEFIJ	ACEFIJ	BCDEGH	BDEFHJ	CEFHJ
ABCDFI	ABEFIJ	ACEFIJ	BCDEGH	BDEFHJ	CEFHJ
ABCDFJ	ABEFIJ	ACEFIJ	BCDEGH	BDEFHJ	CEFHJ
ABCDFG	ABEGHI	ACEGHI	BCDEGI	BDEFIJ	CEGHIJ
ABCDFH	ABEGHJ	ACEGHJ	BCDEGI	BDEFIJ	CEGHIJ
ABCDFI	ABEGHJ	ACEGHJ	BCDEGI	BDEFIJ	CEGHIJ
ABCDFJ	ABEGHJ	ACEGHJ	BCDEGI	BDEFIJ	CEGHIJ
ABCDFG	ABEGIJ	ACEGIJ	BCDEHI	BDEGHJ	DEFGHI
ABCDFH	ABEGIJ	ACEGIJ	BCDEHI	BDEGHJ	DEFGHI
ABCDFI	ABEHJ	ACEHJ	BCDEHJ	BDEGIJ	DEFGHJ
ABCDFJ	ABEHJ	ACEHJ	BCDEHJ	BDEGIJ	DEFGHJ
ABCDFG	ABFGHI	ACFGHI	BCDEIJ	BDEHIJ	DEFGIJ
ABCDFH	ABFGHJ	ACFGHJ	BCDEIJ	BDEHIJ	DEFGIJ
ABCDFI	ABFGHJ	ACFGHJ	BCDEIJ	BDEHIJ	DEFGIJ
ABCDFJ	ABFGHJ	ACFGHJ	BCDEIJ	BDEHIJ	DEFGIJ
ABCDFG	ABFGIJ	ACFGIJ	BCDFGH	BDFGHI	DEFGHI
ABCDFH	ABFGIJ	ACFGIJ	BCDFGH	BDFGHI	DEFGHI
ABCDFI	ABFGIJ	ACFGIJ	BCDFGH	BDFGHI	DEFGHI
ABCDFJ	ABFGIJ	ACFGIJ	BCDFGH	BDFGHI	DEFGHI
ABCDFG	ABFHJ	ACFHJ	BCDFGJ	BDFGIJ	DFGHIJ
ABCDFH	ABFHJ	ACFHJ	BCDFGJ	BDFGIJ	DFGHIJ
ABCDFI	ABFHJ	ACFHJ	BCDFGJ	BDFGIJ	DFGHIJ
ABCDFJ	ABFHJ	ACFHJ	BCDFGJ	BDFGIJ	DFGHIJ
ABCDFG	ABGHIJ	ACGHIJ	BCDFHI	BDFHIJ	EFGHIJ
ABCDFH	ABGHIJ	ACGHIJ	BCDFHI	BDFHIJ	EFGHIJ
ABCDFI	ABGHIJ	ACGHIJ	BCDFHI	BDFHIJ	EFGHIJ
ABCDFJ	ABGHIJ	ACGHIJ	BCDFHI	BDFHIJ	EFGHIJ

FIG. 5-5

7 Category			8 Category	9 Category	10 Category
ABCDEFGF	ABDEFIJ	ADEFHIJ	ABCDEFGFH	ABCDEFGFHI	ABCDEFGHIJ
ABCDEFH	ABDEGHI	ADEGHIJ	ABCDEFGFI	ABCDEFGHJ	
ABCDEFI	ABDEGHJ	ADFGHIJ	ABCDEFGFJ	ABCDEFGFIJ	
ABCDEFJ	ABDEGIJ	AIEFGHIJ	ABCDEFHI	ABCDEFHIJ	
ABCDEGH	ABDEHIJ	BCDEFGH	ABCDEFHJ	ABCDEGHIJ	
ABCDEGI	ABDFGHI	BCDEFGI	ABCDEFIJ	ABCDFGHIJ	
ABCDEGJ	ABDFGHJ	BCDEFGJ	ABCDEGHI	ABCEFGHIJ	
ABCDEHI	ABDFGIJ	BCDEFHI	ABCDEGHJ	ABDEFGHIJ	
ABCDEHJ	ABDFHIJ	BCDEFHJ	ABCDEGIJ	ACDEFGHIJ	
ABCDEIJ	ABDGHIJ	BCDEFIJ	ABCDEHIJ	BCDEFGHIJ	
ABCDFGH	ABIEFGHI	BCDEGHI	ABCDFGHI		
ABCDFGI	ABIEFGHJ	BCDEGHJ	ABCDFGHJ		
ABCDFGJ	ABIEFGIJ	BCDEGIJ	ABCDFGIJ		
ABCDFHI	ABIEFHJ	BCDEHIJ	ABCDFHIJ		
ABCDFHJ	ABIEGHIJ	BCDFGHI	ABCDGHIJ		
ABCDFIJ	ABIFGHIJ	BCDFGHJ	ABCEFGHI		
ABCDGHI	ACDEFGH	BCDFGIJ	ABCEFGHJ		
ABCDGHJ	ACDEFGI	BCDFHIJ	ABCEFGIJ		
ABCDGIJ	ACDEFGJ	BCDGHJ	ABCEFHJ		
ABCDHIJ	ACDEFHI	BCEFGHI	ABCEGHIJ		
ABCEFGH	ACDEFHJ	BCEFGHJ	ABCFGHIJ		
ABCEFGI	ACDEFIJ	BCEFGIJ	ABDEFGHI		
ABCEFGJ	ACDEGHI	BCEFHJ	ABDEFGHJ		
ABCEFHI	ACDEGHJ	BCEGHIJ	ABDEFGIJ		
ABCEFHIJ	ACDEGIJ	BCFGHIJ	ABDEFHIJ		
ABCEFIJ	ACDEHIJ	BDEFGHI	ABDEGHIJ		
ABCEGHI	ACDFGHI	BDEFGHJ	ABDFGHIJ		
ABCEGHJ	ACDFGHJ	BDEFGIJ	ABIEFGHIJ		
ABCEGIJ	ACDFGIJ	BDEFHIJ	ACDEFGHI		
ABCEHIJ	ACDFHIJ	BDEGHIJ	ACDEFGHJ		
ABCFGHI	ACDGHIJ	BDFGHIJ	ACDEFGIJ		
ABCFGHJ	ACEFGHI	BEFGHIJ	ACDEFHIJ		
ABCFGIJ	ACEFGHJ	CDEFGHI	ACDEGHIJ		
ABCFHIJ	ACEFGIJ	CDEFGHJ	ACDFGHIJ		
ABCGHIJ	ACEFHJ	CDEFGIJ	ACEFGHIJ		
ABDEFGH	ACEGHIJ	CDEFHIJ	AIEFGHIJ		
ABDEFGI	ACFGHIJ	CDEGHIJ	BCDEFGHI		
ABDEFGJ	AIEFGHI	CDFGHIJ	BCIEFGHJ		
ABDEFHI	AIEFGHJ	CEFGHIJ	BCIEFGIJ		
ABDEFHJ	AIEFGIJ	DEFGHIJ	BCIEFGHJ		
			BCIEFGIJ		
			BCIEFGHJ		
			BCEFGHIJ		
			BIEFGHIJ		
			CDEFGHIJ		

FIG. 6-1

Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3	Cluster 4	Cluster 5
ALOX15	<i>ACE</i>	<i>ADRA1D</i>	<i>AGER</i>	AICDA
BGLAP	ACP5	<i>BST1</i>	ALB	AR
BMP2	<i>ALPL</i>	CCL18	APRT	ATP2A1
BMP4	APOE	<i>CD36</i>	AR	CAPG
BMP6	AR	<i>CD4</i>	AREG	<i>CASR</i>
CHRD2	ARD1A	<i>CD8A</i>	BMX	CYP1A1
COL10A1	BGN	<i>CNR2</i>	CALR	CYP2B6
COL1A1	<i>CALCA</i>	CRP	<i>CD4</i>	EPO
COL1A2	<i>CALCR</i>	CTSL	<i>CD44</i>	ESR1
COL2A1	<i>CALM2</i>	CTSL2	CDKN1C	ESR2
COL3A1	<i>CCR3</i>	CYB5A	CHI3L1	FGF2
CYP27A1	<i>CD59</i>	CYP27B1	CPB2	FGF23
DKK1	COL4A1	EPX	CSF1	GC
DLX5	COL4A2	GH1	CTNNB1	GCG
EXT1	CTSK	GNRH1	EDN3	GRN
FRZB	CTSL	<i>HLA-A</i>	F2	<i>GYPA</i>
IGFBP3	FOS	IFNG	FGF2	HSPA5
IGFBP5	FOSL1	IGF2	FGF7	IGF1
<i>LRP5</i>	FOXP3	IGFBP1	GC	IL1B
<i>LRP6</i>	HP	<i>IL1R1</i>	IL10	IL2
LSS	IAPP	IL6	IL6	<i>IL2RB</i>
MGP	IBSP	<i>IL6R</i>	IL8	IL4
MMP13	IL1A	INS	<i>ITGB3</i>	INHA
MVP	IL1RN	<i>INSR</i>	LPA	INHBB
PAPP	LIF	<i>INSRR</i>	MMP2	NCOA6
PLIN	LTBP3	<i>LAT</i>	NR3C1	NF1
PTH	NR1H3	LEP	PLAT	NPPB
PTHLH	<i>PGRMC1</i>	<i>LEPR</i>	PLG	PHEX
RUNX2	POMC	MYL2	PPARG	PPID
SOST	PTH	<i>NPY</i>	<i>PTGER4</i>	<i>PTGFR</i>
SP7	<i>PTHR1</i>	OXT	PTGS2	SHBG
STMN1	REN	PDE4B	SERPINE1	SIPA1
TNF	SGPP1	PDE4D	<i>SFRP1</i>	SMARCC2
<i>TNFRSF11A</i>	SPARC	PIP	SPP1	SOX9
<i>TNFRSF11B</i>	TGFB1	PRDX2	TGFA	SP1
WNT16	TNF	RFXANK	TNF	TRAF6
	TNFSF11	STAR	<i>TNFRSF1B</i>	VDR
	TXNIP	<i>TYROBP</i>	VEGF	
	WISP3			

FIG. 6-2

Cluster 6	Cluster 7	Cluster 8	Cluster 9	Cluster 10
BLM	ACP5	ACOT8	AHSG	AR
COL14A1	ACR	ALDOB	<i>APP</i>	ARHGEF2
COL9A1	CEBPB	APOC1	AR	ARL4A
COL9A3	CLEC4E	<i>AQP7</i>	ARL6IP	ARNTL
DPYSL5	CXCL12	BAAT	CCND1	BHLHB2
EGR3	CYP2C9	C2	<i>CD200</i>	BHLHB3
ELL	DMPK	C5	<i>CD200R1</i>	BNIP3
EXO1	DYNLT1	CNN1	CDC27	CRY1
FANCE	ECT2	CYP2A2	CDKN1A	CSNK1D
FANCF	EN1	DLC1	<i>CNTFR</i>	CTNNB1
FOXO3A	ERCC1	FASTK	DDX11	DPEP1
GDF2	FOS	FOXA2	<i>DOK1</i>	EZH1
KL	GLRX	FOXD3	<i>EPHA4</i>	FER
KLK1B4	GPSM2	GPD1	GDF8	GAD1
MYST1	HCLS1	GSC	H2AFZ	HIF1A
NGFB	IHH	HGF	HBP1	ID2
<i>PLXNB2</i>	IRF6	HNF4A	HELLS	IGF2
PMS2	JDP2	HOP	HIP2	IRS1
POSTN	MAPK8	HP	HMOX2	KCTD11
POT1	MOS	HPD	INS	KRT5
RPA3	MSLN	INS	<i>INSR</i>	MSC
<i>SGCA</i>	NFKBIZ	INS1	MFAP1	NDRG1
<i>SGCB</i>	OSCAR	MECR	MYC	NRG1
<i>SGCD</i>	PELP1	ONECUT2	<i>OMG</i>	<i>NT5E</i>
<i>SGCG</i>	PRDX5	<i>OSTM1</i>	PFDN5	NUP214
<i>SLC6A6</i>	<i>PTGER4</i>	OTC	PLF	PDCD4
SMARCB1	SCIN	PDK4	<i>PNN</i>	PER1
SMG1	<i>SLC10A1</i>	PEPD	RB1	PES1
SON	<i>SLC7A11</i>	POU5F1	RB1CC1	PIK3R3
<i>TAP1</i>	SNCG	PPARA	RHOA	PPP1R12C
TP53	TBCA	PSCD1	SLFN1	<i>PTCH</i>
UBE2B	TNF	PYGL	SOCS7	QPCT
UBE2D2	TNFSF11	RGN	SRPR	RBP4
VDP	TP73L	<i>SLC27A1</i>	STAT3	SOX4
WRN	UBA52	TDO2	STXBP1	TCF12
	YBX2	TRIM23	UBE2S	TOB2
		UGT1A9	UHRF1	

OSTEOPOROSIS ASSOCIATED MARKERS AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

[0001] This application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/771,077, filed on Feb. 6, 2006.

[0002] Each of the applications and patents cited in this text, as well as each document or reference cited in each of the applications and patents (including during the prosecution of each issued patent; "application cited documents"), and each of the U.S. and foreign applications or patents corresponding to and/or claiming priority from any of these applications and patents, and each of the documents cited or referenced in each of the application cited documents, are hereby expressly incorporated herein by reference. More generally, documents or references are cited in this text, either in a Reference List before the claims, or in the text itself; and, each of these documents or references ("herein-cited references"), as well as each document or reference cited in each of the herein-cited references (including any manufacturer's specifications, instructions, etc.), is hereby expressly incorporated herein by reference. Documents incorporated by reference into this text may be employed in the practice of the invention.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0003] The present invention relates generally to the identification of biological markers associated with an increased risk of developing bone fractures, osteoporosis and pre-osteoporosis.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0004] Osteoporosis is a systemic skeletal disorder characterized by low bone mass, microarchitectural deterioration of bone tissue, and compromised bone strength resulting in an increased risk of bone fractures. Osteoporosis can be further characterized as either primary or secondary. Primary osteoporosis can occur in both genders at all ages, but often follows menopause in women and occurs later in life in men. In contrast, secondary osteoporosis is a result of medications, other conditions, risk factors, or diseases. Examples include, but are not limited to, glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis, hypogonadism, cancers, other endocrine disorders, celiac disease, genetic disorders, inflammatory diseases, malnutritive and/or malabsorption syndromes.

[0005] Throughout life, bone is continuously remodeled with resorption of old bone (catabolic process) performed by osteoclasts and deposition of new bone (anabolic process) performed by osteoblasts. Bone remodeling is not a random process and takes place in focal bone multicellular units (BMUs), which are remodeling units comprising osteoblasts, osteoclasts, and their precursors, in which resorption and formation are coupled. Bone resorption is likely the initial event that occurs in response to local mechanical stress signals. The reduction in bone density found in osteoporosis results from an imbalance between resorption and formation, wherein the rate of resorption exceeds that of formation. Osteoporosis represents a continuum, in which multiple pathogenetic mechanisms converge to cause loss of bone mass and microarchitectural deterioration of skeletal structure. Osteoporosis is likely to be caused by complex interactions among local and systemic regulators of bone cell function. The heterogeneity of osteoporosis may be due not only to differences in the production of systemic and local regula-

tors, but also to changes in receptors, signal transduction mechanisms, nuclear transcription factors, and enzymes that produce or inactivate local regulators.

[0006] Bone strength reflects the integration of two main features: bone density and bone quality. Bone density is expressed as grams of mineral per area or volume and, in any given individual, is determined by peak bone mass attained and subsequent amount of bone loss. Bone quality refers to architecture, turnover, damage accumulation (i.e., microfractures) and mineralization. A fracture frequently occurs when trauma is applied to osteoporotic bone, which is of a lower bone density. Thus, osteoporosis is a significant risk factor for bone fractures.

[0007] The incidence of bone fractures is high in individuals with osteoporosis and increases with age. Osteoporotic fractures, particularly vertebral fractures, can be associated with chronic disabling pain. The impact of osteoporosis on other body systems, such as gastrointestinal, respiratory, genitourinary, and craniofacial, has also been reported. Each year, an estimated 1.5 million individuals suffer a fracture due to bone disease. Roughly 4 in 10 Caucasian women aged 50 or older in the United States will experience a hip, spine, or wrist fracture sometime during the remainder of their lives. It is predicted that the lifetime risk of bone fractures will increase for all ethnic groups as life expectancy increases.

[0008] Osteoporosis is typically detected by a bone mineral density test, however, at the time of an initial bone fracture, the majority of affected individuals are not aware that they have low bone density or are at risk for osteoporosis, nor that they have various other risk factors for fracture that indicate a state of pre-osteoporosis. These include osteopenia (which represents example of pre-osteoporosis characterized by intermediate lowered bone density, between normal and that found in osteoporosis), but also other pre-osteoporosis such as conditions of decreased sex hormone production, vitamin deficiency, and hyperparathyroidism, among others. Bone mineral density tests are helpful in determining how much bone mineral is present and has already been lost, however these tests often produce inconsistent results among the population, and even among different bones of the same individual. Further, bone density tests cannot measure the rate of bone loss and consequently, fail to measure the rate of progression to or of osteoporosis. In the United States, it is estimated that 34 million individuals have osteopenia, and over 10 million have osteoporosis, with both together representing approximately 55 percent of the population 50 years of age and older.

[0009] Additionally, several individual biomarkers of bone metabolism have also been recently proposed as new measures of bone health, such as NTX, CTX, PYD, DPD, BSP, TRACP, Bone ALP, OC, and PICP or PINP, among others. While these biomarkers may be more sensitive than earlier generation markers, such as total Alkaline Phosphatase (ALP) and Hydroxyproline (Hyp or OHP), in detecting abnormalities in bone turnover rate, several limitations remain of such individual biomarkers. Despite that most of these markers may be classified as markers of bone formation or as markers of bone resorption, many markers reflect both processes, albeit to varying degrees. Most of these markers are also present in tissues other than bone and may therefore be influenced by nonskeletal processes as well. Changes in such markers are usually not disease specific, but reflect alterations in skeletal metabolism independent of their cause. Finally, significant pre-analytical and analytical variability

exists to such biomarkers, due to factors that may be either uncontrollable (such as age, gender, ethnicity, menopausal status, hormone or medication use, disease or recent fractures, and the nature of the biomarkers themselves), requiring adjustment of biomarker results or interpretation, or controllable (by sampling method, sample type, circadian cycle, menstrual cycle, diet, exercise effects, etc.) As a result, their clinical use in the management of the individual patient has not been clearly defined and is a matter of debate (see Delmas et al., The Use of Biochemical Markers of Bone Turnover in Osteoporosis. Osteoporosis International (2000) Suppl 6: S2-S17 and also Seibel, Biochemical Markers of Bone Turnover, Clin Biochem Rev (2005) 26: 97-122, which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety).

[0010] There remains an unmet need in the art for predictive and prognostic assays to determine whether individuals are indeed at risk for bone fractures, or of developing osteoporosis and/or osteopenia. Such assays would have significant utility used either alone or in conjunction with a bone mineral density test. Development of such assays would permit earlier intervention to reduce the likelihood of bone fracture and delay the onset of osteoporosis in affected individuals.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0011] The present invention relates in part to the discovery that certain biological markers, such as proteins, nucleic acids, polymorphisms, metabolites, and other analytes are present in subjects with an increased risk of bone metabolic disorders, such as osteoporosis, osteopenia and/or other pre-osteoporosis condition, which may result in an increased risk of bone fractures. Accordingly, the invention provides biological markers of bone metabolism that can be used to monitor or assess the risk of subjects developing osteoporosis and/or osteopenia, to diagnose or identify subjects with osteoporosis and/or osteopenia, to monitor the risk of bone fracture, to monitor subjects that are undergoing therapies for bone fractures, osteoporosis, osteopenia, and/or pre-osteoporosis, and to select therapies for use in treating subjects with bone fractures, osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis and/or osteopenia, or for use in subjects who are at risk for developing bone fractures, osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia, or other disorders in bone metabolism, including those which may result in an increased risk of bone fracture. The biomarkers are collectively referred to herein as "OSTEORISKMARKERS", the proteins are collectively referred to herein as "OSTEORISKMARKER polypeptides" or "OSTEORISKMARKER proteins". The corresponding encoded nucleic acids are referred to as "OSTEORISKMARKER nucleic acids" or "OSTEORISKMARKER polynucleotides". The corresponding metabolites are referred to as "OSTEORISKMARKER metabolites". Non-analyte physiological markers of health status (e.g., age, gender, bone density, bone mass, and other non-analyte measurements commonly used as conventional risk factors) are referred to as "OSTEORISKMARKER physiology". Calculated indices created from mathematically combining measurements of one or more of the aforementioned classes of OSTEORISKMARKERS are referred to as "OSTEORISKMARKER indices". "OSTEORISKMARKER" or "OSTEORISKMARKERS" refers to one or more OSTEORISKMARKER proteins, OSTEORISKMARKER analytes, OSTEORISKMARKER

nucleic acids, OSTEORISKMARKER metabolites, OSTEORISKMARKER physiology, and/or OSTEORISKMARKER indices.

[0012] A subject having a bone metabolic disorder such as osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, and/or osteopenia can be identified by measuring the levels of an effective amount (which can be one or more) of OSTEORISKMARKERS in a subject-derived sample and the levels are then compared to a reference value. Alterations in the level of biomarkers, such as proteins, polypeptides, nucleic acids and polynucleotides, polymorphisms of proteins, polypeptides, nucleic acids, and polynucleotides, mutated proteins, polypeptides, nucleic acids, and polynucleotides, or alterations in the molecular quantities of metabolites or other analytes (such as elemental calcium), or of other physiology in the subject sample compared to the reference value are then identified. A reference value can be relative to a number or value derived from population studies, including without limitation, such subjects having similar body or bone mass index (BMI) or similar bone mineral densities, subjects of the same or similar age range, subjects in the same or similar ethnic group, or, in female subjects, pre-menopausal or post-menopausal subjects, or relative to the starting sample of a subject undergoing treatment for a bone health disorder, such as osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia.

[0013] In one embodiment of the present invention, the reference value is the level of OSTEORISKMARKERS in a control sample derived from one or more subjects who do not have osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia. Such subjects who do not have osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia can be verified as those subjects who have a T-score above -1 on a bone mineral density test or can be verified by another diagnostic test of bone metabolism known in the art, such as but not limited to, bone biopsy.

[0014] A subject predisposed to developing a bone metabolic disorder such as osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, and/or osteopenia, or at increased risk of developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fractures, can be identified by measuring the levels of an effective amount (which can be one or more) of OSTEORISKMARKERS in a subject-derived sample and the levels are then compared to a reference value. Alterations in the level of expression or amounts of proteins, polypeptides, nucleic acids and polynucleotides, polymorphisms of proteins, polypeptides, nucleic acids, and polynucleotides, or alterations in the molecular quantities of metabolites or other analytes, or of other physiology, in the subject sample compared to the reference value are then identified. A reference value can be relative to a number or value derived from population studies including without limitation, such subjects having similar body or bone mass index (BMI) or similar bone mineral densities, subjects of the same or similar age range, subjects in the same or similar ethnic group, or, in female subjects, pre-menopausal or post-menopausal subjects, or relative to a value obtained from a starting sample of a subject undergoing treatment for a bone health disorder, or subjects who are not at risk or at low risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia.

[0015] In one embodiment of the present invention, the reference value is the level of OSTEORISKMARKERS in a control sample derived from one or more subjects who are not at risk or at low risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia. Such subjects who are not at risk or at low risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia can be verified by comparing the bone densities of

the subjects against a number derived from longitudinal studies of subjects from which the likelihood of osteoporotic, pre-osteoporotic, or osteopenic progression can be determined, including without limitation, such subjects having similar body or bone mass index (BMI) or similar bone mineral densities, subjects of the same or similar age range, subjects in the same or similar ethnic group, or, in female subjects, pre-menopausal or post-menopausal subjects.

[0016] In another embodiment, the reference value is an index value or a baseline value. An index value or baseline value is a composite sample of an effective amount of OSTEORISKMARKERS from one or more subjects who do not have a bone health disorder, such as osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia. In this embodiment, to make comparisons to the subject-derived sample, the level of OSTEORISKMARKERS are similarly calculated and compared to the index value. Optionally, subjects identified as having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia, or being at increased risk of developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia are chosen to receive a therapeutic regimen to reverse, halt or slow the progression of osteoporosis or osteopenia, or decrease or prevent the risk of developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia.

[0017] The progression of osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia, or effectiveness of a bone fracture, osteoporosis or osteopenia treatment regimen can be monitored by detecting an OSTEORISKMARKER in an effective amount (which can be one or more) of samples obtained from a subject over time and comparing the amount of OSTEORISKMARKERS detected. For example, a first sample can be obtained prior to the subject receiving treatment and one or more subsequent samples are optionally taken after or during treatment of the subject. Osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, and osteopenia are defined to be progressive (or, alternatively, the treatment does not prevent progression) if the amount of OSTEORISKMARKER changes over time relative to the reference value, whereas osteoporosis and osteopenia are not progressive if the levels of OSTEORISKMARKERS remains constant over time (relative to the reference population, or "constant" as used herein). The term "constant" as used in the context of the present invention is construed to include changes over time, including those changes to subsequent OSTEORISKMARKER amounts that are closer with respect to the reference value than those in the first sample.

[0018] Additionally, therapeutic or prophylactic agents suitable for administration to a particular subject can be identified by detecting an OSTEORISKMARKER in an effective amount (which can be one or more) in a sample obtained from a subject, exposing the subject-derived sample to a test compound that determines the level of an effective amount (which can be one or more) of OSTEORISKMARKERS in the subject-derived sample. Accordingly, treatments or therapeutic regimens for use in subjects having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia, or subjects at risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fractures can be selected based on the levels of OSTEORISKMARKERS in samples obtained from the subjects and compared to a reference value. Two or more treatments or therapeutic regimens can be evaluated in parallel to determine which treatment or therapeutic regimen would be the most efficacious for use in a subject to prevent, reverse, or delay onset, or slow progression of osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fracture.

[0019] The present invention further provides a method for screening for changes in marker levels associated with osteoporosis, by determining the level of an effective amount (which can be one or more) of OSTEORISKMARKERS in a subject-derived sample, comparing the level of the OSTEORISKMARKERS in a reference sample, and identifying alterations in levels in the subject sample compared to the reference sample.

[0020] A "subject" as defined herein includes a mammal, such as but not limited to, a human, a non-human primate, a mouse, a rat, a dog, a cat, a horse, or a cow. The subject can be male or female. A subject can include those who have not been previously diagnosed as having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia, or who have not previously had bone fractures. Alternatively, a subject can also include those who have already been diagnosed as having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia or bone fractures. Optionally, the subject has been previously treated with therapeutic agents, or with other therapies and treatment regimens for osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, and osteopenia, such as, but not limited to, dietary supplements (such as calcium or vitamin supplements), bisphosphonates (for example, alendronate and the like), selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMs), hormonal agents, calcitonin, anabolic drugs, or combinations thereof. Treatment regimens can also encompass exercise regimens. A subject can also include those who are suffering from, or at risk of developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia or bone fractures, such as those who exhibit known risk factors for osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia, or who do not score normally (for example, scores at or below -1) on a bone mineral density test, i.e., those who have decreased bone mineral density. For example, a subject diagnosed with osteoporosis according to World Health Organization (WHO) definitions has T-scores at or below -2.5 on a bone mineral density test. A subject diagnosed with osteopenia according to WHO definitions has T-scores between -1 and -2.5 on a bone mineral density test (See Woolf & Pfleger, Burden of Major Musculoskeletal Conditions, Bulletin of the World Health Organization (2003) 81: 646-656).

[0021] A "sample" in the context of the present invention is a biological sample isolated from a subject and can include, for example, serum, blood plasma, blood cells, ascites fluid, interstitial fluid (such as gingival crevicular fluid), bone marrow, sputum, cerebrospinal fluid, saliva, or urine.

[0022] One or more, preferably two or more OSTEORISKMARKERS can be detected in the practice of the present invention. For example, one (1), two (2), five (5), ten (10), twenty (20), forty (40), fifty (50), seventy-five (75), one hundred (100) or more OSTEORISKMARKERS can be detected. In some aspects, all 191 OSTEORISKMARKERS disclosed herein can be detected. Preferred ranges from which the number of OSTEORISKMARKERS can be detected include ranges bounded by any minimum selected from between one and 191, particularly one, two, five, ten, twenty, fifty, seventy-five, one hundred, one hundred and twenty five, paired with any maximum up to the total known OSTEORISKMARKERS, particularly five, ten, twenty, fifty, and seventy-five. Particularly preferred ranges include one to two (1-2), two to five (2-5), two to ten (2-10), two to fifty (2-50), two to seventy-five (2-75), two to one hundred (2-100), five to ten (5-10), five to twenty (5-20), five to fifty (5-50), five to seventy-five (5-75), five to one hundred (5-100), ten to twenty (10-20), ten to fifty (10-50), ten to

seventy-five (10-75), ten to one hundred (10-100), twenty to fifty (20-50), twenty to seventy-five (20-75), twenty to one hundred (20-100), fifty to seventy-five (50-75), fifty to one hundred (50-100), one hundred to one hundred and twenty-five (100->125), one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and fifty (125->150), one hundred and fifty to one hundred and seventy five (150->175), and one hundred and seventy five to more than one hundred and ninety (175->190+).

[0023] Optionally, other markers known to be associated with bone health disorders such as osteoporosis, osteopenia, pre-osteoporosis and bone fractures can be detected. The OSTEORISKMARKERS can be detected by any means known in the art. For example, OSTEORISKMARKERS can be detected electrophoretically or immunochemically, by RNA quantification, or generically by any technique involving an attractive force, covalent cross-linking, or binding event between the OSTEORISKMARKER of interest and detection and/or capture materials (which may be an antibody, an antibody fragment, or any biological or synthetic polymer, including, without limitation, proteins, nucleic acids (as in aptamers), and plastic polymeric substrates such as those formed by molecular imprinting techniques). Immunochemical detection includes, for example, radio-immunoassay, immunoblotting, immunofluorescence, or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), but are not limited to these detection methods. One skilled in the art is versed in various immunochemical detection methods, such as those described in "Current Protocols in Molecular Biology" (Ausubel, F. M. et al. John Wiley & Sons, 1987). For example, an OSTEORISKMARKER protein can be detected using an anti-OSTEORISKMARKER protein antibody, and the amount of antigen-antibody complex can be detected as a measure of the OSTEORISKMARKER protein in the sample. Post-translational modifications of OSTEORISKMARKER proteins can also be detected, as well as changes in the enzymatic activity of certain OSTEORISKMARKER proteins. Alternatively, OSTEORISKMARKER nucleic acids, such as RNA or DNA, can be detected. For example, an OSTEORISKMARKER nucleic acid can be identified by detecting hybridization, i.e., on a silicon chip, or an OSTEORISKMARKER RNA or DNA probe to a transcript in the test sample and measured by i.e., Northern or Southern analysis. An OSTEORISKMARKER nucleic acid, such as RNA, can also be identified by RNA quantification, such as, without limitation, polymerase chain reaction (PCR), quantitative reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), target amplification methods (TMA), bDNA methods such as signal amplification methods, and the like.

[0024] Optionally, OSTEORISKMARKER metabolites and other analytes can be detected. Metabolites and other analytes can be detected in numerous ways known to the skilled artisan, including, without limitation, refractive index spectroscopy (RI), ultraviolet spectroscopy (UV), fluorescence analysis, radiochemical analysis, near-infrared spectroscopy (near IR), nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR), light scattering analysis (LS), mass spectrometry (including matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization-time of flight, or MALDI-TOF), pyrolysis mass spectrometry, nephelometry, dispersive Raman spectroscopy, gas chromatography optionally combined with mass spectrometry, liquid chromatography optionally combined with mass spectrometry, ion spray spectroscopy combined with mass spectrometry, capillary electrophoresis, NMR, and IR detection. Other OSTEORISKMARKER may be detected directly by virtue

of their chemical or electrochemical reactivity, e.g. by means of clinical or analytical chemistry.

[0025] Alterations in OSTEORISKMARKER levels, including OSTEORISKMARKER indices and other pattern recognition of multiple OSTEORISKMARKERS, are preferably statistically significant. By "statistically significant", it is meant that the alteration is greater than what might be expected to happen by chance alone. Statistical significance can be determined by methods known in the art. An alteration is statistically significant if the p-value is at least 0.05. Preferably, the p-value is 0.04, 0.04, 0.02, 0.01, 0.005, 0.001 or less.

[0026] The invention also concerns osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis reference molecular profiles, which can comprise a pattern of marker levels of an effective amount of one or more of the OSTEORISKMARKERS of the invention, taken from one or more subjects who do not have osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis. The present invention also provides osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis subject molecular profiles, which can comprise a pattern of marker levels of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS of the invention, taken from one or more subjects who have osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, are at risk for developing osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, or are being treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

[0027] The present invention also comprises a kit with a detection reagent that binds to one or more OSTEORISKMARKER proteins, nucleic acids, polymorphisms, metabolites, or other analytes. Also provided by the invention is an array of detection reagents, i.e., antibodies and/or oligonucleotides that can bind to one or more OSTEORISKMARKER proteins or nucleic acids, respectively. In one embodiment, the OSTEORISKMARKER are proteins and the array contains antibodies that bind an effective amount of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 sufficient to measure a statistically significant alteration in OSTEORISKMARKER levels compared to a reference value. In another embodiment, the OSTEORISKMARKERS are nucleic acids and the array contains oligonucleotides or aptamers that bind an effective amount of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 sufficient to measure a statistically significant alteration in OSTEORISKMARKER levels compared to a reference value.

[0028] Also provided by the present invention is a method for treating one or more subjects at risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia or bone fracture, comprising: detecting the presence of increased levels of one or more different OSTEORISKMARKERS present in a sample from the one or more subjects; and treating the one or more subjects with one or more bone mineral content-modulating drugs until altered levels of the one or more different OSTEORISKMARKERS return to a baseline value measured in one or more subjects at low risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fracture.

[0029] The bone mineral content-modulating drug can comprise bisphosphonates, (such as alendronate, risedronate, etidronate, pamidronate, ibandronate, clodronate), selective estrogen receptor modulators (i.e. SERMs; such as raloxifene, tamoxifen, toremifene), strontium ranelate, low dose and/or recombinant peptide fragments of parathyroid hormone (such as teriparatide), estrogen/progesterone replacement therapies, monoclonal antibodies, inhibitors of receptor activator of nuclear factor κ B ligand (RANKL) (such as denosumab and osteoprotegerin), inhibitors of cathepsin K,

antagonists of integrin $\text{Av}\beta 3$, calcitonin, calcium supplements and vitamin D supplements.

[0030] Also provided by the present invention is a method for treating one or more subjects having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia comprising: detecting the presence of increased levels of one or more different OSTEORISKMARKERS present in a sample from the one or more subjects; and treating the one or more subjects with one or more bone mineral content-modulating drugs until altered levels of the one or more different OSTEORISKMARKERS return to a baseline value measured in one or more subjects at low risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia.

[0031] The present invention also concerns OSTEORISKMARKER panels that can comprise one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS indicative of a physiological or biochemical pathway as described herein, and as set forth in FIG. 4. The physiological or biochemical pathway can be selected from the group consisting of osteoclast metabolism, bone mineralization and/or calcification, skeletal development, muscle cell metabolism, eicosanoid metabolism, other metabolism, or other bone-related physiology. The OSTEORISKMARKER panels of the invention can also comprise combinations of OSTEORISKMARKERS of the various physiological or biochemical pathways of FIG. 4, wherein the panel can be selected from the group consisting of Categories 1-10 as set forth in FIG. 5.

[0032] Alternatively, or additionally, the present invention also provides OSTEORISKMARKER panels that comprise one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS indicative of bone resorption, bone formation, or both bone resorption and bone formation associated with osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis. The OSTEORISKMARKER panels of the present invention can comprise OSTEORISKMARKERS indicative of bone formation and bone resorption as set forth in FIG. 3.

[0033] The present invention also provides OSTEORISKMARKER panels that comprise OSTEORISKMARKERS that are categorized into "clusters." A representative number of clusters is set forth in FIG. 6. Accordingly, one embodiment of the OSTEORISKMARKER panels of the invention contain clusters selected from the group consisting of Cluster 1 through 11.

[0034] Unless otherwise defined, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this invention pertains. Although methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used in the practice of the present invention, suitable methods and materials are described below. All publications, patent applications, patents, and other references mentioned herein are expressly incorporated by reference in their entirety. In cases of conflict, the present specification, including definitions, will control. In addition, the materials, methods, and examples described herein are illustrative only and are not intended to be limiting.

[0035] Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description and claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0036] The following Detailed Description, given by way of example, but not intended to limit the invention to specific

embodiments described, may be understood in conjunction with the accompanying Figures, incorporated herein by reference, in which:

[0037] FIG. 1A-1AA are graphic illustrations of the molecular pathways listed within the Kyoto University Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) which feature three or more OSTEORISKMARKERS, identified by their common HUGO gene name abbreviation or alias, in each disclosed canonical pathway.

[0038] FIG. 1A depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in cytokine-cytokine receptor interactions as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04060.

[0039] FIG. 1B depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in neuroactive ligand-receptor interactions as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04080.

[0040] FIG. 1C depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) interactions as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04010.

[0041] FIG. 1D depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in Janus kinase-signal transducers and activators of transcription (JAK-STAT) interactions as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04630.

[0042] FIG. 1E depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in Wnt signaling interactions as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04310.

[0043] FIG. 1F depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in focal adhesions as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04510.

[0044] FIG. 1G shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in hematopoietic cell lineage interactions as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa04640.

[0045] FIG. 1H shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in TGF- β signaling interactions as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa04350.

[0046] FIG. 1I shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in extracellular matrix (ECM) receptor interactions as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa04512.

[0047] FIG. 1J shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in adipocytokine signaling interactions as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa04920.

[0048] FIG. 1K shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in Type I Diabetes Mellitus as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa04940.

[0049] FIG. 1L shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in cell junction interactions as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa01430.

[0050] FIG. 1M depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in antigen processing and presentation as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04612.

[0051] FIG. 1N depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in Toll-like Receptor signaling as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04620.

[0052] FIG. 1O depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in T-cell Receptor signaling as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04660.

[0053] FIG. 1P depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in colorectal cancer as shown in KEGG pathway hsa05210.

[0054] FIG. 1Q depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in basal cell carcinoma as shown in KEGG pathway hsa05217.

[0055] FIG. 1R depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in cell cycle interactions as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04110.

[0056] FIG. 1S depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in apoptosis as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04210.

[0057] FIG. 1T depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in Hedgehog signaling as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04340.

[0058] FIG. 1U depicts OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in complement and coagulation cascades as shown in KEGG pathway hsa04610.

[0059] FIG. 1V shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in natural killer cell-mediated cytotoxicity as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa04650.

[0060] FIG. 1W shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in leukocyte transendothelial migration as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa04670.

[0061] FIG. 1X shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in regulation of the actin cytoskeleton as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa04810.

[0062] FIG. 1Y shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in Alzheimer's Disease as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa05010.

[0063] FIG. 1Z shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in pancreatic cancer as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa05212.

[0064] FIG. 1AA shows OSTEORISKMARKERS involved in melanoma as depicted in KEGG pathway hsa05218.

[0065] FIGS. 2A and 2B represent a listing of KEGG pathways with one or two OSTEORISKMARKERS identified as contained within them.

[0066] FIG. 3 is a table listing individual OSTEORISKMARKERS divided into general categories based on their associations with the physiological functions of bone formation (left column) and of bone resorption (right column). OSTEORISKMARKERS which are commonly found localized in the extracellular space or plasma membranes of cells are also highlighted in bold or italics, respectively, in this and the following Figures.

[0067] FIG. 4 is a table listing additional individual OSTEORISKMARKERS categorized by their association with the following physiological functions and/or categories: osteoclast metabolism (category A), osteocyte metabolism (category B), osteoblast metabolism (category C), calcium metabolism (category D), bone ossification or mineralization (category E), skeletal development (category F), muscle cell metabolism (including the proliferation and movement of muscle cells, including vascular and vascular smooth muscle cells; category G), eicosanoid metabolism (category H), other metabolism (category I), and other bone-related physiology (category J).

[0068] FIG. 5 is a table listing various combinations useful in constructing panels of the additional OSTEORISKMARKERS from FIG. 4, indicating the use of one or more markers each from one or more of the previously mentioned categories, constructed according to the invention. In one embodiment of the invention, these additional OSTEORISKMARKER combination panels may themselves be further combined with one or more OSTEORISKMARKER(S) selected from either one or both of the general categories of bone formation and of bone resorption, respectively, previously identified in FIG. 3.

[0069] FIG. 6 is a table listing eleven clusters of OSTEORISKMARKERS grouped by their relative position, interactions, and network proximity as defined by protein-protein interactions and through participation in one or more canonical pathways, presented in the figure together with their near neighbors and interaction partners within pathways. OSTEORISKMARKER panels may also be constructed by means

of selection of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS each from one or more of the eleven clusters listed. Such OSTEORISKMARKERS may be further selected by virtue of their cell localization. OSTEORISKMARKERS which are commonly found localized in the extracellular space or plasma membranes of cells are also highlighted in bold or italics, respectively.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0070] The present invention relates to the identification of biomarkers associated with subjects having bone metabolic disorders such as osteoporosis and osteopenia, or are predisposed to or at risk for developing osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fractures. Accordingly, the invention provides methods for identifying subjects who have osteoporosis or osteopenia, or who are predisposed to or at risk for developing osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fractures by the detection of biomarkers associated with same. These biomarkers are also useful for monitoring subjects undergoing treatments and therapies for osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fractures, and for selecting therapies and treatments that would be efficacious in subjects having osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fractures, wherein selection and use of such treatments and therapies slow the progression of osteoporosis or osteopenia, or substantially delay or prevent their onset.

[0071] "Osteoporosis" is defined in the art as a systemic skeletal disease characterized by low bone mass and microarchitectural deterioration of bone tissue, with a consequent increase in bone fragility and susceptibility to fracture. Any bone can be affected by osteoporosis, although the hip, spine, and wrist are common bones that are broken or fractured in subjects suffering from or at risk for osteoporosis.

[0072] Osteoporosis in postmenopausal Caucasian women is defined as a value for bone mineral density (BMD) of >2.5 SD below the young average value, i.e. a T-score of 2.5 SD. Severe osteoporosis (established osteoporosis) uses the same threshold, but with one or more prior fragility fractures. The preferred site for diagnostic purposes are BMD measurements made at the hip, either at the total hip or the femoral neck. For men, the same threshold as utilized for women is appropriate, since for any given BMD, the age adjusted fracture risk is more or less the same.

[0073] "Osteopenia" is a pre-osteoporosis condition characterized as a mild thinning of bone mass which is not as severe as osteoporosis. Osteopenia results when the formation of bone is not enough to offset normal bone loss. Osteopenia is generally considered the first step along the road to osteoporosis. Diminished bone calcification can also be referred to as osteopenia, whether or not osteoporosis is present.

[0074] "Pre-Osteoporosis" encompasses both osteopenia and also other conditions which result in a high risk of future development of osteopenia, osteoporosis, and bone fracture. Subjects who are deemed clinically to be at low risk or no risk for developing osteoporosis or osteopenia based on current BMD nevertheless may still be at risk for pre-osteoporosis or bone fracture, as BMD measures bone status at the time of assessment and not rate of bone metabolism or predisposition to a lowered future BMD. The majority of bone fractures occur in subjects who have not been previously diagnosed with osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis. There is a substantial need for better risk assessment and stratification tools for those who do not yet have osteoporosis or osteopenia yet are

expected to have higher than normal rates of progression to those symptomatic disease states measurable by BMD.

[0075] The diagnostic threshold set forth by WHO identifies approximately 20% of postmenopausal women as having osteoporosis when measurements using dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) are made at the hip. The diagnostic use of the T-score cannot be used interchangeably with different techniques and at different sites, since the same T-score derived from different sites and techniques yields different information on fracture risk. For example, in women at the age of 60 years the average T-score ranges from -0.7 to -2.5 SD, depending on the technique used. Reasons include differences in the gradient of risk with which techniques predict fracture, discrepancies in the population standard deviation, and differences in the apparent rates of site-specific bone loss with age. A further problem is that inter-site correlations, although usually of statistical significance, are inadequate for predictive purposes in individuals giving rise to errors of mis-classification.

[0076] The cornerstone for the diagnosis of osteoporosis lies in the assessment of BMD (See Kanis et al., *Assessment of Fracture Risk, Osteoporosis International* (2005) 16: 581-589). BMD should be recognized as assessing the bone mineral density at a point in time, and requires repeat testing in order to monitor changes in density; density alone is a relatively slow indicator of changes in bone. The same T-score with the same technique at any one site has a different significance at different ages. For any given T-score, fracture risk is much higher in the elderly than in the young, because age contributes to risk independently of BMD. BMD also suffers from several disadvantages in its requirement for specialized equipment and expertise. The use of bone mass measurements for prognosis (risk assessment) depends upon accuracy. Accuracy in this context is the ability of the measurement to predict fracture. In general, all absorptiometric techniques have high specificity but low sensitivity that varies with the cut-off chosen to designate high risk.

[0077] Fracture risk is commonly expressed as a relative risk, but this has different meanings in different contexts. In the case of bone density measurements, gradients of risk are used, e.g. a 2.6-fold increase in hip fracture risk for each SD decrease in BMD. For dichotomous risk factors, risk is commonly expressed as the risk in individuals with a risk factor compared to the risk in those without the risk factor, or, as a risk compared with the general population.

[0078] The absolute risk of fracture depends upon age and life expectancy as well as the current relative risk. In general, remaining lifetime risk of fracture increases with age up to the age of 70 years or so. Thereafter, probability plateaus and then decreases, since the risk of death with age outstrips the increasing incidence of fracture with age. Estimates of lifetime risk are of value in considering the burden of osteoporosis in the community, and the effects of intervention strategies. For several reasons, they are less relevant for assessing risk of individuals in whom treatment might be envisaged. Firstly, treatments are not presently given for a lifetime, due variably to side effects of continued treatment (e.g. hormone replacement treatment) or low continuance (most treatments). Moreover, the feasibility of life-long interventions has never been tested, either using high risk or global strategies. Secondly, the predictive value of low bone mineral density and some other risk factors for fracture risk may be attenuated over time. Finally, the confidence in estimates decreases with time due to the uncertainties concerning future

mortality trends. Risk of fracture should be expressed as a fixed-term absolute risk, i.e. probability over a 10-year interval. The period of 10 years covers the likely duration of treatment and any benefits that may continue once treatment is stopped.

[0079] Other than direct measurement of BMD, several conventional risk factors for osteoporosis and bone fracture are often assessed prior to or in parallel with a diagnosis of osteoporosis or assessment of pre-osteoporosis conditions. Such risk factors include, without limitation, gender, wherein the chances of developing osteoporosis or osteopenia are greater in females due to less bone tissue as well as changes that happen during menopause; age, wherein bones become thinner and weaker with age; small body size; ethnicity, wherein Caucasian and Asian women are at highest risk and African American and Hispanic women have a lower but significant risk; family history, wherein fracture risk is thought to be due, in part, to genetics. Subjects whose parents have a history of fractures are reported to also have reduced bone mass and may be at risk for fractures.

[0080] Other significant risk factors include abnormally low levels of sex hormones, indicated by the abnormal absence of menstrual periods (amenorrhea), low estrogen levels such as found during female menopause (including, without limitation, low levels of any one or more of the primary estrogens, estradiol, estriol, and estrone, and their intermediates, precursor androgens and estrogen derivatives), and low testosterone level such as found in older men. Subjects suffering from anorexia nervosa are also at increased risk for osteoporosis. Diets low in calcium and vitamin D can also result in a higher incidence of bone loss. Subjects who undergo long-term use of glucocorticoids and some anticonvulsants can also lead to loss of bone density and fractures. Subjects who exhibit these risk factors frequently are found to have osteoporosis or a pre-osteoporosis condition when assessed by BMD. Also at risk for developing osteoporosis or osteopenia are subjects who lead inactive lifestyles or who have been subjected to extended bed rest, subjects who engage in smoking, or excessive consumption of alcohol. Several risk rules and indices have been constructed integrating these variables into clinically useful measurements of absolute or relative risk, such as the Osteoporosis Risk Assessment Instrument (ORAI), the Osteoporosis Self-Assessment Tool (OST), among others; such multi-variate approaches tend to have reasonably high sensitivity for osteoporosis, but low specificity. For example, the OST has been reported to identify over 90 percent of women with osteoporosis (and 100% of those over 65), but more than half of the women identified by this tool as requiring BMD resting were found on test to actually not have osteoporosis (See Chapter 10, *Bone Health and Osteoporosis: A Report of the Surgeon General* (2004) and also Woolf & Pfleger, *Burden of Major Musculoskeletal Conditions*, *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* (2003) 81: 646-656).

[0081] A substantial detection gap remains for those who are at risk for bone fractures, yet are as yet asymptomatic or remain undiagnosed by BMD, who may or may not yet exhibit conventional risk factors, or are currently deemed clinically to be at low risk and have not yet been diagnosed with osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis. Furthermore, there is a substantial gap in risk stratification of those with conventional risk factors, which commonly lack specificity, and a detection gap for earlier diagnosis of high risk for future osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, when therapeutic interven-

tion or lifestyle modification may have the greatest effect in maintaining bone health. The biomarkers and methods of the present invention allow one of skill in the art to identify, diagnose, or otherwise assess those subjects who do not exhibit any symptoms of osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, but who nonetheless may be at risk for developing or experiencing bone fracture or diminished bone mass.

[0082] The term biomarker (also known in the art as “biological marker”) can refer to measurable and quantifiable biological parameters (e.g., specific enzyme concentration, specific hormone concentration, specific gene phenotype distribution in a population, presence of biological substances) which serve as indices for health- and physiology-related assessments, such as disease risk, psychiatric disorders, environmental exposure and its effects, disease diagnosis, metabolic processes, substance abuse, pregnancy, cell line development, epidemiologic studies, etc. A biomarker can also be a characteristic that is objectively measured and evaluated as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or pharmacologic responses to a therapeutic intervention. A biomarker may be measured on a biosample from a subject (such as a blood, urine, or tissue test), it may be a recording obtained from a person (such as a bone mineral density test), or it may be an imaging test (for example, quantitative ultrasound, CT scan, or bone absorptiometry).

[0083] Biomarkers can indicate a variety of health or disease characteristics, including the level or type of exposure to an environmental factor, genetic susceptibility, genetic responses to exposures, markers of subclinical or clinical disease, or indicators of response to therapy. Thus, biomarkers can be used as indicators of disease trait (risk factor or risk marker), disease state (preclinical or clinical), or disease rate (progression). Accordingly, biomarkers can be classified as antecedent biomarkers (identifying the risk of developing an illness), screening biomarkers (screening for subclinical disease), diagnostic biomarkers (recognizing overt disease), staging biomarkers (categorizing disease severity), or prognostic biomarkers (predicting future disease course, including recurrence and response to therapy, and monitoring efficacy of therapy).

[0084] The term “biomarker” in the context of the present invention encompasses, without limitation, proteins, nucleic acids, polymorphisms of proteins and nucleic acids, elements (such as calcium), metabolites, and other analytes. Biomarkers can also include mutated proteins or mutated nucleic acids. The term “analyte” as used herein can mean any substance to be measured and can encompass electrolytes and elements, such as calcium. Finally, biomarkers can also refer to non-analyte physiological markers of health status encompasses other clinical characteristics, without limitation, such as age, bone density or bone mineral density (BMD), gender, menopause, body size, body mass index (BMI), smoking status, past usage of certain medications (such as glucocorticosteroids), family history of fracture, and ethnicity. One hundred and ninety-one biomarkers have been identified as being present in subjects who have osteoporosis or osteopenia.

[0085] Proteins and nucleic acids whose expression levels are changed in subjects who have osteoporosis, osteopenia, pre-osteoporosis or bone fractures or are predisposed to developing same are summarized in Table 1 and are collectively referred to herein as “bone metabolism-associated proteins”, “OSTEORISKMARKER polypeptides”, or “OSTEORISKMARKER proteins”. The corresponding nucleic

acids encoding the polypeptides are referred to as “bone metabolism risk-associated nucleic acids”, “bone metabolism risk-associated genes”, “OSTEORISKMARKER nucleic acids”, or “OSTEORISKMARKER genes”. Unless indicated otherwise, “OSTEORISKMARKER”, “bone metabolism risk-associated proteins”, “bone metabolism risk-associated nucleic acids” are meant to refer to any of the sequences disclosed herein. Metabolites of the OSTEORISKMARKER proteins or nucleic acids can also be measured, herein referred to as “OSTEORISKMARKER metabolites”. Non-analyte physiological markers of health status (e.g., age, gender, bone density, bone mass, and other non-analyte measurements commonly used as conventional risk factors) are referred to as “OSTEORISKMARKER physiology”. Calculated indices created from mathematically combining measurements of one or more of the aforementioned classes of OSTEORISKMARKERS are referred to as “OSTEORISKMARKER indices”. Proteins, nucleic acids, polymorphisms, mutated proteins and mutated nucleic acids, metabolites, and other analytes are, as well as common physiological measurements and indices constructed from any of the preceding entities, are included in the broad category of “OSTEORISKMARKERS”.

[0086] The methods disclosed herein are used with subjects at risk for developing bone fractures, osteoporosis, osteopenia, or pre-osteoporosis, subjects who have already been diagnosed with a bone fracture, osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis, subjects undergoing treatment and/or therapies for osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis. The methods of the present invention can also be used to monitor or select a treatment regimen for a subject who has osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis, and to screen subjects who have not been previously diagnosed as having osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis, such as subjects who exhibit risk factors for osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis, or to assess a subject’s future risk of developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, bone fracture, osteopenia or diminished bone mass. Preferably, the methods of the present invention are used to identify and/or diagnose subjects who are asymptomatic for osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia. “Asymptomatic” means not currently exhibiting the traditional symptoms, including but not limited to diminished bone mass, decreased bone calcification, and bone fragility.

[0087] The methods of the present invention may also be used to identify and/or diagnose subjects at higher risk of osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis based solely on single measurements of conventional risk factors.

Diagnostic and Prognostic Methods

[0088] The risk of developing osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis can be detected by examining an effective amount of OSTEORISKMARKER proteins, nucleic acids, polymorphisms, metabolites, and other analytes in a test sample (i.e., a subject derived sample). Subjects identified as having an increased risk of osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia can optionally be selected to receive treatment regimens, such as administration of prophylactic or therapeutic compounds, or implementation of exercise regimens or dietary supplements to prevent or delay the onset of osteoporosis or osteopenia. A sample isolated from the subject can comprise, for example, blood, plasma, blood cells, serum, bone marrow, ascites fluid, interstitial fluid (such as,

but not limited to, gingival crevicular fluid), urine, sputum, cerebrospinal fluid, saliva, or other bodily fluids.

[0089] The amount of the OSTEORISKMARKER protein, nucleic acid, polymorphism, metabolite, or other analyte can be measured in a test sample and compared to the normal control level. The term "normal control level", means the level of an OSTEORISKMARKER protein, nucleic acid, polymorphism, metabolite, or other analyte typically found in a subject not suffering from osteoporosis and not likely to have an osteoporotic or pre-osteoporotic condition, i.e., relative to samples collected from young subjects who were monitored until advanced age and were found not to develop osteoporosis or osteopenia. Alternatively, the normal control level can mean the level of an OSTEORISKMARKER protein, nucleic acid, polymorphism, metabolite, or other analyte typically found in a subject suffering from osteoporosis or osteopenia. The normal control level can be a range or an index. Alternatively, the normal control level can be a database of patterns from previously tested subjects. A change in the level in the subject-derived sample of an OSTEORISKMARKER protein, nucleic acid, polymorphism, metabolite, or other analyte compared to the normal control level can indicate that the subject is suffering from or is at risk of developing osteoporosis or osteopenia. In contrast, when the methods are applied prophylactically, a similar level compared to the normal control level in the subject-derived sample of an OSTEORISKMARKER protein, nucleic acid, polymorphism, metabolite, or other analyte can indicate that the subject is not suffering from or is not at risk or at low risk of developing bone fractures, osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

[0090] The difference in the level of OSTEORISKMARKERS is statistically significant. By "statistically significant", it is meant that the alteration is greater than what might be expected to happen by chance alone. Statistical significance can be determined by method known in the art. For example statistical significance can be determined by p-value. The p-value is a measure of probability that a difference between groups during an experiment happened by chance. ($P(z > z_{\text{observed}})$). For example, a p-value of 0.01 means that there is a 1 in 100 chance the result occurred by chance. The lower the p-value, the more likely it is that the difference between groups was caused by treatment. An alteration is statistically significant if the p-value is at least 0.10. Preferably, the p-value is 0.05, 0.04, 0.03, 0.02, 0.01, 0.005, 0.001 or less.

[0091] The "diagnostic accuracy" of a test, assay, or method concerns the ability of the test, assay, or method to distinguish between subjects having osteoporosis or at risk for osteoporosis is based on whether the subjects have a "clinically significant presence" of an OSTEORISKMARKER. By "clinically significant presence", it is meant that the presence of the OSTEORISKMARKER (i.e., mass, such as milligrams, nanograms, or mass per volume, such as milligrams per deciliter or copy number of a transcript per unit volume) in the subject (typically in a sample from the subject) is higher than the predetermined cut-off point (or threshold value) for that OSTEORISKMARKER and therefore indicates that the subject has osteoporosis for which the sufficiently high presence of that protein, nucleic acid, polymorphism, metabolite or analyte is a marker.

[0092] The terms "high degree of diagnostic accuracy" and "very high degree of diagnostic accuracy" refer to the test or assay for that OSTEORISKMARKER with the predeter-

mined cut-off point correctly (accurately) indicating the presence or absence of the disease or pre-disease condition. A perfect test would have perfect accuracy. Thus, for subjects who have the condition, the test would indicate only positive test results and would not report any of those subjects as being "negative" (there would be no "false negatives"). In other words, the "sensitivity" of the test (the true positive rate, or detection of disease when disease is truly present) would be 100%. On the other hand, for subjects who did not have osteoporosis, the test would indicate only negative test results and would not report any of those subjects as being "positive" (there would be no "false positives"). In other words, the "specificity" (the true negative rate, or the recognition of absence of disease when disease is truly absent) would be 100%. See, i.e., O'Marcaigh A S, Jacobson R M, "Estimating The Predictive Value Of A Diagnostic Test, How To Prevent Misleading Or Confusing Results," Clin. Ped. 1993, 32(8): 485-491, which discusses specificity, sensitivity, and positive and negative predictive values of a test, i.e., a clinical diagnostic test.

[0093] Reference values or limits can be generated with the use of cross-sectional analyses of a reference sample (usually a healthy sample derived from a subject free of the disease of interest), and an arbitrary percentile cutpoint (typically the 95th or 97.5th percentile) is chosen to define abnormality. The reference range is the interval between the minimum and the maximum reference values. At least 200 individuals are required within each category for the formulation of reference limits for subgroups (eg, defined by age and sex). Cut-points that define abnormality are typically the lower and the upper bounds of the 95% reference interval (between the lower 2.5th percentile and upper 97.5th percentile), but they may vary on the basis of the intent. The reference interval may be moved up or down according to the tradeoff between the implications (medical, ethical, social, psychological, and economic) of false-negative and false-positive results, i.e., the consequences of missing disease, the availability and efficacy of treatment for people with abnormal values, and the costs associated with follow-up of abnormal results.

[0094] Several issues must be considered when reference values or limits are interpreted. First, a select proportion of "normal" individuals typically exceed the reference limits on the basis of the percentile chosen. Second, values that lie within statistically defined reference limits may not indicate health in a given individual, especially when the person comes from a group inherently different from the one used to derive the reference values. Third, a change in values within the reference range may indicate pathology. Accordingly, delta limits have been formulated to evaluate the change in biomarker values within an individual (in response to disease or therapy) relative to the physiological intraindividual fluctuation of values. Fourth, a value within the reference range may not necessarily be desirable, especially when the prevalence of undesirable values of a biomarker in the population is high. For example, bone mineral density tests are known to generate values that differ markedly among individuals in a defined group, and have been known to generate disparate results among different bones of the same individual.

[0095] Discrimination limits can also be used to indicate abnormal biomarker values. Such limits can be generated by evaluating the degree of overlap between patients with and without disease in cross-sectional studies. Discrimination limits trigger decisions (they are referred to as decision thresholds). The discrimination thresholds can be varied

depending on the relative importance of missing disease versus that of misclassifying nondiseased individuals.

[0096] A third method is to define “undesirable” biomarker levels by relating values to the incidence of disease and seeking a threshold beyond which risk escalates. For most osteoporosis and osteopenic risk factors, there is a continuous gradient of risk across the range of risk factors, and a majority of individuals in a population could be classified as having undesirable levels. “Treatment” levels (especially for pharmacological treatment) of risk factors may therefore differ from undesirable levels, being defined by the risk factor thresholds for which there is good evidence (typically from large randomized controlled trials) that treatment for values above a limit does more benefit than harm. Often such treatment levels may be defined not only by the level of the specific risk factor being evaluated but by taking into consideration absolute risk of disease based on the values of several other risk factors. For other biomarkers, the choice of the optimal cutpoint defining abnormality remains to be described and may vary with the purpose. Once abnormal thresholds of markers are formulated, biomarker performance can be assessed with the use of computed indices and risk prediction algorithms as defined herein.

[0097] Changing the cut point or threshold value of a test (or assay) usually changes the sensitivity and specificity, but in a qualitatively inverse relationship. For example, if the cut point is lowered, more subjects in the population tested will typically have test results over the cut point or threshold value. Because subjects who have test results above the cut point are reported as having the disease, condition, or syndrome for which the test is being run, lowering the cut point will cause more subjects to be reported as having positive results (i.e., that they have osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis). Thus, a higher proportion of those who have osteoporosis will be indicated by the test to have it. Accordingly, the sensitivity (true positive rate) of the test will be increased. However, at the same time, there will be more false positives because more people who do not have the disease, condition, or syndrome (i.e., people who are truly “negative”) will be indicated by the test to have OSTEORISKMARKER values above the cut point and therefore to be reported as positive (i.e., to have the disease, condition, or syndrome) rather than being correctly indicated by the test to be negative. Accordingly, the specificity (true negative rate) of the test will be decreased. Similarly, raising the cut point will tend to decrease the sensitivity and increase the specificity. Therefore, in assessing the accuracy and usefulness of a proposed medical test, assay, or method for assessing a subject’s condition, one should always take both sensitivity and specificity into account and be mindful of what the cut point is at which the sensitivity and specificity are being reported because sensitivity and specificity may vary significantly over the range of cut points.

[0098] There is, however, an indicator that allows representation of the sensitivity and specificity of a test, assay, or method over the entire range of cut points with just a single value. That indicator is derived from a Receiver Operating Characteristics (“ROC”) curve for the test, assay, or method in question. See, i.e., Shultz, “Clinical Interpretation Of Laboratory Procedures,” chapter 14 in Teitz, *Fundamentals of Clinical Chemistry*, Burtis and Ashwood (eds.), 4th edition 1996, W.B. Saunders Company, pages 192-199; and Zweig et al., “ROC Curve Analysis: An Example Showing The Relationships Among Serum Lipid And Apolipoprotein Concen-

trations In Identifying Subjects With Coronary Artery Disease,” *Clin. Chem.*, 1992, 38(8): 1425-1428.

[0099] An ROC curve is an x-y plot of sensitivity on the y-axis, on a scale of zero to one (i.e., 100%), against a value equal to one minus specificity on the x-axis, on a scale of zero to one (i.e., 100%). In other words, it is a plot of the true positive rate against the false positive rate for that test, assay, or method. To construct the ROC curve for the test, assay, or method in question, subjects can be assessed using a perfectly accurate or “gold standard” method that is independent of the test, assay, or method in question to determine whether the subjects are truly positive or negative for the disease, condition, or syndrome (for example, bone mineral density scanning is a gold standard test for diagnosis of osteoporosis, as coronary angiography is a gold standard test for the presence of coronary atherosclerosis). The subjects can also be tested using the test, assay, or method in question, and for varying cut points, the subjects are reported as being positive or negative according to the test, assay, or method. The sensitivity (true positive rate) and the value equal to one minus the specificity (which value equals the false positive rate) are determined for each cut point, and each pair of x-y values is plotted as a single point on the x-y diagram. The “curve” connecting those points is the ROC curve. Each point on the ROC curve indicates the conditional probability of a positive test result from a random diseased individual exceeding that from a random non-diseased person. Likelihood ratios (LR) are calculated with the use of sensitivity and specificity data and are helpful in determining the likelihood of obtaining a positive test result in someone with disease compared with someone without disease (LR+), and the likelihood of getting a negative result in someone with disease compared with someone without disease (LR-).

[0100] The area under the curve (“AUC”) is the indicator that allows representation of the sensitivity and specificity of a test, assay, or method over the entire range of cut points with just a single value. The maximum AUC is one (a perfect test) and the minimum area is one half, which would denote no discrimination between disease and non-disease groups. The closer the AUC is to one, the better is the accuracy of the test.

[0101] Appropriate use of biomarker results requires integrating pretest probabilities with biomarker test results (expressed as sensitivity/specificity or as LR) to estimate the post-test probability of disease. Predictive values use this concept to facilitate interpretation of test results, taking into consideration disease prevalence. Even for a test with high sensitivity and specificity, false positive tests will outnumber true-positive tests when disease prevalence is very low, and false-negative tests will outnumber true-negative tests when disease prevalence is very high.

[0102] Biomarkers (whether for screening, diagnosis, or prognosis) are also evaluated in terms of their discrimination and calibration capabilities. Discrimination refers to the ability of the biomarker (by itself or as part of a composite score) to distinguish “case” from “noncase” in cross-sectional studies or to differentiate “those who will develop disease” from “those who will not” in longitudinal investigations. Typically, the c-statistic (or concordance index) is used as the metric of model discrimination and is equivalent to the area under the ROC curve. The c-statistic is the probability that in 2 randomly paired individuals (one with and one without disease), a given test correctly identifies the one with disease. It is important to note that the c-statistic is a metric of overall performance. It is possible for 2 tests to have the same c-sta-

tistic, yet one biomarker may be superior to the other in terms of performance at select thresholds.

[0103] Calibration is an indicator of the ability of a biomarker (or a model incorporating the biomarker) to predict risk relates to the actual observed risk in subgroups of the population. The Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit statistic is often used as an indicator of model calibration. For this purpose, the sample is divided into deciles of risk, and the observed number of events is compared with the expected number of events. Thus, risk prediction algorithms have been developed that incorporate select biomarkers and enable clinicians to predict the absolute event rates of disease; examples include estimating the risk of osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, given values of risk factors, assessing the risk of bone fracture and/or diminished bone mass in subjects not previously diagnosed as having osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, and appraising the risk of bone fracture in subjects with established osteoporosis or osteopenia. Models can be recalibrated if they uniformly underestimate or overestimate risk.

[0104] By a "high degree of diagnostic accuracy", it is meant a test or assay (such as the test of the invention for determining the clinically significant presence of OSTEORISKMARKERS, which thereby indicates the presence of osteoporosis or osteopenia) in which the AUC (area under the ROC curve for the test or assay) is at least 0.70, desirably at least 0.75, more desirably at least 0.80, preferably at least 0.85, more preferably at least 0.90, and most preferably at least 0.95.

[0105] By a "very high degree of diagnostic accuracy", it is meant a test or assay in which the AUC (area under the ROC curve for the test or assay) is at least 0.875, desirably at least 0.90, more desirably at least 0.925, preferably at least 0.95, more preferably at least 0.975, and most preferably at least 0.98.

[0106] The predictive value of any test depends on the sensitivity and specificity of the test, and on the prevalence of the condition in the population being tested. This notion, based on Bayes' theorem, provides that the greater the likelihood that the condition being screened for is present in an individual or in the population (pre-test probability), the greater the validity of a positive test and the greater the likelihood that the result is a true positive. Thus, the problem with using a test in any population where there is a low likelihood of the condition being present is that a positive result has limited value (i.e., more likely to be a false positive). Similarly, in populations at very high risk, a negative test result is more likely to be a false negative. Furthermore, under such differing settings, and additionally under differing disease acuities, appropriate and acceptable standards and requirements of test performance may also vary.

[0107] "Risk" in the context of the present invention can mean "absolute" risk, which refers to that percentage change that an event will occur over a specific time period. "Relative" risk refers to the ratio or odds of a subject's risk compared either to low risk or average risk, which can vary by how clinical risk factors are assessed. Subjects suffering from or at risk of developing osteoporosis or osteopenia can be diagnosed or identified by methods known in the art. Such methods include, but are not limited to, bone biopsy, bone mineral density test (BMD), single photon absorptiometry (SPA), dual photon absorptiometry (DPA), dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DEXA or DXA), quantitative computed tomography (QCT), and quantitative ultrasound (QUS).

[0108] Risk prediction for bone health and diseases can also encompass risk prediction algorithms and computed indices that assess and estimate a subject's absolute or relative risk for developing osteoporosis or osteopenia. Mathematical models incorporating assessment of osteoporosis and pre-osteoporosis risk factors have been used to predict general levels of risk (e.g., low, intermediate, or high) and to estimate the yearly percentage risk (absolute risk) or future events. Estimates or scores derived from these models are commonly referred to in the art as "global" risk scores. Risk assessment using such predictive mathematical algorithms and computed indices has increasingly been incorporated into guidelines for diagnostic testing and treatment and encompass indices obtained from, inter alia, multi-stage, stratified samples from a representative population. Examples of such tools for the global assessment of osteoporosis and bone fracture risk include the National Osteoporosis checklist, the Osteoporosis Risk Assessment Instrument (ORAI), the Simple Calculated Osteoporosis Risk Estimation (SCORE), the Osteoporosis Self-assessment Tool (OST), the calculated score from the Dubbo Osteoporosis Epidemiology Study, and the FRACTURE Index score, developed and validated in the Study of Osteoporotic Fractures (SOF), among others.

[0109] Despite the numerous studies and algorithms that have been used to assess the risk of osteoporosis or osteopenia, the evidence-based, multiple risk factor assessment approach is only moderately accurate for the prediction of short- and long-term risk of manifesting bone fracture, diminished bone mass, or bone fragility, in asymptomatic or otherwise healthy subjects (See Chapter 8, Bone Health and Osteoporosis: A Report of the Surgeon General (2004) for a summary of such scores and their performance). The OSTEORISKMARKERS and methods of use disclosed herein provides a tool that can be used in combination with such risk prediction algorithms to assess, identify, or diagnose subjects who are asymptomatic and do not exhibit the conventional risk factors.

[0110] The data derived from risk prediction algorithms and from the methods of the present invention can be analyzed by linear regression. Linear regression analysis models the relationship between two variables by fitting a linear equation to observed data. One variable is considered to be an explanatory variable, and the other is considered to be a dependent variable. For example, given a population of subjects, algorithms discussed herein can be an explanatory variable and analyzed against levels of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS within the same subjects, and OSTEORISKMARKER indices developed which achieve the best fit to the risk prediction algorithms.

[0111] A linear regression line has an equation of the form $Y=a+bX$, where X is the explanatory variable and Y is the dependent variable. The slope of the line is b , and a is the intercept (the value of y when $x=0$). A numerical measure of association between two variables is the "correlation coefficient," which is a value between -1 and 1 indicating the strength of the association of the observed data for the two variables. The most common method for fitting a regression line is the method of least-squares. This method calculates the best-fitting line for the observed data by minimizing the sum of the squares of the vertical deviations from each data point to the line (if a point lies on the fitted line exactly, then its vertical deviation is 0). Because the deviations are first squared, then summed, there are no cancellations between positive and negative values.

[0112] After a regression line has been computed for a group of data, a point which lies far from the line (and thus has a large residual value) is known as an outlier. Such points may represent erroneous data, or may indicate a poorly fitting regression line. If a point lies far from the other data in the horizontal direction, it is known as an influential observation. The reason for this distinction is that these points may have a significant impact on the slope of the regression line. Once a regression model has been fit to a group of data, examination of the residuals (the deviations from the fitted line to the observed values) allows one of skill in the art to investigate the validity of the assumption that a linear relationship exists. Plotting the residuals on the y-axis against the explanatory variable on the x-axis reveals any possible non-linear relationship among the variables, or might alert the skilled artisan to investigate “lurking variables.” A “lurking variable” exists when the relationship between two variables is significantly affected by the presence of a third variable which has not been included in the modeling effort.

[0113] Linear regression analyses can be used, *inter alia*, to predict the risk of developing osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis based upon correlating the levels of OSTEORISKMARKERS in a sample from a subject in combination with, for example, validated osteoporosis risk prediction algorithms as discussed herein, or other known methods of diagnosing or predicting the prevalence of disease, as in those developed elsewhere (for example, in the assessment of atherosclerotic risk). Of particular use, however, are non-linear equations and analyses, such as logarithmic regression, to determine the relationship between known predictive models of bone disease and levels of OSTEORISKMARKERS detected in a subject sample.

[0114] Where actual longitudinal long term subject outcomes, such as the conversion rate to osteoporosis or osteopenia, are also known in a population, several additional techniques can be used in developing classification algorithms to distinguish those who will develop osteoporosis or bone fractures from those who will not. Results from the OSTEORISKMARKER indices thus derived can then be validated through their calibration with actual results, that is, by comparing the predicted versus observed rate of disease in a given population, and the best predictive OSTEORISKMARKERS selected for and optimized through mathematical models of increased complexity. Beyond the simple non-linear transformations, such as logarithmic regression, of particular interest in this use of the present invention are structural and syntactic classification algorithms, and methods of risk index construction, utilizing pattern recognition features, including established techniques such as the Kth-Nearest Neighbor, Boosting, Decision Trees, Neural Networks, Bayesian Networks, Support Vector Machines, and Hidden Markov Models.

[0115] Hierarchical clustering can be performed in the derivation of a predictive model, where the Pearson correlation is employed as the clustering metric. One approach is to consider a patient osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis dataset as a “learning sample” in a problem of “supervised learning”. CART is a standard in applications to medicine (Singer (1999) *Recursive Partitioning in the Health Sciences*, Springer), which may be modified by transforming any qualitative features to quantitative features; sorting them by attained significance levels, evaluated by sample reuse methods for Hotelling’s T2 statistic; and suitable application of the lasso method. Problems in prediction are turned into problems in regression without losing sight of prediction, indeed

by making suitable use of the Gini criterion for classification in evaluating the quality of regressions.

[0116] This approach has led to what is termed FlexTree (Huang (2004) PNAS 101:10529-10534). FlexTree has performed very well in simulations and when applied to SNP and other forms of data. Software automating FlexTree has been developed. Alternatively, LARTree or LART may be used (Turnbull (2005) *Classification Trees with Subset Analysis Selection by the Lasso*, Stanford University). The name reflects binary trees, as in CART and FlexTree; the lasso, as has been noted; and the implementation of the lasso through what is termed LARS by Efron et al. (2004) *Annals of Statistics* 32:407-451. See, also, Huang et al. (2004) *Tree-structured supervised learning and the genetics of hypertension*. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA. 101(29): 10529-34. [0097] Other methods of analysis that may be used include logic regression. One method of logic regression Ruczinski (2003) *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics* 12:475-512. Logic regression resembles CART in that its classifier can be displayed as a binary tree. It is different in that each node has Boolean statements about features that are more general than the simple “and” statements produced by CART.

[0117] Another approach is that of nearest shrunken centroids (Tibshirani (2002) PNAS 99:6567-72). The technology is k-means-like, but has the advantage that by shrinking cluster centers, one automatically selects features (as in the lasso) so as to focus attention on small numbers of those that are informative. The approach is available as PAM software and is widely used. Two further sets of algorithms are random forests (Breiman (2001) *Machine Learning* 45:5-32 and MART (Hastie (2001) *The Elements of Statistical Learning*, Springer). These two methods are already “committee methods.” Thus, they involve predictors that “vote” on outcome.

[0118] To provide significance ordering, the false discovery rate (FDR) may be determined. First, a set of null distributions of dissimilarity values is generated. In one embodiment, the values of observed profiles are permuted to create a sequence of distributions of correlation coefficients obtained out of chance, thereby creating an appropriate set of null distributions of correlation coefficients (see Tusher et al. (2001) PNAS 98, 5116-21, herein incorporated by reference). The set of null distribution is obtained by: permuting the values of each profile for all available profiles; calculating the pair-wise correlation coefficients for all profile; calculating the probability density function of the correlation coefficients for this permutation; and repeating the procedure for N times, where N is a large number, usually 300. Using the N distributions, one calculates an appropriate measure (mean, median, etc.) of the count of correlation coefficient values that their values exceed the value (of similarity) that is obtained from the distribution of experimentally observed similarity values at given significance level.

[0119] The FDR is the ratio of the number of the expected falsely significant correlations (estimated from the correlations greater than this selected Pearson correlation in the set of randomized data) to the number of correlations greater than this selected Pearson correlation in the empirical data (significant correlations). This cut-off correlation value may be applied to the correlations between experimental profiles.

[0120] Using the aforementioned distribution, a level of confidence is chosen for significance. This is used to determine the lowest value of the correlation coefficient that exceeds the result that would have obtained by chance. Using this method, one obtains thresholds for positive correlation,

negative correlation or both. Using this threshold(s), the user can filter the observed values of the pairwise correlation coefficients and eliminate those that do not exceed the threshold (s). Furthermore, an estimate of the false positive rate can be obtained for a given threshold. For each of the individual "random correlation" distributions, one can find how many observations fall outside the threshold range. This procedure provides a sequence of counts. The mean and the standard deviation of the sequence provide the average number of potential false positives and its standard deviation. In an alternative analytical approach, variables chosen in the cross-sectional analysis are separately employed as predictors. Given the specific outcome, the random lengths of time each patient will be observed, and selection of proteomic and other features, a parametric approach to analyzing survival may be better than the widely applied semi-parametric Cox model. A Weibull parametric fit of survival permits the hazard rate to be monotonically increasing, decreasing, or constant, and also has a proportional hazards representation (as does the Cox model) and an accelerated failure-time representation. All the standard tools available in obtaining approximate maximum likelihood estimators of regression coefficients and functions of them are available with this model.

[0121] Furthermore the application of such techniques to panels of multiple OSTEORISKMARKERS is provided, as is the use of such combination to create single numerical "risk indices" or "risk scores" encompassing information from multiple OSTEORISKMARKER inputs. Individual OSTEORISKMARKERS may also be included or excluded in the panel of OSTEORISKMARKERS used in the calculation of the OSTEORISKMARKER indices so derived above, based on various measures of relative performance and calibration in validation, and employing through repetitive training methods such as forward, reverse, and stepwise selection, as well as with genetic algorithm approaches, with or without the use of constraints on the complexity of the resulting OSTEORISKMARKER indices.

[0122] The above measurements of diagnostic accuracy for OSTEORISKMARKERS are only a few of the possible measurements of the clinical performance of the invention. It should be noted that the appropriateness of one measurement of clinical accuracy or another will vary based upon the clinical application, the population tested, and the clinical consequences of any potential misclassification of subjects. Other important aspects of the clinical and overall performance of the invention include the selection of OSTEORISKMARKERS so as to reduce overall OSTEORISKMARKER variability (whether due to method (analytical) or biological (pre-analytical variability, for example, as in diurnal variation), or to the integration and analysis of results (post-analytical variability) into indices and cut-off ranges), to assess analyte stability or sample integrity, or to allow the use of differing sample matrices amongst blood, serum, plasma, urine, etc.

[0123] Levels of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS also allows for the course of treatment of osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis to be monitored. In this method, a biological sample can be provided from a subject undergoing treatment regimens, e.g., hormonal treatment, for osteoporosis or osteopenia. Such treatment regimens can include, but are not limited to, exercise regimens, dietary supplementation of calcium, and treatment with therapeutics or prophylactics used in subjects diagnosed or identified with osteoporosis. If desired, biological samples are obtained from the subject at various time points before, during, or after

treatment. Levels of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKER(S) can then be determined and compared to a reference value, e.g., a control subject or population whose osteoporosis state is known or an index value or baseline value. The reference sample or index value or baseline value may be taken or derived from one or more subjects who have been exposed to the treatment. Alternatively, the reference sample or index value or baseline value may be taken or derived from one or more subjects who have not been exposed to the treatment. For example, samples may be collected from subjects who have received initial treatment for osteoporosis or osteopenia and subsequent treatment for osteoporosis or osteopenia to monitor the progress of the treatment. A reference value can also comprise a value derived from risk prediction algorithms or computed indices from population studies such as those disclosed herein.

[0124] Differences in the genetic makeup of subjects can result in differences in their relative abilities to metabolize various drugs, which may increase bone mineral content. Subjects that have osteoporosis, osteopenia, or pre-osteoporosis, or at risk for developing bone fracture, osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia can vary in age, body or bone mass index (BMI), and, in female subjects, whether they are pre- or post-menopausal. Accordingly, the OSTEORISKMARKERS disclosed herein allow for a putative therapeutic or prophylactic to be tested from a selected subject in order to determine if the agent is a suitable for treating or preventing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia in the subject.

[0125] To identify therapeutics or drugs that are appropriate for a specific subject, a test sample from the subject can be exposed to a therapeutic agent or a drug, and the level of one or more of OSTEORISKMARKERS can be determined. Examples of such therapeutics or drugs frequently used in osteoporosis or osteopenia treatments, and may modulate bone mineral content include, but are not limited to, bisphosphonates such as alendronate, risedronate, etidronate, pamidronate, clodronate, and ibandronate, selective estrogen-receptor modulators (SERMs) such as raloxifene, tamoxifen, and toremifene, anabolic therapies such as teriparatide and strontium ranelate, and recombinant peptide fragments of parathyroid hormone, estrogen/progesterone replacement therapies, monoclonal antibodies, inhibitors of receptor activator of nuclear factor κ B ligand (RANKL), inhibitors of cathepsin K, antagonists of integrin $\text{Av}\beta 3$ (also known in the art as vitronectin), calcitonin, and dietary supplements such as calcium and vitamin D. Such therapeutics or drugs have been prescribed for subjects diagnosed with osteoporosis or osteopenia, and may modulate bone mineral content.

[0126] A subject sample can be incubated in the presence of a candidate agent and the pattern of the levels of one or more OSTEORISKMARKER(S) in the test sample is measured and compared to a reference profile, i.e., a pre-osteoporosis reference molecular profile or a non-pre-osteoporosis reference molecular profile or an index value or baseline value. The test agent can be any compound or composition. For example, the test agents are agents frequently used in osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia treatment regimens and are described herein.

[0127] Accordingly, the present invention provides a method for treating one or more subjects at risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia or bone fracture, comprising: detecting the presence of increased levels of at least two different OSTEORISKMARKERS present in a sample from the one or more subjects; and treating the one or

more subjects with one or more bone mineral content-modulating drugs until altered levels of the at least two different OSTEORISKMARKERS return to a baseline value measured in one or more subjects at low risk for developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, osteopenia, or bone fracture.

[0128] Also provided by the present invention is a method for treating one or more subjects having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia comprising: detecting the presence of increased levels of at least two different OSTEORISKMARKERS present in a sample from the one or more subjects; and treating the one or more subjects with one or more bone mineral content-modulating drugs until altered levels of the at least two different OSTEORISKMARKERS return to a baseline value measured in one or more subjects at low risk for developing bone fracture, osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia.

[0129] Comparison can be performed on test and reference samples measured concurrently or at temporally distinct times. An example of the latter is the use of compiled expression or molecular quantity information, i.e., a sequence database, which assembles information about expression levels or molecular quantities of OSTEORISKMARKERS.

[0130] If the reference sample, i.e., a control sample, is from a subject that does not have osteoporosis or osteopenia, or if the reference sample reflects a value that is relative to a person that has a high likelihood of rapid progression to osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or osteopenia, a similarity in the amount of the OSTEORISKMARKER analytes in the test sample and the reference sample indicates that the treatment is efficacious. However, a change in the amount of the OSTEORISKMARKER in the test sample and the reference sample indicates a less favorable clinical outcome or prognosis.

[0131] By "efficacious", it is meant that the treatment leads to a decrease in the amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS, an increase in bone mineral density or bone quality as measured by a bone mineral density test or bone biopsy, or a decrease in the risk of fracture in a subject. Assessment of the risk of fracture and increases or decreases in bone mineral density can be achieved using standard clinical protocols. Efficacy can be determined in association with any known method for diagnosing, identifying, or treating osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis or osteopenia.

[0132] The subject is preferably a mammal. The mammal can be a human, non-human primate, mouse, rat, dog, cat, horse, or cow, but are not limited to these examples. Mammals other than humans can be advantageously used as subjects as animal models of osteoporosis and osteopenia. A subject can be male or female. A subject can be one who has been previously diagnosed or identified as having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis or osteopenia, and optionally has already undergone treatment for osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis or osteopenia. Alternatively, a subject can also be one who has not been previously diagnosed as having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis or osteopenia.

[0133] A subject can also be one who is suffering from or at risk of developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis or osteopenia. Subjects suffering from or at risk of developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis or osteopenia can be diagnosed or identified by methods known in the art. For example, osteoporosis is frequently diagnosed by measuring the bone mineral content in a bone mineral density test. Bone biopsy may be useful in unusual forms of osteoporosis, such as osteoporosis in young adults. Biopsy provides information

about the rate of bone turnover and the presence of secondary forms of osteoporosis, such as myeloma and systemic mastocytosis.

[0134] A bone mineral density test measures how many grams of calcium and other bone minerals are packed into a segment of bone. The amount of bone mineral is referred to as "bone mineral content". The higher the mineral content, the denser the bones are, and the denser the bones are, the stronger they are and are thus less likely to break. Bone mineral density tests are typically performed on bones that are most likely to break due to osteoporosis, such as the lumbar vertebrae, the femur, and the bones of the wrist and forearm. Other peripheral bones can also be measured, such as the bones of the fingers and heel. Bone mineral density is determined by measuring the amount of bone mineral (calcium hydroxyapatite) per unit volume of bone tissue. X-rays or gamma rays are often used to quantify bone mineral density. In quantitative terms, bone mineral density is the amount of calcium hydroxyapatite, or $\text{Ca}_{10}(\text{PO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_2$ per unit volume of bone tissue examined.

[0135] Imaging modalities used in bone mineral density tests include single photon absorptiometry (SPA), where a single energy photon beam is passed through bone and soft tissue to a detector. The amount of mineral in the path is then be quantified. The amount of soft tissue the beam penetrate need to be small so the distal radius is usually utilized. Dual photon absorptiometry (DPA) uses a photon beam that has two distinct energy peaks. One energy peak will be more absorbed by soft tissue and the other by bone. The soft tissue component then can be mathematically subtracted and the bone mineral density is determined. Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DEXA; DXA) uses an X-ray source instead of an isotope. This technique is superior because the radiation source does not decay and the energy stays constant over time. Scan times are much shorter than with DPA and radiation dose is very low. DEXA can be used as an accurate and precise method to monitor changes in bone density in subjects undergoing treatments. Other methods include quantitative computed tomography (QCT), wherein measurement of bone mineral density can be achieved by standard CT scanners with software packages that allow them to determine bone density in the hip or spine. This technique provides for true three-dimensional imaging and reports bone mineral density as true volume density measurements. The advantage of QCT is its ability to isolate the area of interest from surrounding tissues. Also frequently used is quantitative ultrasound (QUS), which uses high-frequency sound waves to measure bone mineral density and assess bone microarchitecture, a measure of bone quality. QUS requires placement between a transponder and a receiver, and is limited to testing of distal skeletal sites.

[0136] The results of a bone mineral density test are reported in two numbers: T-scores and Z-scores. A T-score is the bone density compared with what is normally expected in a healthy young adult subject. The T-score is the number of units that the bone density is above or below a standard. According to the WHO definitions, T-scores above -1 often indicate subjects having normal bone density. T-scores ranging between -1 and -2.5 classify subjects as having osteopenia, wherein bone density is below normal and which may lead to osteoporosis. T-scores below -2.5 classify subjects as having osteoporosis. The Z-score is the number of standard deviations above or below what is normally expected for a person of the subject's age, sex, weight, and ethnic or racial

origin. Z-scores less than -1.5 may indicate that factors other than aging is the cause of bone loss.

[0137] According to the invention, several techniques can be used to construct OSTEORISKMARKER panels which use some or all of the 191 OSTEORISKMARKERS disclosed herein, which may be combined with concurrent measurement of conventional risk factors and methods of assessment for osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis. These OSTEORISKMARKER selection techniques may exploit input from one or more sources: from actual OSTEORISKMARKER data derived from their measurement in similar populations, from specific selected OSTEORISKMARKER characteristics (such as molecular class, association with physiological functions, cellular or extracellular localization, and resulting kinetics of expression across disease states and progression), and from molecular pathway and related interaction network analysis of the OSTEORISKMARKERS.

[0138] As mentioned above, in one embodiment of the invention, the OSTEORISKMARKER composition and mathematical algorithms used in individual OSTEORISKMARKER panels and indices are developed through the use of classification algorithms which are derived from actual measurements and longitudinal outcomes (such as whether or not the subject subsequently developed osteoporosis or osteopenia from a pre-osteoporosis baseline starting condition) or existing validated risk index algorithms, taken over many subjects in a population similar to that which will subsequently be tested by the OSTEORISKMARKER invention.

[0139] Also according to the invention, OSTEORISKMARKERS can be selected into panels that comprise biomarkers specific to a particular disease (based on physiological pathways, molecular pathways or other protein interaction networks), disease site, disease stage, disease kinetics, and can also comprise markers that can be used to exclude and distinguish osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis and related diseases from each other ("exclusion markers"). Such panels can comprise one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS, but can also comprise one OSTEORISKMARKER, where that one OSTEORISKMARKER can provide information about several pathways, diseases, disease kinetics, or disease stages. Such panels can comprise additional OSTEORISKMARKERS other than the 191 representative OSTEORISKMARKERS disclosed in Table 1.

[0140] Table 1 comprises 191 representative OSTEORISKMARKERS of the present invention. One skilled in the art will recognize that the OSTEORISKMARKERS presented herein encompasses all forms and variants, including but not limited to, polymorphisms, isoforms, mutants, derivatives, precursors including nucleic acids, receptors (including soluble and transmembrane receptors), ligands, and post-translationally modified variants, as well as any multi-unit nucleic acid, protein, and glycoprotein structures comprised of any of the OSTEORISKMARKERS as constituent subunits of the fully assembled structure. Furthermore, common degradation products of the OSTEORISKMARKERS shown below are also encompassed. By way of example and without limitation, several forms of collagen (e.g. collagen type I (COL1A1 and COL1A2; the most abundant human collagen), collagen type II (COL2A1 articular cartilage associated), collagen type III (COL3A1, granulation, arterial and fibroblast associated), collagen type IX (COL9A1, COL9A2, COL9A3), collagen type X (COL10A1, hypertrophic and mineralizing collagen), collagen type XIV (COL14A1), amongst the other approximately 28 known types of collagen) are hereby claimed, as are their component genes, variants, mRNA transcripts, monomeric peptide chains (alpha-1 and alpha-2 for collagen type I), procollagens, procollagen carboxyterminal (e.g. PICP) and aminoterminal (e.g. PINP) propeptides, tropocollagen, collagen fibrils, collagen fibers, crosslinked fibrillar collagens, their crosslinked carboxyterminal and aminoterminal telopeptides (e.g. CTX and NTX), and the degradation and resorption byproducts such as the hydroxypyridinium crosslinks of collagen (PYD and DPD), are herein expressly claimed, regardless of whether these individual forms are specifically noted in any figure or table herein. One skilled in the art will furthermore recognize that multiple other precursor, degradation and other products of derived from collagen are present, including individual enantiomeric forms, and that the presence and concentration relationships of several of the individual related collagen products are individually useful (e.g. the ratio of the non-isomerized α -L octapeptide of CTX (α -CTX) to the β -L isomerized isoaspartyl peptide of CTX (β -CTX) is known to be elevated in the urine of patients with untreated Paget's disease of bone).

TABLE 1

OSTEORISKMARKERS			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
1	acid phosphatase 5, tartrate resistant	Acid phosphatase Tartrate-resistant, Type 5b (osteoclasts), TRAP, tartrate resistant acid phosphatase 5, TRACP 5b (produced in osteoclasts) and TRACP 5a (produced in other cells)	ACP5
2	advanced glycosylation end product-specific receptor	RAGE, advanced glycosylation end product-specific receptor RAGE3; advanced glycosylation end product-specific receptor variant sRAGE1; advanced glycosylation end product-specific receptor variant sRAGE2; receptor for	AGER

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
3	alpha-2-HS-glycoprotein	advanced glycosylation end-products; soluble receptor A2HS, AHS, FETUA, HSGA, Alpha-2HS-glycoprotein; fetuin-A	AHSG
4	arachidonate 15-lipoxygenase	arachidonate 15-lipoxygenase	ALOX15
5	alkaline phosphatase, liver/bone/kidney	alkaline phosphatase, liver/bone/kidney, AP-TNAP, HOPS, TNAP, TNSALP, alkaline phosphomonoesterase; glycerophosphatase; tissue non-specific alkaline phosphatase; tissue-nonspecific ALP	ALPL
6	anthrax toxin receptor 2	capillary morphogenesis gene-2 (CMG-2), CMG-2, CMG2, ISH, JHF, capillary morphogenesis protein 2	ANTXR2
7	apolipoprotein E	APO E, AD2, apoprotein, Alzheimer disease 2 (APOE*E4-associated, late onset); apolipoprotein E precursor; apolipoprotein E3	APOE
8	androgen receptor (dihydrotestosterone receptor; testicular feminization; spinal and bulbar muscular atrophy; Kennedy disease)	androgen receptor; dihydrotestosterone receptor, AIS, DHTR, HUMARA, KD, NR3C4, SBMA, SMAX1, TFM, androgen receptor; dihydrotestosterone receptor	AR
9	amphiregulin (schwannoma-derived growth factor)	AR, CRDGF, SDGF, amphiregulin; colorectum cell-derived growth factor; schwannoma-derived growth factor	AREG
10	ATPase, Ca ⁺⁺ transporting, plasma membrane 3	ATPase, Ca ⁺⁺ transporting, plasma membrane 3, PMCA3, plasma membrane calcium ATPase 3; plasma membrane calcium pump isoform 3	ATP2B3
11	Best5 protein (Rat)	Rat	Best5
12	bone gamma-carboxyglutamate (gla) protein (osteocalcin)	Osteocalcin, BGP, PMF1, gamma-carboxyglutamic acid-containing protein; osteocalcin; polyamine-modulated factor 1	BGLAP
13	biglycan	DSPG1, PG-S1, PGI, SLRR1A, bone/cartilage proteoglycan-I; dermatan sulphate proteoglycan I; small leucine-rich protein 1A	BGN
14	bone morphogenetic protein 2	BMP2A	BMP2
15	bone morphogenetic protein 6	VGR, VGR1, Vg-related sequence; transforming growth factor-beta; vegetal related growth factor (TGFB-related); vegetal-related (TGFB related) cytokine	BMP6
16	calcitonin/calcitonin-related polypeptide, alpha	Calcitonin, CALC1, CGRP, CGRP-I, CGRP1, CT, KC, calcitonin; katalcalcin	CALCA
17	calcitonin receptor	calcitonin receptor, CRT, CTR, CTR1	CALCR
18	calreticulin	RO, SSA, cC1qR, Sicca syndrome antigen A (autoantigen Ro; calreticulin); autoantigen Ro	CALR

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
<u>OSTEORISKMARKER</u>	<u>Official Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
19	capping protein (actin filament), gelsolin-like	capping protein (actin filament), AFCP, MCP, actin-regulatory protein CAP-G; gelsolin-like capping protein; macrophage capping protein	CAPG
20	calcium-sensing receptor (hypocalciuric hypercalcemia 1, severe neonatal hyperparathyroidism)	FHH, FIH, GPRC2A, HHC, HHC1, NSHPT, PCAR1, calcium sensing receptor; calcium-sensing receptor; extracellular calcium-sensing receptor; parathyroid Ca(2+)-sensing receptor 1	CASR
21	chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 18 (pulmonary and activation-regulated)	macrophage activating protein, Gc - AMAC-1, AMAC1, CKb7, DC-CK1, DCCK1, MIP-4, PARC, SCYA18, CC chemokine ligand 18; alternative macrophage activation-associated CC chemokine 1; chemokine (C-C), dendritic; dendritic cell chemokine 1; macrophage inflammatory protein 4; pulmonary and activation-regulated chemokine; small inducible cytokine A18; small inducible cytokine subfamily A (Cys-Cys), member 18; small inducible cytokine subfamily A (Cys-Cys), member 18, pulmonary and activation-regulated	CCL18
22	chemokine (C-C motif) receptor 3	CC-CKR-3, CD193, CKR3, CMKBR3, CC chemokine receptor 3; b-chemokine receptor; eosinophil CC chemokine receptor 3; eosinophil eotaxin receptor	CCR3
23	CD200 receptor 1	CD200R, HCRTR2, MOX2R, OX2R, MOX2 receptor; cell surface glycoprotein OX2 receptor; cell surface glycoprotein receptor CD200	CD200R1
24	CD44 molecule (Indian blood group)	CD44, CDW44, ECMR-III, IN, LHR, MC56, MDU2, MDU3, MIC4, MUTCH-I, Pgp1, CD44 antigen; CD44 antigen (Indian blood group); CD44 antigen (homing function and Indian blood group system); CD44 epithelial domain (CD44E); CDW44 antigen; GP90 lymphocyte homing/adhesion receptor; Hermes antigen; antigen gp90 homing receptor; cell adhesion molecule (CD44); cell surface glycoprotein CD44; extracellular matrix receptor-III; heparan sulfate proteoglycan; hyaluronate receptor; phagocytic glycoprotein I	CD44
25	cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor 1C (p57, Kip2)	cyclin dependent kinase inhibitor 1c, BWCR, BWS, KIP2, WBS, p57, Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome; cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor 1C	CDKN1C

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
26	chitinase 3-like 1 (cartilage glycoprotein-39)	GP39, HC-gp39, HCGP-3P, YKL40, YYL-40, cartilage glycoprotein-39; chitinase 3-like 1	CHI3L1
27	chordin-like 1	Ventropin, CHL, NRLN1, VOPT, chordin-like; chordin-like 1 variant; neuralin 1	CHRDL1
28	chordin-like 2	BNF1, CHL2, FKSG37, breast tumor novel factor 1	CHRDL2
29	chloride channel 7	CLC-7, CLC7, OPTA2	CLCN7
30	cannabinoid receptor 1 (brain)	CANN6, CB-R, CB1, CB1A, CB1K5, CNR, central cannabinoid receptor	CNR1
31	cannabinoid receptor 2 (macrophage)	cannabinoid receptor 2 (macrophage), CB2, CX5	CNR2
32	ciliary neurotrophic factor receptor	CNTFR alpha; ciliary neurotrophic factor receptor alpha precursor	CNTFR
33	collagen, type X, alpha 1 (Schmid metaphyseal chondrodysplasia)	collagen X, alpha-1 polypeptide; collagen, type X, alpha 1; collagen, type X, alpha 1 (Schmid metaphyseal chondrodysplasia)	COL10A1
34	collagen, type I, alpha 1	collagen α -1; Collagen I, alpha-1 polypeptide; Collagen alpha 1 chain; alpha 1 type I collagen; collagen alpha 1 chain type I; collagen of skin, tendon and bone, alpha-1 chain; osteogenesis imperfecta type IV; pro-alpha-1 collagen type 1; type I collagen alpha 1 chain; type I collagen pro alpha 1(I) chain propeptide; type II procollagen gene fragment	COL1A1
35	collagen, type II, alpha 1 (primary osteoarthritis, spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia, congenital)	AOM, COL11A3, SEDC, alpha 1 type II collagen; alpha-1 collagen type II; arthroophthalmopathy, progressive; cartilage collagen; chondrocalcin, included; collagen II, alpha-1 polypeptide; collagen alpha 1 type II	COL2A1
36	carboxypeptidase B2 (plasma, carboxypeptidase U)	thrombin activatable fibrinolysis inhibitor (TAFI), CPU, PCPB, TAFI, carboxypeptidase B-like protein; carboxypeptidase U; plasma carboxypeptidase B2; thrombin-activatable fibrinolysis inhibitor; thrombin-activatable fibrinolysis inhibitor	CPB2
37	C-reactive protein, pentraxin-related	C-Reactive Protein, CRP, PTX1; DNA Marker: CRP gene +1444C>T variant	CRP
38	colony stimulating factor 1 (macrophage)	M-CSF, colony stimulating factor 1; macrophage colony stimulating factor	CSF1
39	catenin (cadherin-associated protein), beta 1, 88 kDa	β -catenin, CTNNB, catenin (cadherin-associated protein), beta 1 (88 kD); catenin (cadherin-associated protein), beta 1 (88 kDa)	CTNNB1
40	cathepsin K (pseudodeficiency)	CTS02, CTSO, CTSO1, CTSO2, PKND, PYCD, cathepsin K; cathepsin O1; cathepsin O2; cathepsin X	CTSK

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
41	cathepsin L	CATL, MEP, major excreted protein	CTSL
42	cytochrome P450, family 17, subfamily A, polypeptide 1	CPT7, CYP17, P450C17, S17AH, cytochrome P450, family 17; cytochrome P450, subfamily XVII (steroid 17-alpha-hydroxylase), adrenal hyperplasia; cytochrome p450 XVIIA1; steroid 17-alpha-hydroxylase/17,20 lyase; steroid 17-alpha-monooxygenase	CYP17A1
43	cytochrome P450, family 19, subfamily A, polypeptide 1	ARO, ARO1, CPV1, CYAR, CYP19, P-450AROM, aromatase; cytochrome P450, family 19; cytochrome P450, subfamily XIX (aromatization of androgens); estrogen synthetase; flavoprotein-linked monooxygenase; microsomal monooxygenase	CYP19A1
44	cytochrome P450, family 1, subfamily A, polypeptide 1	AHH, AHRR, CP11, CYP1, P1-450, P450-C, P450DX, P450 form 6; aryl hydrocarbon hydroxylase; cytochrome P1-450, dioxin-inducible; cytochrome P450 1A1 variant; cytochrome P450, subfamily I (aromatic compound-inducible), polypeptide 1; flavoprotein-linked monooxygenase; microsomal monooxygenase; xenobiotic monooxygenase	CYP1A1
45	cytochrome P450, family 24, subfamily A, polypeptide 1	1,25-@dihydroxyvitamin D3 24-hydroxylase; 24-ohase; cytochrome P450, family 24; cytochrome P450, subfamily XXIV (vitamin D 24-hydroxylase); exo-mitochondrial protein; vitamin D 24-hydroxylase	CYP24A1
46	cytochrome P450, family 27, subfamily A, polypeptide 1	CYP27C1, CP27, CTX, CYP27, 5-beta-cholestane-3-alpha, 7-alpha, 12-alpha-triol 26-hydroxylase; 5-beta-cholestane-3-alpha, 7-alpha, 12-alpha-triol 27-hydroxylase; cholestanetriol 26-monooxygenase; cytochrome P-450C27/25; cytochrome P450, subfamily XXVIIA (steroid 27-hydroxylase, cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis), polypeptide 1; sterol 27-hydroxylase; vitamin D(3) 25-hydroxylase	CYP27A1
47	cytochrome P450, family 27, subfamily B, polypeptide 1	CP2B, CYP1, CYP1alpha, CYP27B, P450c1, PDDR, VDD1, VDDR, VDDRI, VDR, 25 hydroxyvitamin D3-1-alpha hydroxylase; 25-OHD-1 alpha-hydroxylase; 25-hydroxyvitamin D-1-alpha-hydroxylase; P450C1-alpha; P450VD1-alpha; VD3 1A hydroxylase; VDDR I; calcidiol 1-monooxygenase; cytochrome P450, subfamily XXVIIIB (25-hydroxyvitamin	CYP27B1

TABLE 1-continued

OSTEORISKMARKERS			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
48	dickkopf homolog 1 (<i>Xenopus laevis</i>)	D-1-alpha-hydroxylase), polypeptide 1; cytochrome P450, subfamily XXVIIB, polypeptide 1 DKK-1, SK, dickkopf (<i>Xenopus laevis</i>) homolog 1; dickkopf homolog 1; dickkopf related protein-1; dickkopf-1; dickkopf-1 like	DKK1
49	endothelin 3	endothelin III: ET3, ET3, truncated endothelin 3	EDN3
50	engrailed homolog 1	engrailed homolog 1	EN1
51	estrogen receptor 1	ER, ESR, ESR A, Era, NR3A1, (estrogen receptor 1); estrogen receptor 1 (alpha); oestrogen receptor; steroid hormone receptor	ESR1
52	estrogen receptor 2 (ER beta)	ER-BETA, ESR-BETA, ESRB, ESTRB, Erb, NR3A2, estrogen receptor beta	ESR2
53	exostos (multiple) 1	EXT, ttv, exostosin 1	EXT1
54	exostos (multiple) 2	ext2 exostosin 2 - SOTV	EXT2
55	fetuin B	fetuin-mineral complex, 16G2, Gugu, IRL685, fetuin-like protein	FETUB
56	fibroblast growth factor 2 (basic)	Fibrin, BFGF, FGFB, HBGH-2, basic fibroblast growth factor; basic fibroblast growth factor bFGF; fibroblast growth factor 2; heparin-binding growth factor 2 precursor; prostatropin	FGF2
57	fibroblast growth factor 23	Phosphatonin, ADHR, HPDR2, HYPF, PHPTC, tumor-derived hypophosphatemia inducing factor	FGF23
58	FOS-like antigen 1	FRA1, fra-1, FOS-like antigen-1	FOSL1
59	frizzled-related protein	FRE, FRITZ, FRP-3, FRZB-1, FRZB-PEN, FRZB1, FZRB, SFRP3, SRFP3, hFIZ, frizzled (<i>Drosophila</i>) homolog-related	FRZB
60	frizzled homolog 10 (<i>Drosophila</i>)	Frizzled homolog 10, FZ-10, FzE7, hFz10, frizzled (<i>Drosophila</i>) homolog 10; frizzled 10; frizzled 10 precursor	FZD10
61	group-specific component (vitamin D binding protein)	DBP, DBP/GC, VDBG, VDBP, vitamin D binding protein; vitamin D-binding alpha-globulin; vitamin D-binding protein; vitamin D-binding protein/group specific component	GC
62	growth differentiation factor 8	Myostatin, MSTN	GDF8
63	growth hormone 1	growth hormone, GH, GH-N, GHN, hGH-N, pituitary growth hormone	GH1
64	G protein-coupled receptor 109A	G Protein Coupled Receptor HM74a; HM74a, HM74b, PUMAG, Puma-g, G protein-coupled receptor HM74a	GPR109A
65	major histocompatibility complex, class I, A	HLA A, Class I HLA-B-3201; HLA class I; HLA class I antigen; HLA class I heavy chain; HLA class I molecule; MHC class I antigen; MHC class I; MHC class I HLA-A; MHC class I	HLA-A

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
<u>OSTEORISKMARKER</u>	<u>Official Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
		HLA-A antigen; MHC class I antigen; MHC class I antigen HLA-A; MHC class I antigen HLA-A heavy chain; MHC class I antigen HLA-A2407; MHC class I antigen heavy chain; MHC class I antigen precursor; MHC leukocyte antigen; alpha 2 domain; alpha 1 domain; antigen presenting molecule; heavy chain of HLA-A antigen; histocompatibility molecule; leucocyte antigen; leucocyte antigen A; leucocyte antigen A alpha chain; leucocyte antigen B; leucocyte antigen class I; leucocyte antigen; leucocyte antigen class I; leucocyte antigen class I-A; leucocyte antigen, HLA-A2 variant; leucocyte antigen-A*0104N; lymphocyte antigen	
66	haptoglobin	Haptoglobin; hp2-alpha	HP
67	heat shock 70 kDa protein 5 (glucose-regulated protein, 78 kDa)	BIP, GRP78, MIF2, Heat-shock 70 kD protein-5 (glucose-regulated protein, 78 kD); heat shock 70 kD protein 5 (glucose-regulated protein, 78 kD)	HSPA5
68	islet amyloid polypeptide	Amylin, DAP, IAP, Islet amyloid polypeptide (diabetes-associated peptide; amylin)	IAPP
69	integrin-binding sialoprotein (bone sialoprotein, bone sialoprotein II)	BNSP, BSP, BSP-II, SP-II, Integrin-binding sialoprotein (bone sialoprotein II); bone sialoprotein II; bone sialoprotein; integrin-binding sialoprotein	IBSP
70	insulin-like growth factor 1 (somatomedin C)	IGF-1; somatomedin C; insulin-like growth factor-1	IGF1
71	insulin-like growth factor 2 (somatomedin A)	IGF-II polymorphisms (somatomedin A); C11orf43, INSIGF, pp9974, insulin-like growth factor 2; insulin-like growth factor II; insulin-like growth factor type 2; putative insulin-like growth factor II associated protein	IGF2
72	insulin-like growth factor binding protein 1	insulin-like growth factor binding protein-1 (IGFBP-1); AFBP, IBP1, IGF-BP25, PP12, hIGFBP-1, IGF-binding protein 1; alpha-pregnancy-associated endometrial globulin; amniotic fluid binding protein; binding protein-25; binding protein-26; binding protein-28; growth hormone independent-binding protein; placental protein 12	IGFBP1
73	interleukin 10	IL-10, CSIF, IL-10, IL10A, TGIF, cytokine synthesis inhibitory factor	IL10
74	interleukin 1, alpha	IL 1; IL-1A, IL1, IL1-ALPHA, IL1F1, IL1A (IL1F1); hematopoietin-1; preinterleukin 1 alpha; pro-interleukin-1-alpha	IL1A

TABLE 1-continued

OSTEORISKMARKERS			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
75	interleukin 1, beta	interleukin-1 beta (IL-1 beta); IL-1, IL1-BETA, IL1F2, catabolin; preinterleukin 1 beta; pro-interleukin-1-beta-IL-1B(+3954)T (associated with higher CRP levels)	IL1B
76	interleukin 1 receptor antagonist	interleukin-1 receptor antagonist (IL-1Ra); ICIL-1RA, IL-1ra3, IL1F3, IL1RA, IRAP, IL1RN (IL1F3); intracellular IL-1 receptor antagonist type II; intracellular interleukin-1 receptor antagonist (icIL-1ra); type II interleukin-1 receptor antagonist - DNA Marker - DNA Marker: IL-1RN(VNTR)*2 (associated with lower CRP levels)	IL1RN
77	interleukin 2	interleukin-2 (IL-2); IL-2, TCGF, lymphokine, T cell growth factor; aldesleukin; interleukin-2; involved in regulation of T-cell clonal expansion	IL2
78	interleukin 2 receptor, beta	IL-2R, CD122, P70-75, CD122 antigen; high affinity IL-2 receptor beta subunit; interleukin 2 receptor beta	IL2RB
79	interleukin 4	BSF1, IL-4, B-cell stimulatory factor 1; lymphocyte stimulatory factor 1	IL4
80	interleukin 6 (interferon, beta 2)	Interleukin-6 (IL-6), BSF2, HGF, HSF, IFNB2, IL-6	IL6
81	interleukin 6 receptor	interleukin-6 receptor, soluble (sIL-6R); CD126, IL-6R-1, IL-6R-alpha, IL6RA, CD126 antigen; interleukin 6 receptor alpha subunit	IL6R
82	interleukin 8	Interleukin-8 (IL-8), 3-10C, AMCF-I, CXCL8, GCP-1, GCP1, IL-8, K60, LECT, LUCT, LYNAP, MDNCF, MONAP, NAF, NAP-1, NAP1, SCYB8, TSG-1, b-ENAP, CXC chemokine ligand 8; LUCT/interleukin-8; T cell chemotactic factor; beta-thromboglobulin-like protein; chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 8; emoctakin; granulocyte chemotactic protein 1; lymphocyte-derived neutrophil-activating factor; monocyte derived neutrophil-activating protein; monocyte-derived neutrophil chemotactic factor; neutrophil-activating factor; neutrophil-activating peptide 1; neutrophil-activating protein 1; protein 3-10 C; small inducible cytokine subfamily B, member 8	IL8
83	inhibin, alpha	inhibin, alpha; A-inhibin subunit precursor; inhibin alpha subunit	INH A
84	inhibin, beta B (activin AB beta polypeptide)	Inhibin, beta-2; activin AB beta polypeptide precursor; inhibin beta B subunit	INHBB

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
85	integrin, beta 3 (platelet glycoprotein IIIa, antigen CD61)	glycoprotein Iib/IIIa; CD61, GP3A, GPIIb, integrin beta chain, beta 3; platelet glycoprotein IIIa precursor-DNA Marker; platelet glycoprotein IIIa Leu33Pro allele/PI(A1/A2) polymorphism of GPIIb/PI(A2) (Leu33Pro) polymorphism of beta(3) integrins/polymorphism responsible for the PI(A2) alloantigen on the beta(3)-component	ITGB3
86	KISS1 receptor	G-protein coupled receptor 54; AXOR12, GPR54, G protein-coupled receptor 54; metastin receptor	KISS1R
87	klotho	klotho	KL
88	leptin (obesity homolog, mouse)	Leptin; OB, OBS, leptin; leptin (murine obesity homolog); obesity; obesity (murine homolog, leptin)	LEP
89	leptin receptor	leptin receptor, soluble; CD295, OBR, OB receptor	LEPR
90	leucine-rich repeat-containing G protein-coupled receptor 4	G protein-coupled receptor 48; GPR48	LGR4
91	leukemia inhibitory factor (cholinergic differentiation factor)	CDF, D-FACTOR, HILDA, cholinergic differentiation factor	LIF
92	low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 5	BMND1, EVR1, HBM, LR3, LRP7, OPPG, OPS, VBCH2, low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 7; osteoporosis pseudoglioma syndrome	LRP5
93	low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 6	low density lipoprotein-related protein 6	LRP6
94	latent transforming growth factor beta binding protein 3	transforming growth factor (TGF)-beta binding protein 3	LTBP3
95	matrix Gla protein	GIG36, MGLAP, NTL, Gamma-carboxyglutamic acid protein, matrix; Matrix gamma-carboxyglutamic acid protein; Matrix gamma-carboxylglutamate protein	MGP
96	matrix metalloproteinase 2 (gelatinase A, 72 kDa gelatinase, 72 kDa type IV collagenase)	Matrix Metalloproteinases (MMP), MMP-2, CLG4, CLG4A, MMP-II, MONA, TBE-1, 72 kD type IV collagenase; collagenase type IV-A; matrix metalloproteinase 2; matrix metalloproteinase 2 (gelatinase A, 72 kD gelatinase, 72 kD type IV collagenase); matrix metalloproteinase 2 (gelatinase A, 72 kDa gelatinase, 72 kDa type IV collagenase); matrix metalloproteinase-II; neutrophil gelatinase	MMP2
97	MAS-related GPR, member F	human rta-like g protein-coupled receptor; mas related gene F, GPR140, GPR168, RTA, mrgF, G protein-coupled receptor 168; G protein-coupled receptor MrgF; seven transmembrane helix receptor	MRGPRF

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
<u>OSTEORISKMARKER</u>	<u>Official Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
98	5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (NADPH)	methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase; methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase intermediate form, red blood cell 5-methyltetrahydrofolate (RBC 5-MTHFR); (MTHFR A1298C) mutation	MTHFR
99	myosin, light polypeptide 2, regulatory, cardiac, slow	myosin light chain II, cardiac; CMH10, MLC2, myosin light chain 2	MYL2
100	type 2a sodium-phosphate cotransporter	type 2a sodium-phosphate cotransporter	NaKTrans2a
101	neurofibromin 1 (neurofibromatosis, von Recklinghausen disease, Watson disease)	neurofibromin 1; NFNS, VRNF, WSS, Neurofibromin (neurofibromatosis, type I); neurofibromin	NF1
102	natriuretic peptide precursor B	B-type Natriuretic Peptide (BNP), BNP, brain type natriuretic peptide, pro-BNP?, NPPB	NPPB
103	neuropeptide Y	neuropeptide Y; PYY4	NPY
104	neuropeptide Y receptor Y1	G Protein-Coupled Receptor NPY1; NPYR, modulator of neuropeptide Y receptor	NPY1R
105	nuclear receptor subfamily 3, group C, member 1	Glucocorticoid receptor; GCCR, GCR, GR, GRL, glucocorticoid receptor; nuclear receptor subfamily 3, group C, member 1	NR3C1
106	osteoclast-associated receptor	PIGR3, osteoclast associated receptor OSCAR-S1; osteoclast associated receptor OSCAR-S2; polymeric immunoglobulin receptor 3 precursor	OSCAR
107	osteopetrosis associated transmembrane protein 1	GIPN, GL, HSPC019, GAIP-interacting protein N terminus; grey-lethal osteopetrosis	OSTM1
108	oxoglutarate (alpha-ketoglutarate) receptor 1	human P2Y-like GPCR protein (G protein-coupled receptor 80; G protein-coupled receptor 99; P2Y-like nucleotide receptor; seven transmembrane helix receptor)	OXGR1
109	oxytocin, prepro-(neurophysin I)	Oxytocin, OT, OT-NPI, oxytocin-neurophysin I; oxytocin-neurophysin I, preproprotein	OXT
110	RF(Arg-Phe)amide family 26 amino acid peptide	26RFa, QRFP, P518 precursor protein; control of feeding behavior; neuropeptide	P518
111	pregnancy-associated plasma protein A, pappalysin 1	Pregnancy-associated plasma protein a; ASBABP2, DIPLA1, IGFBP-4ase, PAPA, PAPP-A, PAPP1, aspecific BCL2 ARE-binding protein 2; differentially placenta 1 expressed protein; insulin-like growth factor-dependent IGF binding protein-4 protease; pregnancy-associated plasma protein A; pregnancy-associated plasma protein A	PAPPA

TABLE 1-continued

OSTEORISKMARKERS			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
112	phosphodiesterase 4B, cAMP-specific (phosphodiesterase E4 dunce homolog, <i>Drosophila</i>)	phosphodiesterase 4B; DPDE4, PDEIVB, cAMP-specific 3',5'-cyclic phosphodiesterase 4B; dunce-like phosphodiesterase E4; phosphodiesterase 4B, cAMP-specific; phosphodiesterase 4B, cAMP-specific (dunce (<i>Drosophila</i>)-homolog phosphodiesterase E4)	PDE4B
113	phosphodiesterase 4D, cAMP-specific (phosphodiesterase E3 dunce homolog, <i>Drosophila</i>)	phosphodiesterase 4D; DPDE3, HSPDE4D, PDE4DN2, STRK1, cAMP-specific phosphodiesterase 4D; cAMP-specific phosphodiesterase PDE4D6; dunce-like phosphodiesterase E3; phosphodiesterase 4D, cAMP-specific (dunce (<i>Drosophila</i>)-homolog phosphodiesterase E3)	PDE4D
114	PDZ and LIM domain 4	RIL, LIM domain protein; enigma homolog	PDLIM4
115	peptidase D	X-pro dipeptidase; PROLIDASE, Xaa-Pro dipeptidase; proline dipeptidase	PEPD
116	phosphate regulating endopeptidase homolog, X-linked (hypophosphatemia, vitamin D resistant rickets)	phosphate regulating endopeptidase homolog; HPDR, HPDR1, HYP, HYP1, PEX, XLH, X-linked phosphate regulating endopeptidase homolog; phosphate regulating gene with homologies to endopeptidases on the X chromosome; phosphate regulating gene with homologies to endopeptidases on the X chromosome (hypophosphatemia, vitamin D resistant rickets)	PHEX
117	plasminogen activator, tissue	tissue Plasminogen Activator (tPA), T-PA, TPA, alteplase; plasminogen activator, tissue type; reteplase; t-plasminogen activator; tissue plasminogen activator (t-PA)	PLAT
118	proopiomelanocortin (adrenocorticotropin/beta-lipotropin/alpha-melanocyte stimulating hormone/beta-melanocyte stimulating hormone/beta-endorphin)	Proopiomelanocortin; beta-LPH; beta-MSH; alpha-MSH; gamma-LPH; gamma-MSH; corticotropin; beta-endorphin; met-enkephalin; lipotropin beta; lipotropin gamma; melanotropin beta; N-terminal peptide; melanotropin alpha; melanotropin gamma; pro-ACTH-endorphin; adrenocorticotropin; pro-opiomelanocortin; corticotropin-lipotropin; adrenocorticotrophic hormone; alpha-melanocyte-stimulating hormone; corticotropin-like intermediary peptide	POMC
119	periostin, osteoblast specific factor	Periostin-Like Factor; OSF-2, PDLPOSTN, PN, periostin, osteoblast specific factor 2 (fasciclin I-like); periodontal ligament-specific periostin	POSTN

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
<u>OSTEORISKMARKER</u>	<u>Official Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Symbol</u>
120	peroxisome proliferative activated receptor, gamma	Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor (PPAR), HUMPPARG, NR1C3, PPARG1, PPARG2, PPAR gamma; peroxisome proliferative activated receptor gamma; peroxisome proliferator activated-receptor gamma; peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma 1; ppar gamma2	PPARG
121	peptidylprolyl isomerase D (cyclophilin D) (is this the right isoform?)	CYP 27C1, CYP-40, CYPD, 40 kDa peptidyl-prolyl cis-trans isomerase D; PPIase; cyclophilin 40; cyclophilin D; cyclophilin-related protein; peptidylprolyl isomerase D; rotamase	PPID
122	peroxiredoxin 2	NKEFB, PRP, PRXII, TDPX1, TSA, natural killer-enhancing factor B; thiol-specific antioxidant 1; thioredoxin peroxidase 1; thioredoxin-dependent peroxide reductase 1; torin	PRDX2
123	prostaglandin-endoperoxide synthase 2 (prostaglandin G/H synthase and cyclooxygenase)	Cyclo-oxygenase-2 (COX-2); COX-2, COX2, PGG/HS, PGHS-2, PHS-2, hCox-2, cyclooxygenase 2b; prostaglandin G/H synthase and cyclooxygenase; prostaglandin-endoperoxide synthase 2	PTGS2
124	parathyroid hormone	PTH, parathormone; parathyrin	PTH
125	parathyroid hormone-like hormone	parathyroid hormone related protein: PTH-related protein; humoral hypercalcemia of malignancy; osteostatin; parathyroid hormone-like protein; parathyroid hormone-like related protein; parathyroid hormone-related protein; parathyroid-like protein	PTH LH
126	parathyroid hormone receptor 1	parathyroid hormone receptor 1; PTHR, PTH receptor; PTH/PTHr receptor; PTH/PTHrP receptor; PTH/PTHrP type I receptor; parathyroid hormone/parathyroid hormone-related peptide receptor; parathyroid hormone/parathyroid hormone-related protein receptor; seven transmembrane helix receptor	PTH R1
127	glutaminyl-peptide cyclotransferase (glutaminyl cyclase)	GCT, QC, glutaminyl cyclase; glutaminyl-peptide cyclotransferase	QPCT
128	retinal short chain dehydrogenase reductase isoform 1	short-chain dehydrogenases/reductases (SDRs); RDH#2, RDH-E2, epidermal retinal dehydrogenase 2	RDHE2
129	regucalcin (senescence marker protein-30)	RC, SMP30, regucalcin; senescence marker protein-30	RGN
130	runt-related transcription factor 2	AML3, CBFA1, CCD, CCD1, OSF2, PEA2aA, PEBP2A1, PEBP2A2, PEBP2aA, PEBP2aA1, CBF-	RUNX2

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
		alpha 1; SL3-3 enhancer factor 1 alpha A subunit; SL3/AKV core-binding factor alpha A subunit; acute myeloid leukemia 3 protein; core-binding factor, runt domain, alpha subunit 1; osteoblast-specific transcription factor 2; polyomavirus enhancer binding protein 2 alpha A subunit	
131	S100 calcium binding protein G	CABP1, CABP9K, CALB3, calbindin 3; calbindin 3, (vitamin D-dependent calcium binding protein); calbindin 3, (vitamin D-dependent calcium-binding protein); calbindin D9K	S100G
132	serpin peptidase inhibitor, clade E (nexin, plasminogen activator inhibitor type 1), member 1	plasminogen activator inhibitor-1; PAI, PAI-1, PAI1, PLANH1, plasminogen activator inhibitor, type 1; plasminogen activator inhibitor-1; serine (or cysteine) proteinase inhibitor, clade E (nexin, plasminogen activator inhibitor type 1), member 1	SERPINE1
133	secreted frizzled related protein 1	secreted apoptosis-related protein 2, FRP, FRP-1, FRP1, FrzA, SARP2, secreted apoptosis-related protein 2	SFRP1
134	sex hormone-binding globulin	sex hormone-binding globulin (SHBG), ABP, Sex hormone-binding globulin (androgen binding protein)	SHBG
135	SWI/SNF related, matrix associated, actin dependent regulator of chromatin, subfamily c, member 2	matrix associated, actin dependent regulator of chromatin	SMARCC2
136	sclerosteosis	VBCH, sclerostin	SOST
137	SRY (sex determining region Y)-box 9 (campomelic dysplasia, autosomal sex-reversal)	SRY (sex determining region Y)-box 9	SOX9
138	Sp7 transcription factor	OSX, osterix	SP7
139	secreted protein, acidic, cysteine-rich (osteonectin)	ON, Osteonectin (secreted protein, acidic, cysteine-rich); cysteine-rich protein; osteonectin	SPARC
140	secreted phosphoprotein 1 (osteopontin, bone sialoprotein I, early T-lymphocyte activation 1)	osteopontin; secreted phosphoprotein 1; secreted phosphoprotein-1 (osteopontin, bone sialoprotein)	SPP1
141	T-cell, immune regulator 1, ATPase, H+ transporting, lysosomal V0 subunit A3	ATP6N1C, ATP6V0A3, Atp6i, OC-116 kDa, OC116, OPTB1, Stv1, TIRC7, Vph1, a3, ATPase, H+ transporting, 116 kD; T cell immune response cDNA7 protein; T-cell, immune regulator 1; T-cell, immune regulator 1, ATPase, H+ transporting, lysosomal V0 protein A3; T-cell, immune regulator 1, ATPase, H+ transporting, lysosomal V0 protein a isoform 3; V-ATPase 116-kDa isoform a3; osteoclastic proton pump 116 kDa	TCIRG1

TABLE 1-continued

<u>OSTEORISKMARKERS</u>			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
		subunit; specific 116-kDa vacuolar proton pump subunit; vacuolar proton translocating ATPase 116 kDa subunit A isoform 3	
142	transforming growth factor, beta 1 (Camurati-Engelmann disease)	TGF-beta: TGF-beta 1 protein; diaphyseal dysplasia 1, progressive; transforming growth factor beta 1; transforming growth factor, beta 1; transforming growth factor-beta 1, CED, DPD1, TGFB	TGFB1
143	transforming growth factor, beta 2	TGF beta 2; TGF-beta2	TGFB2
144	tumor necrosis factor (TNF superfamily, member 2)	TNF-alpha (tumour necrosis factor-alpha); DIF, TNF-alpha, TNFA, TNFSF2, APC1 protein; TNF superfamily, member 2; TNF, macrophage-derived; TNF, monocyte-derived; cachectin; tumor necrosis factor alpha	TNF
145	tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily, member 11a, NFKB activator	CD265, EOF, FEO, ODFR, OFE, PDB2, RANK, TRANCER, osteoclast differentiation factor receptor; receptor activator of nuclear factor-kappa B; tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily, member 11a; tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily, member 11a, activator of NFKB	TNFRSF11A
146	tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily, member 11b (osteoprotegerin)	OPG (osteoprotegerin), OCIF, OPG, TR1, osteoclastogenesis inhibitory factor; osteoprotegerin	TNFRSF11B
147	tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily, member 1B	soluble necrosis factor receptor; CD120b, TBPPII, TNF-R-II, TNF-R75, TNFBR, TNFR2, TNFR80, p75, p75TNFR, p75 TNF receptor; tumor necrosis factor beta receptor; tumor necrosis factor binding protein 2; tumor necrosis factor receptor 2	TNFRSF1B
148	tumor necrosis factor (ligand) superfamily, member 11	RANKL; CD254, ODF, OPGL, RANKL, TRANCE, hRANKL2, sOdf, TNF-related activation-induced cytokine; osteoclast differentiation factor; osteoprotegerin ligand; receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa B ligand; tumor necrosis factor ligand superfamily, member 11	TNFSF11
149	tenascin W	tenw, zgc: 110729	tnw
150	TNF receptor-associated factor 6	RNF85	TRAF6
151	thioredoxin interacting protein	thioredoxin binding protein 2; upregulated by 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D-3	TXNIP
152	TYRO protein tyrosine kinase binding protein	DNAX-activating protein 12; DAP12, KARAP, PLOSL, DNAX-activation protein 12; killer activating receptor associated protein	TYROBP

TABLE 1-continued

OSTEORISKMARKERS			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
153	ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2D 2 (UBC4/5 homolog, yeast)	E2(17)KB2, PUBC1, UBC4, UBC4/5, UBCH5B, ubiquitin carrier protein; ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2 D2 transcript variant 1; ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2-17 kDa 2; ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2D 2; ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2D 2 (homologous to yeast UBC4/5)	UBE2D2
154	vitamin D (1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D3) receptor	vitamin D receptor 1; NR1H1; vitamin D (1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D3) receptor	VDR
155	vascular endothelial growth factor	VEGF; VEGFA, VPF, vascular endothelial growth factor A; vascular permeability factor	VEGF
156	wingless-type MMTV integration site family, member 16	Wnt16	WNT16
157	Werner syndrome	RECQ3, RECQL2, RECQL3, Werner Syndrome helicase; Werner syndrome protein	WRN
158	IgA anti gliadin antibodies (AGA)	IgA anti gliadin antibodies (AGA)	AGA
159	calcium	ionized calcium	CALCIUM
160	CD8 T cells lacking CD28 expression	CD8 T cells lacking CD28 expression	CD8T
161	dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate (DHEAS)	dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate (DHEAS),	DHEAS
162	deoxy pyridinoline	deoxy pyridinoline (Dpyr) - urine; DpD	DPYR
163	serum IgA endomysial antibody (EMA)	serum IgA endomysial antibody (EMA)	EMA IgA
164	estradiol	Estradiol; 17b-estradiol; 1,3,5[10]-estratriene-3,17b-diol; 3,17b-Dihydroxy-1,3,5[10]-estratriene; Estra-1,3,5(10)-triene-3,17-diol; Beta-estradiol	ESTRA
165	17-beta-estradiol inducible caspase-6 inhibitory factor	17-beta-estradiol inducible caspase-6 inhibitory factor.	EstraCIF
166	estrogen	estrogen	ESTROGEN
167	collagen 1 alpha 1 helical peptide	HELP	HELP
168	hydroxylysine-glycosides	HYLG; GGHL, GHL	GGHL
169	Hydroxyproline	Hydroxyproline, total and dialyzable; OHP, Hyp	OHP
170	homocysteine	Homocysteine (total)	HOMOCYST
171	carboxy-terminal-telopeptide of type I collagen (ICTP)	collagen I degradation byproduct (ICTP), carboxy-terminal-telopeptide of type I collagen (ICTP); CTX-I; CTX-I; CTX-MMP	ICTP
172	INSP078	insp078	INSP078
173	INTP009	intp009	INTP009
174	M component	M component (monoclonal bands)	MCOMP
175	nitric oxide	nitric oxide	NO
176	atrial natriuretic peptide clearance receptor variant	ATRIAL NATRIURETIC PEPTIDE CLEARANCE RECEPTOR VARIANT	NPPACR
177	N-terminal crosslinking telopeptide of type 1 collagen	N-terminal crosslinking telopeptide of type 1 collagen	NTX1
178	osteometrin	osteometrin	OMETRN
179	osteoblastic stem cell factor	osteoblastic stem cell factor	OSCF

TABLE 1-continued

OSTEORISKMARKERS			
OSTEORISKMARKER	Official Name	Common Name	Symbol
180	pancreas-derived factor SEQ ID NO: 1	pancreas-derived factor seq id no: 1	PDF1
181	prostaglandin E2	PGE ₂ , prostaglandin E2	PGE2
182	C terminal propeptide of Type 1 procollagen (PICP)	C terminal propeptide of Type 1 procollagen (PICP), CICP, collagen I synthesis byproduct (PICP)	PICP
183	collagen III synthesis byproduct (PIIINP)	collagen III synthesis byproduct (PIIINP)	PIIINP
184	amino-terminal propeptide of type I procollagen (PINP)	Amino-terminal propeptide of type I procollagen (PINP), collagen I synthesis byproduct (PINP)	PINP
185	polyamines (putrescine, spermidine, spermine)	polyamines (putrescine, spermidine, spermine)	POLYAMINE
186	pyridinoline	pyridinoline	PYRID
187	vitamin D3	vitamin D3	VitD3
188	vitamin K	vitamin K	VitK
189	vitamin K homologues	vitamin K homologues including phyloquinone (PK), menaquinone-4 (MK- 4), and menaquinone-7 (MK- 7), K2	VitKhomo
190	17906 gene from Millenium	17906 gene from Millenium	
191	BAA83099.1, AAD46161.1, AAD38507.2 and ACC4	baa83099.1, aad46161.1, aad38507.2 and acc4	

[0141] Included as an aspect of the invention are several methods of constructing panels from sub-sets of the complete set of OSTEORISKMARKERS listed above. One skilled in the art will note that the above listed OSTEORISKMARKERS come from a diverse set of molecular pathways and physiological functions, and may also be clustered into groupings by virtue of their direct and indirect interactions and correlation with each other, including those summarized by their relative position on a canonical molecular pathway.

[0142] FIG. 1A-1AA are graphic illustrations of the many canonical molecular pathways listed within the Kyoto University Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) which feature three or more OSTEORISKMARKERS, identified by their common HUGO gene name abbreviation or alias (or other group abbreviation when multiple similar biomarkers are shown), in each disclosed canonical pathway. FIG. 2 is a listing of KEGG pathways with one or two OSTEORISKMARKERS identified as contained within them. Panels of OSTEORISKMARKERS may be constructed by selecting one or more of the OSTEORISKMARKERS indicated across one or more KEGG pathways so as to select a desired measurement of the molecular activity within the pathway, and across several relevant pathways. Several KEGG pathways may thus be simultaneously assessed, providing broader perspective of the molecular physiology of various aspects of bone metabolism in a subject.

[0143] OSTEORISKMARKERS may also be grouped according to the physiological functions in which they are implicated or with which they are associated. A common division and characterization of the physiological functions within the bone multicellular unit or BMU is between that of bone resorption (typically related to the activity of osteoclasts) and that of bone formation (typically related to the

activity of osteoblasts). A reduction in bone density, such as that seen in osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, results when these two physiological activities are not in balance. FIG. 3 is a table listing individual OSTEORISKMARKERS divided into two categories based on their association with the physiological functions of bone formation (left column) and of bone resorption (right column). OSTEORISKMARKERS which are commonly found localized in the extracellular space or plasma membranes of cells are also highlighted in bold or italics, respectively, in this and the following Figures. Of particular note is that many of the disclosed OSTEORISKMARKERS shown in FIG. 3 are associated with bone formation and resorption, or come from common precursors, as is true of the large number of collagen related OSTEORISKMARKERS (where the specific OSTEORISKMARKER may be a pre-cursor or degradation product of collagen). Specific panels of OSTEORISKMARKERS may be constructed based on selecting one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS from each of either one or both categories shown (formation and resorption).

[0144] In addition to the general OSTEORISKMARKERS that can be categorized according to FIG. 3, additional OSTEORISKMARKERS can be listed according to physiological functions. FIG. 4 is a table listing additional individual OSTEORISKMARKERS categorized by their association with the following ten physiological functions: osteoclast metabolism (category A), osteocyte metabolism (category B), osteoblast metabolism (category C), calcium metabolism (category D), bone ossification or mineralization (category E), skeletal development (category F), muscle cell metabolism (including the proliferation and movement of muscle cells, including vascular and vascular smooth muscle cells; category G), eicosanoid metabolism (category H), other

metabolism (category I), and other bone-related physiology (category J). As in the earlier categorization, many individual OSTEORISKMARKERS are represented in more than one physiological function and category.

[0145] One or more OSTEORISKMARKER(S) from each of one or more physiological function associated categories from FIG. 4 may be combined together into panels of biomarkers according to the invention. FIG. 5 is a table listing various combinations useful in constructing panels of the additional OSTEORISKMARKERS from FIG. 4. Each set of one to ten letters indicate a class of OSTEORISKMARKER panel, and indicates the use of one or more markers each from one or more of the previously mentioned categories. Representative examples of OSTEORISKMARKER panels according to this method of the invention are also hereby explicitly disclosed in the tables of FIG. 5, where a given letter abbreviation shown in the panel indicates that one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS are chosen from the OSTEORISKMARKERS listed in that appropriate physiological function's category in the preceding FIG. 4 when constructing such a panel.

[0146] In further embodiments of the invention, these additional OSTEORISKMARKER combination panels shown in FIG. 4 may themselves be further combined with one or more OSTEORISKMARKER(S) selected from either one or both of the general categories of bone formation and of bone resorption, respectively, previously identified in FIG. 3, yielding up to twelve physiological function categories represented in a given panel according to the invention.

[0147] OSTEORISKMARKERS may also be categorized into groups based on their closeness, either in a canonical molecular pathway, or as proven experimentally to interact or correlate with one another. FIG. 6 is a table listing eleven clusters of OSTEORISKMARKERS grouped by their relative position, interactions, correlations and network proximity as defined by protein-protein interactions and through participation in one or more canonical pathways, presented in the figure together with their near neighbors and interaction partners within pathways. As in the earlier categorizations, many individual OSTEORISKMARKERS are represented in more than one cluster. OSTEORISKMARKER panels may also be constructed by means of selection of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS each from one or more of the eleven clusters listed in FIG. 6.

[0148] OSTEORISKMARKERS may be further selected by virtue of their cell localization. OSTEORISKMARKERS which are commonly found localized in the extracellular space or plasma membranes of cells are also highlighted in bold or italics, respectively.

[0149] One skilled in the art will realize that panels can also be made of combinations of these techniques, where individual OSTEORISKMARKERS are chosen from a molecular pathway, a physiological function categorization, or from a cluster shown in the previous Figures. Additionally, each of the OSTEORISKMARKER panels previously discussed may itself be combined with any one or more individual OSTEORISKMARKER(S) listed in Table 1, or their functional or statistical equivalent (as herein defined), where said OSTEORISKMARKER is not categorized elsewhere in the Figures.

[0150] The above discussion for convenience focuses on a subset of the OSTEORISKMARKERS; other OSTEORISKMARKERS and even biomarkers which are not listed in the above table but related to these physiological functions and

molecular pathways may prove to be useful given the signal and information provided from these studies. To the extent that other participants within the total list of OSTEORISKMARKERS are also relevant functional or molecular participants in osteoporosis, osteopenia and pre-osteoporosis, they may be functional equivalents to the biomarkers thus far disclosed and therefore themselves be OSTEORISKMARKERS, provided they additionally share certain defined characteristics of a good biomarker, which would include both this biological process involvement and also analytically important characteristics such as the bioavailability of said markers at a useful signal to noise ration, and in a useful sample matrix such as blood serum. Such requirements typically limit the usefulness of many members of a biological KEGG pathway, as this is unlikely to be generally the case, and frequently occurs only in pathway members that constitute secretory substances, and thus are found to be extracellular, those accessible on the plasma membranes of cells, which may be released or accessible by extracellular means, as well as those that are released into the serum upon cell death, due to apoptosis or for other reasons such as bone unit remodeling or other cell turnover or cell necrotic processes, whether or not said is related to the disease progression of pre-osteoporosis and osteoporosis. Furthermore, the statistical utility of such additional OSTEORISKMARKERS is substantially dependent on the cross-correlation between markers and new markers will often be required to operate within a panel in order to elaborate the meaning of the underlying biology. A biomarker is considered statistically equivalent when levels of the new biomarker are well correlated with a previously disclosed OSTEORISKMARKER, through the progression of the pre-disease and disease, and across the appropriate range of the risk. However, the remaining and future biomarkers that meet this high standard for OSTEORISKMARKERS are likely to be quite valuable. Our invention encompasses such functional and statistical equivalents to the aforelisted OSTEORISKMARKERS.

[0151] As is shown in FIGS. 1, 2, and 6, many OSTEORISKMARKERS are closely correlated and clustered in molecular pathway groups, physiological functions, or in clusters that thus rise or fall in their concentration with each other (or in opposite directions to each other). While this may offer multiple opportunities for new and useful OSTEORISKMARKERS within known and previously disclosed biological pathways, our invention hereby anticipates and claims such useful biomarkers that are functional or statistical equivalents to those listed, and such correlations and the potential identities of other biological pathway members are disclosed in the aforementioned figures.

[0152] The OSTEORISKMARKERS herein disclosed are also useful in the differential diagnosis of various bone diseases and their causes, or to indicate an endogenous or exogenous cause for osteoporosis, osteopenia or pre-osteoporosis. Individuals who are diagnosed with osteoporosis often do so as a byproduct of another condition or medication use. In fact, there are a wide variety of diseases along with certain medications and toxic agents that can cause or contribute to the development of osteoporosis. Individuals who get the disease due to these "outside" causes are said to have "secondary" osteoporosis. They typically experience greater levels of bone loss than would be expected for a normal individual of the same age, gender, and race.

[0153] Several genetic diseases have been linked to secondary osteoporosis. Idiopathic hyper-calciuria and cystic fibro-

sis are the most common. Patients with cystic fibrosis have markedly decreased bone density and increased fracture rates due to a variety of factors, including calcium and vitamin D malabsorption, reduced sex steroid production and delayed puberty, and increased inflammatory cytokines. Some patients with idiopathic hypercalciuria have a renal defect in the ability of the kidney to conserve calcium. Several studies have documented low bone density in these individuals.

[0154] Estrogen or testosterone deficiency during adolescence (due to Turner's, Kallman's, or Klinefelter's syndrome, anorexia nervosa, athletic amenorrhea, cancer, or any chronic illness that interferes with the onset of puberty) leads to low peak bone mass. Estrogen deficiency that develops after peak bone mass is achieved but before normal menopause (due to premature ovarian failure for example) is associated with rapid bone loss. Low sex steroid levels may also be responsible for reduced bone density in patients with androgen insensitivity or acromegaly. By contrast, excess thyroid hormone (thyrotoxicosis), whether spontaneous or caused by overtreatment with thyroid hormone, may be associated with substantial bone loss; while bone turnover is increased in these patients, bone resorption is increased more than bone formation. Likewise, excess production of glucocorticoids caused by tumors of the pituitary or adrenal glands (Cushing's syndrome) can lead to rapidly progressive and severe osteoporosis, as can treatment with glucocorticoids. Primary hyperparathyroidism is a relatively common condition in older individuals, especially postmenopausal women, that is caused by excessive secretion of parathyroid hormone. Most often, the cause is a benign tumor (adenoma) in one or more parathyroid glands; very rarely (less than 0.5 percent of the time) the cause is parathyroid cancer.

[0155] Diseases that reduce intestinal absorption of calcium and phosphorus, or impair the availability of vitamin D, can also cause bone disease. Moderate malabsorption results in osteoporosis, but severe malabsorption may cause osteomalacia. Celiac disease, due to inflammation of the small intestine by ingestion of gluten, is an important and commonly overlooked cause of secondary osteoporosis. Likewise, osteoporosis and fractures have been found in patients following surgery to remove part of the stomach (gastrectomy), especially in women. Bone loss is seen after gastric bypass surgery even in morbidly obese women who do not have low bone mass initially. Increased osteoporosis and fractures are also seen in patients with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Glucocorticoids, commonly used to treat both disorders, probably contribute to the bone loss. Similarly, diseases that impair liver function (primary biliary cirrhosis, chronic active hepatitis, cirrhosis due to hepatitis B and C, and alcoholic cirrhosis) may result in disturbances in vitamin D metabolism and may also cause bone loss by other mechanisms. Primary biliary cirrhosis is associated with particularly severe osteoporosis. Fractures are more frequent in patients with alcoholic cirrhosis than any other types of liver disease, although this may be related to the increased risk of falling among heavy drinkers. Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infected patients also have a higher prevalence of osteopenia or osteoporosis. This may involve multiple endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic factors and may also be affected by the antiviral therapy that HIV patients receive.

[0156] Autoimmune and allergic disorders are associated with bone loss and increased fracture risk. This is due not only to the effect of immobilization and the damage to bone by the products of inflammation from the disorders themselves, but

also from the glucocorticoids that are used to treat these conditions. Rheumatic diseases like lupus and rheumatoid arthritis have both been associated with lower bone mass and an increased risk of fractures.

[0157] Many neurologic disorders are associated with impaired bone health and an increased risk of fracture. This may be due in part to the effects of these disorders on mobility and balance or to the effects of drugs used in treating these disorders on bone and mineral metabolism. For example, patients with stroke, spinal cord injury, or neurologic disorders show rapid bone loss in the affected areas. There are many disabling conditions that can lead to bone loss, such as cerebral palsy, as well as diseases affecting nerve and muscle, such as poliomyelitis and multiple sclerosis. Children and adolescents with these disorders are unlikely to achieve optimal peak bone mass, due both to an increase in bone resorption and a decrease in bone formation. In some cases very rapid bone loss can produce a large enough increase in blood calcium levels to produce symptoms. Fractures are common in these individuals not only because of bone loss, but also because of muscular weakness and neurologic impairment that increases the likelihood of falls. Bone loss can be slowed—but not completely prevented—by antiresorptive therapy. Epilepsy is another neurologic disorder that increases the risk of bone disease, primarily because of the adverse effects of anti-epileptic drugs. Many of the drugs used in epilepsy can impair vitamin D metabolism, probably by acting on the liver enzyme which converts vitamin D to 25 hydroxy vitamin D. In addition, there may be a direct effect of these agents on bone cells. Due to the negative bone-health effects of drugs, most epilepsy patients are at risk of developing osteoporosis. In those who have low vitamin D intakes, intestinal malabsorption, or low sun exposure, the additional effect of anti-epileptic drugs can lead to osteomalacia.

[0158] Psychiatric disorders can also have a negative impact on bone health. While anorexia nervosa is the psychiatric disorder that is most regularly associated with osteoporosis, major depression, a much more common disorder, is also associated with low bone mass and an increased risk of fracture. Many studies show lower BMD in depressed patients. Higher scores for depressive symptoms have also been reported in women with osteoporosis. Yet what these studies do not make clear is whether major depression causes low BMD and increased fracture risk, or whether the depression is a consequence of the diminished quality of life and disability that occurs in many osteoporotic patients. One factor that may cause bone loss in severely depressed individuals is increased production of cortisol, the adrenal stress hormone. Whatever the cause of low BMD and increased fracture risk, measurement of BMD is appropriate in both men and women with major depression. While the response of individuals with major depression to calcium, vitamin D, or antiresorptive therapy has not been specifically documented, it would seem reasonable to provide these preventive measures to patients at high risk.

[0159] Aseptic necrosis (also called osteonecrosis or avascular necrosis) is a well-known skeletal disorder that may be a complication of injury, treatment with glucocorticoids, or alcohol abuse. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (emphysema and chronic bronchitis) is also now recognized as being associated with osteoporosis and fractures even in the absence of glucocorticoid therapy. Immobilization is clearly associated with rapid bone loss; patients with spinal cord lesions are at particularly high risk for fragility fractures.

However, even modest reductions in physical activity can lead to bone loss. Hematological disorders, particularly malignancies, are commonly associated with osteoporosis and fractures as well.

[0160] Osteoporosis can also be a side effect of particular medical therapies. Glucocorticoid-Induced Osteoporosis (GIO) is a common form of osteoporosis produced by drug treatment. With the increased use of prednisone and other drugs that act like cortisol for the treatment of many inflammatory and autoimmune diseases, this form of bone loss has become a major clinical concern. The concern is greatest for those diseases in which the inflammation itself and/or the immobilization caused by the illness also caused increased bone loss and fracture risk. Glucocorticoids, which are used to treat a wide variety of inflammatory conditions (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis, asthma, emphysema, chronic lung disease), can cause profound reductions in bone formation and may, to a lesser extent, increase bone resorption, leading to loss of trabecular bone at the spine and hip, especially in postmenopausal women and older men. The most rapid bone loss occurs early in the course of treatment, and even small doses (equivalent to 2.5-7.5 mg prednisone per day) are associated with an increase in fractures. The risk of fractures increases rapidly in patients treated with glucocorticoids, even before much bone has been lost. This rapid increase in fracture risk is attributed to damage to the bone cells, which results in less healthy bone tissue.

[0161] Cyclosporine A and tacrolimus are widely used in conjunction with glucocorticoids to prevent rejection after organ transplantation, and high doses of these drugs are associated with a particularly severe form of osteoporosis. Bone disease has also been reported with several frequently prescribed anticonvulsants, including diphenylhydantoin, phenobarbital, sodium valproate, and carbamazepine. Patients who are most at risk of developing this type of bone disease include those on long-term therapy, high medication doses, multiple anticonvulsants, and/or simultaneous therapy with medications that raise liver enzyme levels. Low vitamin D intake, restricted sun exposure, and the presence of other chronic illnesses increase the risk, particularly among elderly and institutionalized individuals. In contrast, high intakes of vitamin A (retinal) may increase fracture risk. Methotrexate, a folate antagonist used to treat malignancies and (in lower doses) inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, may also cause bone loss, although research findings are not consistent. In addition, gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) agonists, which are used to treat endometriosis in women and prostate cancer in men, reduce both estrogen and testosterone levels, which may cause significant bone loss and fragility fractures.

[0162] Rickets (which affects children) and osteomalacia (which affects adults) are conditions that can result from a delay in depositing calcium phosphate mineral in growing bones, thus leading to skeletal deformities, especially bowed legs. In adults, the equivalent disease is called osteomalacia. Since longitudinal growth has stopped in adults, deficient bone mineralization does not cause skeletal deformity but can lead to fractures, particularly of weight-bearing bones such as the pelvis, hip, and feet. Even when there is no fracture, many patients with rickets and osteomalacia suffer from bone pain and can experience severe muscle weakness. Rickets and osteomalacia are typically caused by any of a variety of environmental abnormalities. While rare, the disorder can also be inherited as a result of mutations in the gene producing the

enzyme that converts 25-hydroxy vitamin D to the active form, 1,25-dihydroxy vitamin D, or in the gene responsible for the vitamin D receptor. Osteomalacia can also be caused by disorders that cause marked loss of phosphorus from the body. This can concur as a congenital disorder or can be acquired in patients who have tumors that produce a protein that affects phosphorus transport in the kidney.

[0163] There is also a second form of rickets and osteomalacia that is caused by phosphate deficiency. This condition can be inherited (also known as X-linked hypophosphatemic rickets), but it is more commonly the result of other factors. Individuals with diseases affecting the kidney's ability to retain phosphate rapidly are at risk of this condition, as are those with diseases of the renal tubule that affect the site of phosphate reabsorption. While most foods are rich in phosphate, phosphate deficiency may also result from consumption of very large amounts of antacids containing aluminum hydroxide, which prevents the absorption of dietary phosphate. Rickets due to phosphate deficiency can also occur in individuals with acquired or inherited defects in acid secretion by the kidney tubule and those who take certain drugs that interfere with phosphate absorption or the bone mineralization process. There are also patients who develop tumors that secrete a factor that causes loss of phosphate from the body. This condition is called tumor-induced or oncogenic osteomalacia.

[0164] Patients with chronic renal disease are not only at risk of developing rickets and osteomalacia, but they are also at risk of a complex bone disease known as renal osteodystrophy. This condition is characterized by a stimulation of bone metabolism caused by an increase in parathyroid hormone and by a delay in bone mineralization that is caused by decreased kidney production of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D. In addition, some patients show a failure of bone formation, called adynamic bone disease.

[0165] Paget's disease of bone is a progressive, often crippling disorder of bone remodeling that commonly involves the spine, pelvis, legs, or skull (although any bone can be affected). If diagnosed early, its impact can be minimized. Individuals with this condition experience an increase in bone loss at the affected site due to excess numbers of overactive osteoclasts. While bone formation increases to compensate for the loss, the rapid production of new bone leads to a disorganized structure. The resulting bone is expanded in size and associated with increased formation of blood vessels and connective tissue in the bone marrow. Such bone becomes more susceptible to deformity or fracture. Depending on the location, the condition may produce no clinical signs or symptoms, or it may be associated with bone pain, deformity, fracture, or osteoarthritis of the joints adjacent to the abnormal bone. Paget's disease of bone can also cause a variety of neurological complications as a result of compression of nerve tissue by pagetic bone. In very rare cases (probably less than 1 percent of the time) the disease is complicated by the development of an osteosarcoma.

[0166] A large number of genetic and developmental disorders affect the skeleton. Among the more common and more important of these is a group of inherited disorders referred to as osteogenesis imperfecta or OI. Patients with this condition have bones that break easily (therefore, the condition is also known as brittle bone disease). There are a number of forms of OI that result from different types of genetic defects or mutations. These defects interfere with the body's production of type I collagen, the underlying protein structure

of bone. Most, but not all, forms of OI are inherited. The disease manifests through a variety of clinical signs and symptoms, ranging from severe manifestations that are incompatible with life (that is, causing a stillbirth) to a relatively asymptomatic disease. However, most OI patients have low bone mass (osteopenia) and as a result suffer from recurrent fractures and resulting skeletal deformities. There are four main types of OI, which vary according to the severity and duration of the symptoms. The most common form (Type I) is also the mildest version; and patients may have relatively few fractures. The second mildest form of the disease (which is called Type IV, because it was the fourth type of OI to be discovered) results in mild to moderate bone deformity, and sometimes in dental problems and hearing loss. These patients also sometimes have a blue, purple, or gray discoloration in the whites of their eyes, a condition known as blue sclera. A more severe form of the disease (Type III) results in relatively frequent fractures, and often in short stature, hearing loss, and dental problems. Finally, patients with the most severe form of the disease (Type II) typically suffer numerous fractures and severe bone deformity, generally leading to early death.

[0167] A large group of rare diseases (sclerosing bone disorders) can cause an increase in bone mass. Instead of overactive osteoclasts, osteopetrosis results from a variety of genetic defects that impair the ability of osteoclasts to resorb bone. This interferes with the normal development of the skeleton and leads to excessive bone accumulation. Although such bone is very dense, it is also brittle and thus fractures often result. In addition, by compressing various nerves, the excess bone in patients with osteopetrosis may cause neurological symptoms, such as deafness or blindness. These patients may also suffer anemia, as blood-forming cells in the bone marrow are "crowded out" by the excess bone. Similar symptoms can result from over-activity of these bone cells, as in fibrous dysplasia where bone-forming cells produce too much connective tissue.

[0168] Bone tumors can originate in the bone (these are known as primary tumors) or, much more commonly, result from the seeding of bone by tumors outside of the skeleton (these are known as metastatic tumors, since they have spread from elsewhere). Both types of tumors can destroy bone, although some metastatic tumors can actually increase bone formation. Primary bone tumors can be either benign (non-cancerous) or malignant (cancerous). The most common benign bone tumor is osteochondroma, while the most common malignant ones are osteosarcoma and Ewing's sarcoma. Metastatic tumors are often the result of breast or prostate cancer that has spread to the bone. These may destroy bone (osteolytic lesion) or cause new bone formation (osteoblastic lesion). Breast cancer metastases are usually osteolytic, while most prostate cancer metastases are osteoblastic, though they still destroy bone structure. Many tumor cells produce parathyroid hormone related peptide, which increases bone resorption. This process of tumor-induced bone resorption leads to the release of growth factors stored in bone, which in turn increases tumor growth still further.

[0169] Bone destruction also occurs in the vast majority (over 80 percent) of patients with another type of cancer, multiple myeloma, which is a malignancy of the plasma cells that produce antibodies. The myeloma cells secrete cytokines, substances that may stimulate osteoclasts and inhibit osteoblasts. The bone destruction can cause severe bone pain, pathologic fractures, spinal cord compression, and life-

threatening increases in blood calcium levels. A benign form of overproduction of antibodies, called monoclonal gammopathy, may also be associated with increased fracture risk.

[0170] Bone-resorbing cytokines are also produced in acute and chronic leukemia, Burkitt's lymphoma, and non-Hodgkins's lymphoma; patients with these chronic lymphoproliferative disorders often have associated osteoporosis. Both osteoporosis and osteosclerosis (thickening of trabecular bone) have been reported in association with systemic mastocytosis, a condition of abnormal mast cell proliferation. In addition, there are other infiltrative processes that affect bone, including infections and marrow fibrosis (myelofibrosis).

[0171] Levels of the OSTEORISKMARKERS can be determined at the protein or nucleic acid level using any method known in the art. For example, at the nucleic acid level, Northern and Southern hybridization analysis, as well as ribonuclease protection assays using probes which specifically recognize one or more of these sequences can be used to determine gene expression. Alternatively, levels of OSTEORISKMARKERS can be measured using reverse-transcription-based PCR assays (RT-PCR), i.e., using primers specific for the differentially expressed sequence of genes. Levels of OSTEORISKMARKERS can also be determined at the protein level, i.e., by measuring the levels of peptides encoded by the gene products described herein, or activities thereof. Such methods are well known in the art and include, i.e., immunoassays based on antibodies to proteins encoded by the genes, aptamers or molecular imprints. Any biological material can be used for the detection/quantification of the protein or its activity. Alternatively, a suitable method can be selected to determine the activity of proteins encoded by the marker genes according to the activity of each protein analyzed.

[0172] The OSTEORISKMARKER proteins, polypeptides, mutations, and polymorphisms thereof can be detected in any suitable manner, but are typically detected by contacting a sample from the subject with an antibody which binds the OSTEORISKMARKER protein, polypeptide, mutation, or polymorphism and then detecting the presence or absence of a reaction product. The antibody may be monoclonal, polyclonal, chimeric, or a fragment of the foregoing, as discussed in detail above, and the step of detecting the reaction product may be carried out with any suitable immunoassay. The sample from the subject is typically a biological fluid as described above, and may be the same sample of biological fluid used to conduct the method described above.

[0173] Immunoassays carried out in accordance with the present invention may be homogeneous assays or heterogeneous assays. In a homogeneous assay the immunological reaction usually involves the specific antibody (i.e., anti-OSTEORISKMARKER protein antibody), a labeled analyte, and the sample of interest. The signal arising from the label is modified, directly or indirectly, upon the binding of the antibody to the labeled analyte. Both the immunological reaction and detection of the extent thereof can be carried out in a homogeneous solution. Immunochemical labels which may be employed include free radicals, radioisotopes, fluorescent dyes, enzymes, bacteriophages, or coenzymes.

[0174] In a heterogeneous assay approach, the reagents are usually the sample, the antibody, and means for producing a detectable signal. Samples as described above may be used. The antibody can be immobilized on a support, such as a bead (such as protein A and protein G agarose beads), plate or slide, and contacted with the specimen suspected of containing the

antigen in a liquid phase. The support is then separated from the liquid phase and either the support phase or the liquid phase is examined for a detectable signal employing means for producing such signal. The signal is related to the presence of the analyte in the sample. Means for producing a detectable signal include the use of radioactive labels, fluorescent labels, or enzyme labels. For example, if the antigen to be detected contains a second binding site, an antibody which binds to that site can be conjugated to a detectable group and added to the liquid phase reaction solution before the separation step. The presence of the detectable group on the solid support indicates the presence of the antigen in the test sample. Examples of suitable immunoassays are oligonucleotides, immunoblotting, immunofluorescence methods, chemiluminescence methods, electrochemiluminescence or enzyme-linked immunoassays.

[0175] Those skilled in the art will be familiar with numerous specific immunoassay formats and variations thereof which may be useful for carrying out the method disclosed herein. See generally E. Maggio, *Enzyme-Immunoassay*, (1980) (CRC Press, Inc., Boca Raton, Fla.); see also U.S. Pat. No. 4,727,022 to Skold et al. titled "Methods for Modulating Ligand-Receptor Interactions and their Application," U.S. Pat. No. 4,659,678 to Forrest et al. titled "Immunoassay of Antigens," U.S. Pat. No. 4,376,110 to David et al., titled "Immunoassays Using Monoclonal Antibodies," U.S. Pat. No. 4,275,149 to Litman et al., titled "Macromolecular Environment Control in Specific Receptor Assays," U.S. Pat. No. 4,233,402 to Maggio et al., titled "Reagents and Method Employing Channeling," and U.S. Pat. No. 4,230,767 to Boguslaski et al., titled "Heterogenous Specific Binding Assay Employing a Coenzyme as Label."

[0176] Antibodies can be conjugated to a solid support suitable for a diagnostic assay (i.e., beads such as protein A or protein G agarose, plates, slides or wells formed from materials such as latex or polystyrene) in accordance with known techniques, such as passive binding. Antibodies as described herein may likewise be conjugated to detectable labels or groups such as radiolabels (i.e., ^{35}S , ^{125}I , ^{131}I), enzyme labels (i.e., horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase), and fluorescent labels (i.e., fluorescein, Alexa, green fluorescent protein) in accordance with known techniques.

[0177] Antibodies can also be useful for detecting post-translational modifications of OSTEORISKMARKER proteins, polypeptides, mutations, and polymorphisms, such as tyrosine phosphorylation, threonine phosphorylation, serine phosphorylation, glycosylation (i.e., O-GlcNAc). Such antibodies specifically detect the phosphorylated amino acids in a protein or proteins of interest, and can be used in immunoblotting, immunofluorescence, and ELISA assays described herein. These antibodies are well-known to those skilled in the art, and commercially available. Post-translational modifications can also be determined using metastable ions in reflector matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization-time of flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF) (Wirth, U. et al. (2002) *Proteomics* 2(10): 1445-51).

[0178] For OSTEORISKMARKER proteins, polypeptides, mutations, and polymorphisms known to have enzymatic activity, the activities can be determined in vitro using enzyme assays known in the art. Such assays include, without limitation, kinase assays, phosphatase assays, reductase assays, among many others. Modulation of the kinetics of enzyme activities can be determined by measuring the rate constant K_M using known algorithms, such as the Hill plot,

Michaelis-Menten equation, linear regression plots such as Lineweaver-Burk analysis, and Scatchard plot.

[0179] Using sequence information provided by the database entries for the OSTEORISKMARKER sequences, expression of the OSTEORISKMARKER sequences can be detected (if present) and measured using techniques well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. For example, sequences within the sequence database entries corresponding to OSTEORISKMARKER sequences, or within the sequences disclosed herein, can be used to construct probes for detecting OSTEORISKMARKER RNA sequences in, i.e., Northern blot hybridization analyses or methods which specifically, and, preferably, quantitatively amplify specific nucleic acid sequences. As another example, the sequences can be used to construct primers for specifically amplifying the OSTEORISKMARKER sequences in, i.e., amplification-based detection methods such as reverse-transcription based polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR). When alterations in gene expression are associated with gene amplification, deletion, polymorphisms, and mutations, sequence comparisons in test and reference populations can be made by comparing relative amounts of the examined DNA sequences in the test and reference cell populations.

[0180] Expression of the genes disclosed herein can be measured at the RNA level using any method known in the art. For example, Northern hybridization analysis using probes which specifically recognize one or more of these sequences can be used to determine gene expression. Alternatively, expression can be measured using reverse-transcription-based PCR assays (RT-PCR), i.e., using primers specific for the differentially expressed sequences. RNA can also be quantified using, for example, target amplification methods (TMA), bDNA methods such as signal amplification methods, and the like.

[0181] Alternatively, OSTEORISKMARKER protein and nucleic acid metabolites can be measured. The term "metabolite" includes any chemical or biochemical product of a metabolic process, such as any compound produced by the processing, cleavage or consumption of a biological molecule (i.e., a protein, nucleic acid, carbohydrate, or lipid). Metabolites can be detected in a variety of ways known to one of skill in the art, including the refractive index spectroscopy (RI), ultra-violet spectroscopy (UV), fluorescence analysis, radiochemical analysis, near-infrared spectroscopy (near-IR), nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR), light scattering analysis (LS), mass spectrometry, pyrolysis mass spectrometry, nephelometry, dispersive Raman spectroscopy, gas chromatography combined with mass spectrometry, liquid chromatography combined with mass spectrometry, matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization-time of flight (MALDI-TOF) combined with mass spectrometry, ion spray spectroscopy combined with mass spectrometry, capillary electrophoresis, NMR and IR detection. (See, WO 04/056456 and WO 04/088309, each of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety) In this regard, other OSTEORISKMARKER analytes can be measured using the above-mentioned detection methods, or other methods known to the skilled artisan. For example, circulating calcium ions (Ca^{2+}) can be detected in a sample using fluorescent dyes such as the Fluo series, Fura-2A, Rhod-2, among others.

Kits

[0182] The invention also includes an OSTEORISKMARKER-detection reagent, i.e., nucleic acids that specifi-

cally identify one or more OSTEORISKMARKER nucleic acids by having homologous nucleic acid sequences, such as oligonucleotide sequences, complementary to a portion of the OSTEORISKMARKER nucleic acids or antibodies to proteins encoded by the OSTEORISKMARKER nucleic acids packaged together in the form of a kit. The oligonucleotides can be fragments of the OSTEORISKMARKER genes. For example the oligonucleotides can be 200, 150, 100, 50, 25, 10 or less nucleotides in length. The kit may contain in separate containers a nucleic acid or antibody (either already bound to a solid matrix or packaged separately with reagents for binding them to the matrix), control formulations (positive and/or negative), and/or a detectable label. Instructions (i.e., written, tape, VCR, CD-ROM, etc.) for carrying out the assay may be included in the kit. The assay may for example be in the form of a Northern hybridization or a sandwich ELISA as known in the art.

[0183] For example, OSTEORISKMARKER detection reagents can be immobilized on a solid matrix such as a porous strip to form at least one OSTEORISKMARKER detection site. The measurement or detection region of the porous strip may include a plurality of sites containing a nucleic acid. A test strip may also contain sites for negative and/or positive controls. Alternatively, control sites can be located on a separate strip from the test strip. Optionally, the different detection sites may contain different amounts of immobilized nucleic acids, i.e., a higher amount in the first detection site and lesser amounts in subsequent sites. Upon the addition of test sample, the number of sites displaying a detectable signal provides a quantitative indication of the amount of OSTEORISKMARKERS present in the sample. The detection sites may be configured in any suitably detectable shape and are typically in the shape of a bar or dot spanning the width of a test strip.

[0184] Alternatively, the kit contains a nucleic acid substrate array comprising one or more nucleic acid sequences. The nucleic acids on the array specifically identify one or more nucleic acid sequences represented by OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191. In various embodiments, the levels of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 20, 25, 40 or 50 or more of the sequences represented by OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 can be identified by virtue of binding to the array. The substrate array can be on, i.e., a solid substrate, i.e., a "chip" as described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,744,305. Alternatively, the substrate array can be a solution array, i.e., Luminex, Cyvera, Vitra and Quantum Dots' Mosaic.

[0185] Suitable sources for antibodies for the detection of OSTEORISKMARKERS include commercially available sources such as, for example, Abnova, EA, Biotrend, Accurate Chemical, Abcam, US Biologicals, Chemicon, DSHB, Assay Design, Inc., Sigma, Biogenesis, R&D, Linscott, Alpha Diagnostic International, Novus Biologicals, Serotec, Genetex, Genway Biotech, Biodesign, Aviva Systems Biology, Taconic Farms, Biovision, QED Bioscience Inc, BD Biosciences Pharmingen, Affinity Bioreagents, Bender, Calbiochem, Antigenix America, EMD Biosciences, Alpco Diagnostics, Anaspec, Imgenex, Phoenix Peptide, Invitrogen, American Diagnostics, Cell Sciences, Immundiagnostik, eBioscience, and Perkin Elmer. However, the skilled artisan can routinely make antibodies, nucleic acid probes, i.e., oli-

gonucleotides, aptamers, siRNAs, antisense oligonucleotides, against any of the OSTEORISKMARKERS in Table 1.

OTHER EMBODIMENTS

[0186] It is to be understood that while the invention has been described in conjunction with the detailed description thereof, the foregoing description is intended to illustrate and not limit the scope of the invention, which is defined by the scope of the appended claims. Other aspects, advantages, and modifications are within the scope of the following claims.

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What is claimed is:

1. A method with a predetermined level of predictability for assessing a risk of development of osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or bone fracture in a subject comprising:
 - a. measuring the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a sample from the subject, and
 - b. measuring a clinically significant alteration in the level of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS in the sample, wherein the alteration indicates an increased risk of developing osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or bone fracture in the subject.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of OSTEORISKMARKERS is measured electrophoretically or immunochemically.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of OSTEORISKMARKERS is measured by RNA quantification.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the immunochemical detection is by radioimmunoassay, immunofluorescence assay or by an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject has not been previously diagnosed or identified as having osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or bone fracture.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is asymptomatic for osteoporosis, pre-osteoporosis, or bone fracture.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is serum, blood plasma, blood cells, endothelial cells, tissue biopsies, ascites fluid, bone marrow, interstitial fluid, sputum, cerebrospinal fluid, saliva, or urine.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of five or more OSTEORISKMARKERS is measured.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of ten or more OSTEORISKMARKERS is measured.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of twenty-five or more OSTEORISKMARKERS is measured.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of fifty or more OSTEORISKMARKERS is measured.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein the clinically significant alteration is compared to a reference value.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the reference value comprises an index value, or is derived from one or more risk prediction algorithms or computed indices for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

14. A method with a predetermined level of predictability for diagnosing or identifying a subject having osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis comprising:

- a. measuring the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a sample from the subject, and
- b. comparing the level of the effective amount of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS to a reference value.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the reference value is an index value.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the reference value is derived from one or more risk prediction algorithms or computed indices for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

17. The method of claim 14, wherein the sample is serum, blood plasma, blood cells, endothelial cells, tissue biopsies, ascites fluid, bone marrow, interstitial fluid, sputum, saliva, cerebrospinal fluid, or urine.

18. A method with a predetermined level of predictability for assessing the progression of osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis in a subject, comprising:

- a. detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a first sample from the subject at a first period of time;
- b. optionally detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS in a second sample from the subject at a second period of time;
- c. comparing the level of the effective amount of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS detected in step (a) to the amount detected in step (b), or to a reference value.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the subject has previously been diagnosed or identified as suffering from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the subject has previously been treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

21. The method of claim 18, wherein the subject has not been previously diagnosed or identified as suffering from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

22. The method of claim 18, wherein the subject is asymptomatic for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

23. The method of claim 18, wherein the first sample is taken from the subject prior to being treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

24. The method of claim 18, wherein the second sample is taken from the subject after being treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

25. The method of claim 18, wherein the reference value is derived from one or more subjects who have suffered from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

26. A method with a predetermined level of predictability for assessing the progression of diminished bone mass associated with osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis in a subject comprising:

- a. detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a first sample from the subject at a first period of time;

- b. optionally detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS in a second sample from the subject at a second period of time;
- c. comparing the level of the effective amount of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS detected in step (a) to the amount detected in step (b), or to a reference value.
27. The method of claim 26, wherein the subject is suffering from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
28. The method of claim 26, wherein the subject has previously been treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
29. The method of claim 26, wherein the subject has not been previously diagnosed or identified as having diminished bone mass or suffering from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
30. The method of claim 26, wherein the subject is asymptomatic for diminished bone mass, or is asymptomatic for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
31. The method of claim 26, wherein the first sample is taken from the subject prior to being treated for diminished bone mass, osteoporosis, or pre-osteoporosis.
32. The method of claim 26, wherein the second sample is taken from the subject after being treated for diminished bone mass, osteoporosis, or pre-osteoporosis.
33. The method of claim 26, wherein the reference value is derived from one or more subjects who have suffered from diminished bone mass, osteoporosis, or pre-osteoporosis.
34. A method with a predetermined level of predictability for monitoring the effectiveness of treatment for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis in a subject comprising:
- a. detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a first sample from the subject at a first period of time;
 - b. optionally detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS in a second sample from the subject at a second period of time;
 - c. comparing the level of the effective amount of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS detected in step (a) to the amount detected in step (b), or to a reference value, wherein the effectiveness of treatment is monitored by a change in the level of the effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS from the subject.
35. The method of claim 34, wherein the subject is suffering from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
36. The method of claim 34, wherein the subject has previously been treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
37. The method of claim 34, wherein the first sample is taken from the subject prior to being treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
38. The method of claim 34, wherein the second sample is taken from the subject after being treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
39. The method of claim 34, wherein the treatment for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis comprises exercise regimens, dietary supplements, therapeutic agents, and prophylactic agents.
40. The method of claim 34, wherein the reference value is derived from one or more subjects who show an improvement in osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis risk factors as a result of one or more treatments for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
41. The method of claim 34, wherein the effectiveness of treatment is additionally monitored by detecting changes in body mass index (BMI), changes in bone mass index, changes in bone mineral density, or combinations thereof.
42. The method of claim 41, wherein changes in bone mineral density are detected by a bone mineral density test.
43. A method with a predetermined level of predictability for selecting a treatment regimen for a subject diagnosed with or at risk for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis comprising:
- a. detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a first sample from the subject at a first period of time;
 - b. optionally detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS in a second sample from the subject at a second period of time;
 - c. comparing the level of the effective amount of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS detected in step (a) to a reference value, or optionally, to the amount detected in step (b).
44. The method of claim 43, wherein the subject is suffering from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
45. The method of claim 43, wherein the subject has previously been treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
46. The method of claim 43, wherein the subject has not been previously diagnosed or identified as suffering from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
47. The method of claim 43, wherein the first sample is taken from the subject prior to being treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
48. The method of claim 43, wherein the second sample is taken from the subject after being treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
49. The method of claim 43, wherein the treatment for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis comprises exercise regimens, dietary supplements, therapeutic agents, and prophylactic agents.
50. The method of claim 43, wherein the reference value is derived from one or more subjects who show an improvement in osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis risk factors as a result of one or more treatments for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
51. The method of claim 50, wherein the improvement is monitored by detecting a reduction in body mass index (BMI), an increase in bone mass index, an increase in bone mineral density, or combinations thereof.
52. The method of claim 51, wherein the increase in bone mineral density is measured by a bone mineral density test.
53. An osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis reference molecular profile, comprising a pattern of marker levels of an effective amount of one or more markers selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191, taken from one or more subjects who do not have osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
54. An osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis subject molecular profile, comprising a pattern of marker levels of an effective amount of one or more markers selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 taken from one or more subjects who have osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, are at risk for developing osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, or are being treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.
55. A kit comprising a plurality of OSTEORISKMARKER detection reagents that detect the corresponding OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191, sufficient to generate the profiles of claims 53 or 54.
56. The kit of claim 55, wherein the detection reagent comprises one or more antibodies or fragments thereof.

57. The kit of claim 55, wherein the detection reagent comprises one or more oligonucleotides.

58. The kit of claim 55, wherein the detection reagent comprises one or more aptamers.

59. A machine readable media containing one or more osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis reference molecular profiles according to claim 53, or one or more osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis subject molecular profiles according to claim 54, and optionally, additional test results and subject information.

60. An OSTEORISKMARKER panel comprising one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS that are indicative of one or more physiological functions or canonical molecular pathways associated with osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

61. The panel of claim 60, wherein the physiological functions are selected from the group consisting of: bone formation, bone resorption, osteoclast metabolism, osteocyte metabolism, osteoblast metabolism, calcium metabolism, bone mineralization and/or calcification, skeletal development, muscle cell metabolism, eicosanoid metabolism, other metabolism, and other bone-related physiology.

62. The panel of claim 60, wherein the panel comprises a combination of OSTEORISKMARKERS that are selected from one or more of physiological function associated OSTEORISKMARKER categories set forth in FIGS. 3 and 4.

63. The panel of claim 62, where one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS is selected from each of the physiological function associated categories.

64. The panel of claim 62, wherein the panel is selected from one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, or ten physiological function associated categories as set forth in FIG. 4 and according to panel combinations as set forth in FIG. 5.

65. The OSTEORISKMARKER panel of claim 64, further comprising additional OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from one or both physiological function associated categories of bone formation and bone absorption as set forth in FIG.

66. The panel of claim 60 wherein the panel comprises one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS that are indicative of bone resorption and/or bone formation associated with osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

67. The panel of claim 66, wherein the panel comprises one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS indicative of bone resorption or bone formation as set forth in FIG. 3, or combinations thereof.

68. The panel of claim 60 wherein the panel comprises one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS indicative of one or more canonical molecular pathways as set forth in FIGS. 1 and 2.

69. The panel of claim 68 where one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS is selected from each selected canonical molecular pathway.

70. An OSTEORISKMARKER panel comprising one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from at least one cluster of OSTEORISKMARKERS defined by the relative proximity of each OSTEORISKMARKER to other cluster member OSTEORISKMARKERS in and across canonical molecular pathways or by the relative correlation of each OSTEORISKMARKER with other cluster member OSTEORISKMARKERS.

71. The panel of claim 70, wherein the cluster is selected from the group consisting of Cluster 1, Cluster 2, Cluster 3, Cluster 4, Cluster 5, Cluster 6, Cluster 7, Cluster 8, Cluster 9, Cluster 10, and Cluster 11 as set forth in FIG. 6.

72. The panel of claim 71 where one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS is selected from each of the clusters of OSTEORISKMARKERS.

73. An OSTEORISKMARKER panel comprising a combination of the panel of claim 70 and the panel of claim 60.

74. A method for treating one or more subjects at risk for developing osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, comprising:

a. detecting the presence of increased levels of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS present in a sample from the one or more subjects; and

b. treating the one or more subjects with one or more bone mineral content-modulating drugs until altered levels of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS return to a baseline value measured in one or more subjects at low risk for developing osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis, or a baseline value measured in one or more subjects who show improvements in osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis risk markers as a result of treatment with one or more bone mineral content-modulating drugs.

75. The method of claim 74, wherein the bone mineral content-modulating drugs comprise alendronate, risedronate, etidronate, pamidronate, ibandronate, clodronate, raloxifene, tamoxifen, toremifene, teriparatide, strontium ranelate, recombinant peptide fragments of parathyroid hormone, estrogen/progesterone replacement therapies, monoclonal antibodies, inhibitors of receptor activator of nuclear factor κ B ligand (RANKL), inhibitors of cathepsin K, antagonists of integrin $\text{Av}\beta 3$, calcitonin, calcium supplements and vitamin D supplements; and combinations thereof.

76. The method of claim 74, wherein the improvements in osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis risk markers as a result of treatment with one or more bone mineral content-modulating drugs comprise a reduction in body mass index (BMI), an increase in bone mass index, an increase in bone mineral density, or combinations thereof.

77. The method of claim 76, wherein the increase in bone mineral density is measured by a bone mineral density test.

78. The method of claim 74, wherein the baseline value comprises a reference value.

79. The method of claim 78, wherein the reference value comprises an index value, or is derived from one or more risk prediction algorithms or computed indices for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis

80. A method of evaluating changes in the risk of bone fracture or diminished bone mass in a subject diagnosed with or at risk for developing pre-osteoporosis, comprising:

a. detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a first sample from the subject at a first period of time;

b. optionally detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS in a second sample from the subject at a second period of time;

c. comparing the level of the effective amount of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS detected in step (a) to a reference value, or optionally, the amount in step (b).

81. The method of claim 80, wherein the subject is suffering from pre-osteoporosis.

82. The method of claim 80, wherein the subject has previously been treated for pre-osteoporosis.

83. The method of claim 80, wherein the subject has not been previously diagnosed or identified as suffering from pre-osteoporosis.

84. The method of claim **80**, wherein the subject is asymptomatic for pre-osteoporosis.

85. The method of claim **80**, wherein the first sample is taken from the subject prior to being treated for pre-osteoporosis.

86. The method of claim **80**, wherein the second sample is taken from the subject after being treated for pre-osteoporosis.

87. The method of claim **80**, wherein the treatment for pre-osteoporosis comprises exercise regimens, dietary supplements, therapeutic agents, and prophylactic agents.

88. The method of claim **80**, wherein the reference value is derived from one or more subjects who have suffered from pre-osteoporosis.

89. A method of differentially diagnosing disease states associated with osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis in a subject comprising:

- a. detecting the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a sample from the subject; and
- b. comparing the level of the effective amount of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS detected in step (a) to the osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis disease subject molecular profile of claim **52**, or to a reference value.

90. The method of claim **89**, wherein the subject has not previously been diagnosed or identified as suffering from osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

91. The method of claim **89**, wherein the subject has not been previously treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

92. The method of claim **89**, wherein the subject has been previously treated for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

93. The method of claim **89**, wherein the subject is asymptomatic for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

94. In a method of diagnosing or identifying a subject at risk for developing osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis by analyzing osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis risk factors, the improvement comprising:

- a. measuring the level of an effective amount of one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS selected from the group consisting of OSTEORISKMARKERS 1-191 in a sample from the subject, and
- b. measuring a clinically significant alteration in the level of the one or more OSTEORISKMARKERS in the sample, wherein the alteration indicates an increased risk of developing osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis in the subject.

95. The method of claim **94**, wherein the clinically significant alteration is compared to a reference value.

96. The method of claim **95**, wherein the reference value comprises an index value, or is derived from one or more risk prediction algorithms or computed indices for osteoporosis or pre-osteoporosis.

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