

(72) Shen, Li, US
 (72) Fanger, Michael W., US
 (73) Trustees of Dartmouth College, US
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 (54) **ANTICORPS MONOCLONAL SPECIFIQUE POUR RECEPTEUR D'IGA**
 (54) **MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY SPECIFIC FOR IGA RECEPTOR**

(57) L'invention concerne des anticorps monoclonaux qui réagissent de manière spécifique au récepteur Fc pour IgA de cellules effectrices humaines. Les anticorps sont utiles pour cibler des cellules effectrices humaines (p. ex. des macrophages) contre une cellule cible (p. ex. une cellule cancéreuse, un agent infectieux, etc). A cet effet des anticorps bifonctionnels ou des hétéroanticorps peuvent être construits, lesquels contiennent la région de liaison dérivée d'un anticorps récepteur anti-Fc-alpha et la région de liaison d'un anticorps spécifique à la cible. Les cellules effectrices ciblées peuvent effectuer la lyse spécifique des cellules cibles.

(57) Monoclonal antibodies which react specifically to Fc receptor for IgA of human effector cells are disclosed. The antibodies are useful for targeting human effector cells (e.g: macrophages) against a target cell (e.g. a cancer cell, an infectious agent, etc.). For this purpose, bifunctional antibodies or heteroantibodies can be constructed containing the binding region derived from an anti-Fc-alpha receptor antibody and the binding region of a target-specific antibody. Targeted effector cells can specifically lyse target cells.



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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US90/06030 (22) International Filing Date: 19 October 1990 (19.10.90) (30) Priority data: 424,883 20 October 1989 (20.10.89) US (71) Applicant: TRUSTEES OF DARTMOUTH COLLEGE [US/US]; 311 McNutt Hall, P.O. Box 7, Hanover, NH 03755 (US). (72) Inventors: SHEN, Li ; Rural Route Box 29, Thetford Cen- ter, VT 05075 (US). FANGER, Michael, W. ; Rural Route 1, Box 421, Lebanon, NH 03766 (US).		(74) Agents: DeCONTI, Giulio, A., Jr. et al.; Lahive & Cock- field, 60 State Street, Boston, MA 02109 (US). (81) Designated States: AT (European patent), BE (European patent), CA, CH (European patent), DE (European pa- tent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), GR (Euro- pean patent), IT (European patent), JP, LU (European patent), NL (European patent), SE (European patent). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY SPECIFIC FOR IgA RECEPTOR (57) Abstract Monoclonal antibodies which react specifically to Fc receptor for IgA of human effector cells are disclosed. The antibodies are useful for targeting human effector cells (e.g. macrophages) against a target cell (e.g. a cancer cell, an infectious agent, etc.). For this purpose, bifunctional antibodies or heteroantibodies can be constructed containing the binding region derived from an anti-Fc-alpha receptor antibody and the binding region of a target-specific antibody. Targeted effector cells can specifically lyse target cells.		

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MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY SPECIFIC FOR IgA RECEPTORBackground

Receptors for the Fc portion of immunoglobulin are important in triggering many of the protective
05 functions of monocytes, macrophages and polymorphonuclear cells. While receptors for IgG on these cells have been extensively investigated, it is becoming evident that receptors for IgA are also capable of promoting effector functions of these cells
10 and that IgE may stimulate some activities of monocytes. While soluble IgA binds IgA receptor with poor avidity, polymerized IgA has been demonstrated to trigger functions such as superoxide generation and phagocytosis.

15 Summary of the Invention

This invention pertains to monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to Fc receptor for IgA (Fc-alpha receptor) on an effector cells such as a monocytes, polymorphonuclear cells and macrophages and which can
20 trigger Fc-alpha-receptor-mediated effector function. The antibody (or fragment thereof) can be linked (chemically or genetically) to an antibody (or fragment thereof) specific for a target antigen to form a bispecific antibody or heteroantibody. These
25 bispecific molecules can be used direct effector cells to cell bearing the target antigen, resulting in cytolysis of the cell.

Detailed Description of the Invention

The antibody of this invention binds the Fc-alpha
30 receptor (FcRI) for human IgA. The monoclonal

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anti-Fc-alpha receptor antibody of this invention can be produced by conventional monoclonal antibody methodology e.g., the standard somatic cell hybridization technique of Kohler and Milstein, Nature 256: 495 (1975). Although
05 somatic cell hybridization procedures are preferred, in principle, other techniques for producing monoclonal antibody can be employed e.g., viral or oncogenic transformation of B lymphocytes.

Human cells bearing Fc-alpha receptor can be used
10 to immunize an animal for production of monoclonal antibody. Alternatively, the receptor for immunization of an animal can be prepared from lysates of human cells which express the receptor, e.g., a human monocytic cell. In another mode, a partially purified
15 preparation of the receptor can be made by lysing receptor-bearing cells and then purifying the receptor by immunoadsorbant chromatography. Cells can be lysed in a buffer containing a detergent such as NP40. The immunoadsorbent can be prepared by attaching human IgA
20 to a water-insoluble material such as an activated SepharoseTM resin. The Sepharose resin with attached human IgA is poured into a column. The cell lysate is passed through the column under conditions which permit adsorption of the cellular Fc receptor protein
25 by the IgA coupled to the resin. The adsorbed Fc receptor protein can be eluted with a mildly acidic elution buffer. The purified receptor can then be used for immunization of an animal to produce anti-receptor monoclonal antibody.

30 The preferred animal system for preparing hybridomas is the murine system. Hybridoma production in the mouse is a very well-established procedure. Immunization protocols and techniques for isolation of immunized splenocytes for fusion are well known in the art. Fusion

partners (e.g., murine myeloma cells) and fusion procedures are also well known.

Employing the methodology described, a monoclonal antibody (mAb) My 43 of the IgM class which binds specifically to monocyte and polymorphonuclear cell IgA mediated receptors, based on its ability to block IgA mediated rosettes and phagocytosis. This antibody recognizes a surface molecule which triggers function since monocytes and PMNs secrete superoxide when treated with this antibody. Additional technical information on My 43 is reported in Shen, L., *Immunology* 68 : 491-496 (1989) and Shen, L. et al., *J. Immunol.* 143 (12) :4117-4122 (1989).

A hybridoma cell line producing monoclonal anti-human Fc-alpha receptor My43 was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, Md. 20852 on 12 June 1996 and has been assigned ATCC Designation No. HB-12128.

The antibodies of this invention can be used to target effector cells bearing Fc-alpha receptor. To target effector cells, bifunctional antibodies or hetero-antibodies are employed. These antibodies have dual antigen binding specificity-- one specificity for the Fc-alpha receptor and on specificity for an epitope of the target cell. The Fc receptor specificity mediates linkage to the effector cell through a known cytotoxic trigger molecule. The target cell specificity provides for recognition and binding to the target cell.

Bifunctional antibodies are single, divalent antibodies which have two different antigen binding sites. Bifunctional antibodies for targeting have one binding site for Fc receptor and one binding site for a target cell epitope.

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Heteroantibodies are two or more antibodies or antibody binding fragments (Fab) linked together, each antibody or fragment having a different specificity. Heteroantibodies for targeting comprise an antibody or antigen binding fragment specific for Fc receptor for IgA, coupled to an antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof specific for a target cell epitope.

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Bifunctional antibodies can be produced by chemical techniques (see e.g., D. M. Kranz et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 78,5807 (1981)) by "polydoma" techniques (See U.S. Patent 4,474,893, to Reading) or by recombinant DNA techniques. Heteroantibodies can be prepared by conjugating Fc receptor antibody with antibody specific for an epitope of a target cell. A variety of coupling or crosslinking agents can be used to conjugate the antibodies. Examples are protein A, carboiimide, and N-succinimidyl-3-(2-pyridyldithio) propionate (SPDP). SPDP is the preferred agent; procedures for crosslinking antibodies with this agent are known in the art. See e.g., Karpovsky et al., (1984) J. Exp. Med. 160:1686; Liu, M.A. et al., (1985) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA 82:8648.

Employing the SPDP agent, bi-Specific antibodies of the monoclonal antibody My 43 and Fab anti-erythrocyte antibodies were prepared and shown to promote phagocytosis by monocytes (whereas bi-specific antibodies of anti-RBC x-anti-beta₂ microglobulin did not). In comparative studies on phagocytosis, an average of 52% of monocytes ingested IgKG coated red cells and 32% ingested cells coated with My 43 bi-specific antibodies.

Target cells are cells whose elimination would be beneficial to the host. One important type of cell is a tumor cell. Effector cells can be targeted with bi-functional or heteroantibody having specificity for FcRI and specificity for a tumor associated or tumor specific antigen.

Antibodies with a desired tumor specificity for production of bifunctional antibody or hetero-antibody can be produced or can be selected from available sources. Monoclonal antibodies against

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tumor-associated antigens can be made by the methods of Koprowski et al., U.S. Patent 4,172,124. Many suitable anti-cancer antibodies are presently available.

Specific anti-tumor antibodies would include, but
05 not be limited to:

<u>Antibody</u>	<u>Specificity</u>
AML-2-23, PM-81, PMN-6, PMN-19	Myeloid Leukemia
SCCL-1, SCCL-175	Small Cell Carcinoma of the Lung
OC1-25, OVCT-3	Ovarian Carcinoma
COL-1, COL-2, COL-3, ... COL-13	Colon Carcinoma

In addition to tumor cells, the effector cell can be targeted against auto-antibody producing lymphocyte for treatment of autoimmune disease or an IgE-producing lymphocyte for treatment of allergy. The target can also
10 be microorganism (bacterium or virus) or a soluble antigen (such as rheumatoid factor or other auto-
-antibodies).

Effector cells for targeting are human leukocytes, preferably macrophages. Other cells would include
15 monocytes and other IgA-receptor bearing cells. If desired, effector cells for targeting can be obtained from the host to be treated.

The targeted effector cells can be administered as a suspension of cells in a physiologically acceptable
20 solution. The number of cells administered can be in the order of 10^8 - 10^9 but will vary depending on the therapeutic purpose. In general, the amount will be sufficient to obtain localization at the target cell and to effect target cell killing by antibody dependent mediated
25 cytolysis (ADCC). Routes of administration can

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also vary. In tumor therapy, for instance, depending upon the localization of a tumor, the targeted effector cells could be administered intravenously, or directly into tumor sites; as for example, directly into the
05 peritoneal cavity in the case of ovarian carcinoma.

Therapy with targeted effector cells can be performed in conjunction with other techniques for removal of targeted cells. For example, anti-tumor therapy with bifunctional antibodies and/or effector
10 cells armed with bifunctional (hetero)antibody can be used in conjunction with surgery, chemotherapy or radiotherapy. Additionally, combination immunotherapy may be used to direct two distinct cytotoxic effector populations toward tumor cell rejection. For example, anti-
15 tumor antibodies linked to anti-Fc-gammaRI or anti-T3 (will trigger cytolytic T lymphocytes to lyse tumor cells) may be used in conjunction with IgA-receptor specific heteroantibodies. Protocols based on these concepts may be especially effective in removing residual
20 tumor cells in patients induced into remission by chemotherapy and irradiation.

The anti-Fc-alpha receptor antibody of this invention has additional utility in therapy and diagnosis. The Fc receptor antibody itself can be a
25 targeting antibody (i.e., to target for cells bearing Fc-alpha receptor). For example, the antibody can be used to target lipid vesicles containing anticancer drugs for treatment of certain hematological cancers (e.g. acute myeloid leukemia), or to target lipid vesicles
30 containing factors (such as gamma-IFN) which activate monocytes. The antibody, if of the appropriate murine IgG subclass (e.g., IgG2a), can be used directly in vivo to eliminate Fc-alpha-receptor-bearing cells (e.g.,

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myeloid leukemia cells) via natural complement or ADCC mechanisms.

Equivalents

05 Those skilled in the art will recognize, or be able to ascertain using no more than routine experimentation, many equivalents to the specific embodiments of the invention described herein. Such equivalents are intended to be encompassed by the following claims.

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Claims

1. A monoclonal antibody, or active fragment thereof, specific for human Fc receptor for IgA which can trigger Fc-receptor-mediated effector cell activity.
2. Monoclonal anti-Fc-alpha antibody My 43.
3. A bifunctional antibody or heteroantibody comprising:
 - a. at least one antigen binding region derived from a human anti-Fc-alpha receptor antibody which can trigger Fc-receptor-mediated effector cell activity; and
 - b. at least one antigen binding region specific for a target epitope.
4. A bifunctional antibody or heteroantibody of claim 3, wherein the target epitope is located on a tumor cell.
5. A heteroantibody comprising:
 - a. Fab derived from a human anti-Fc-alpha receptor antibody which can trigger Fc-receptor-mediated effector cell activity; and
 - b. Fab specific for at least one antigen binding region specific for a target epitope.
6. A hybridoma cell line which produces an antibody specific for human Fc receptor for IgA which can trigger Fc-receptor-mediated effector cell antibody.

7. The monoclonal antibody of claim 1, or active fragment thereof, for use in any one of: (a) targeting cells bearing Fc α receptors; (b) targeting lipid vesicles containing anticancer drugs for treatment of cancers; (c) targeting cells or lipid vesicles containing factors which activate monocytes; and (d) *in vivo* elimination of Fc α -receptor-bearing cells via natural complement or ADCC mechanisms.
8. The monoclonal antibody of Claim 7, wherein said cancer is acute myeloid leukaemia.
9. The monoclonal antibody of claim 7, wherein said factors which activate monocytes are gamma-IFN.
10. A diagnostic method comprising targeting cells bearing Fc α receptors with a monoclonal antibody, or active fragment thereof, specific for human Fc receptor for IgA which can trigger Fc- receptor-mediated effector cell activity.
11. Use of the monoclonal antibody of claim 1, or active fragment thereof, for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or diagnosis by any one of: targeting cells bearing Fc α receptor; targeting lipid vesicles containing anticancer

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drugs for treatment of cancers; targeting cells or lipid vesicles containing factors which activate monocytes; and *in-vivo* elimination of Fc α -receptor bearing cells via natural complement or ADCC mechanisms.

12. Use of the bifunctional antibody or heteroantibody of any one of claims 3-5, for the manufacture of a medicament for any one of: the treatment of autoimmune disease; the treatment of allergies; and the treatment of tumours.

13. The bifunctional antibody or heteroantibody of any one of claims 3-5, for use in any one of: tumour therapy; treatment of autoimmune disease; and treatment of allergies.