



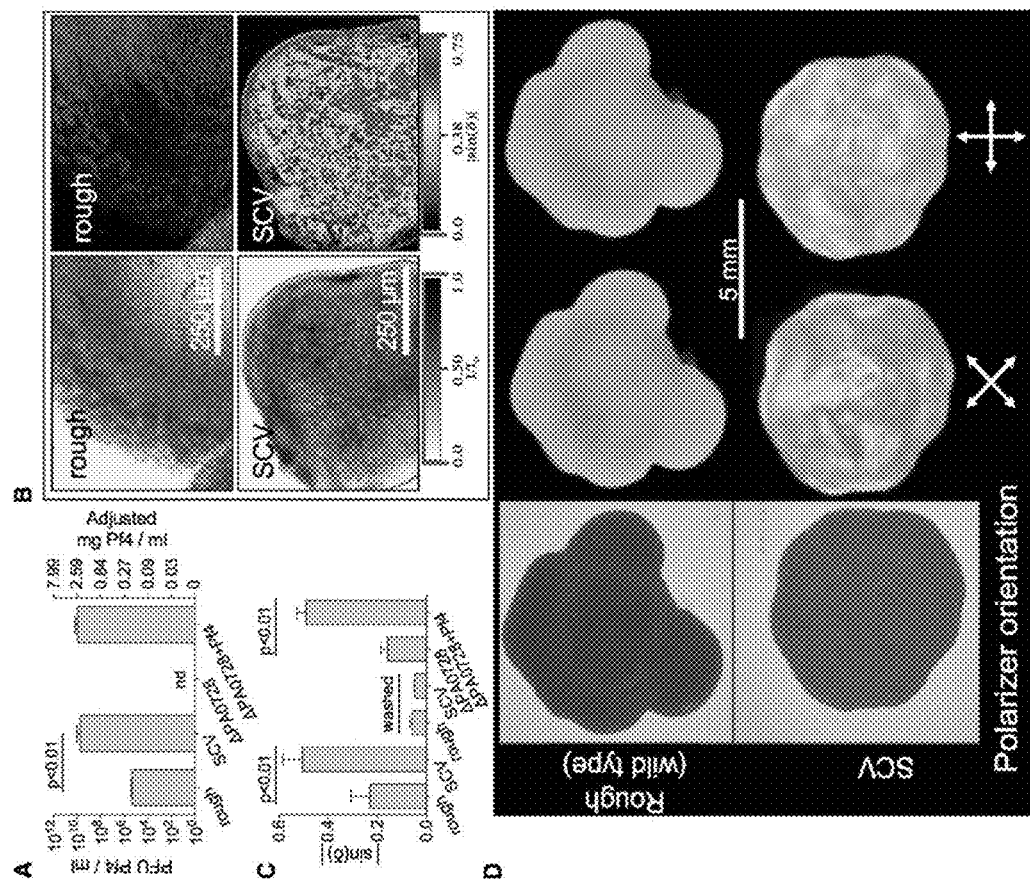
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(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Bollyky et al.(10) **Pub. No.: US 2017/0021020 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Jan. 26, 2017**(54) **MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY AND VACCINE
TARGETING FILAMENTOUS
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William Parks, Seattle, WA (US);
Patrick Secor, Seattle, WA (US)(21) Appl. No.: **15/219,073**(22) Filed: **Jul. 25, 2016****Related U.S. Application Data**(60) Provisional application No. 62/196,147, filed on Jul.
23, 2015.**Publication Classification**(51) **Int. Cl.****A61K 39/395** (2006.01)**A61K 45/06** (2006.01)**C07K 16/08** (2006.01)**A61K 39/12** (2006.01)**C12N 7/00** (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.**CPC **A61K 39/39575** (2013.01); **A61K 39/12**
(2013.01); **C12N 7/00** (2013.01); **C07K 16/08**
(2013.01); **A61K 45/06** (2013.01); **C12N**
2795/00034 (2013.01); **A61K 2039/58**
(2013.01)

(57)

ABSTRACT

Described here is a method for reducing or preventing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* biofilm formation in a human subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the human subject a first composition comprising (a) an antigen-binding polypeptide that binds Pf-family bacteriophage, or (b) a vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage. Also described is an antigen-binding polypeptide that binds specifically to a CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage or fragment thereof.



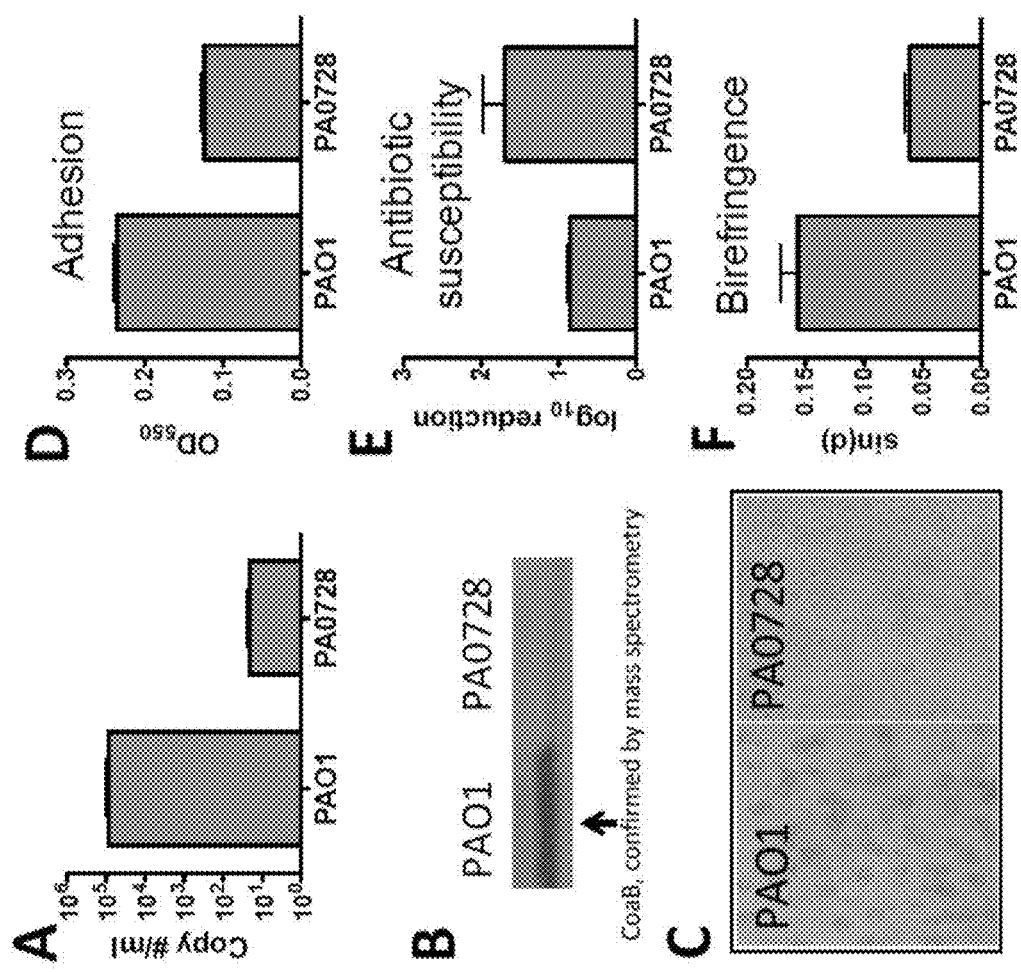


FIG. 2

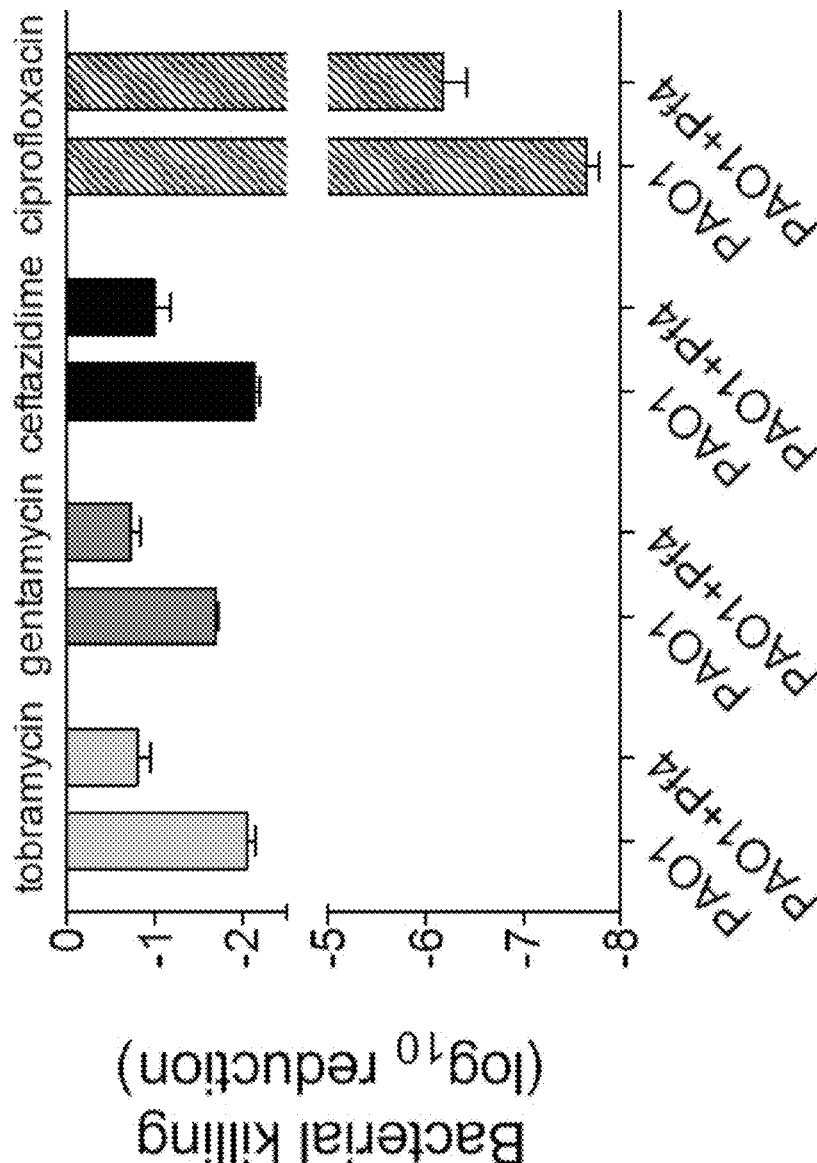


FIG. 3

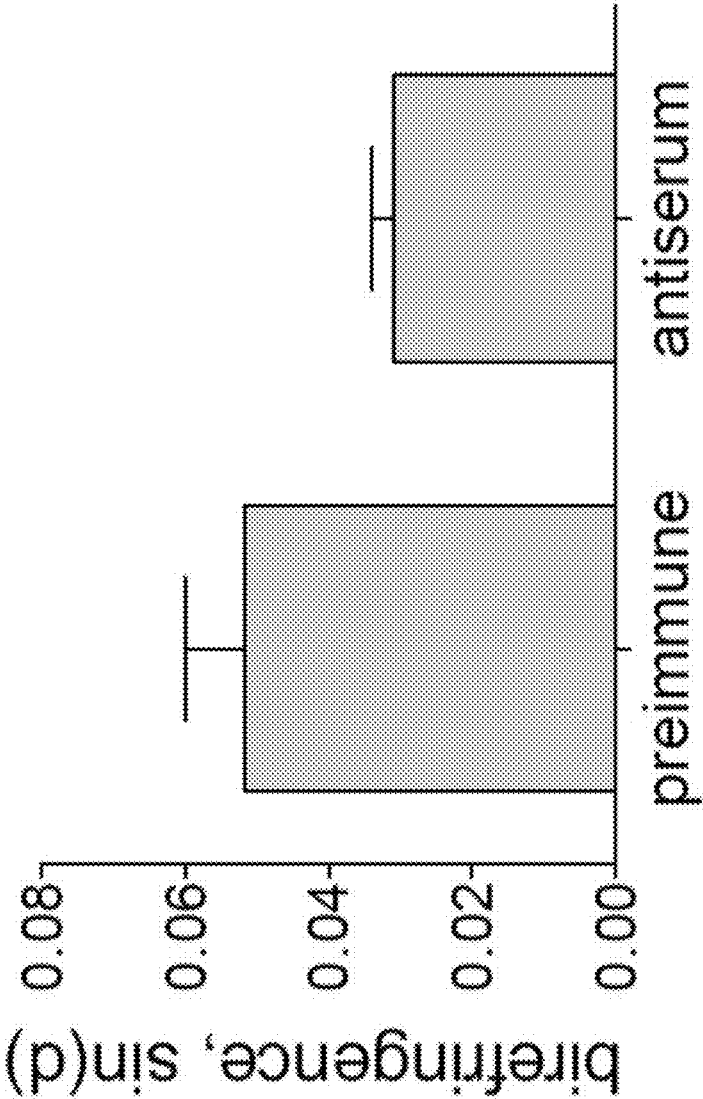


FIG. 4

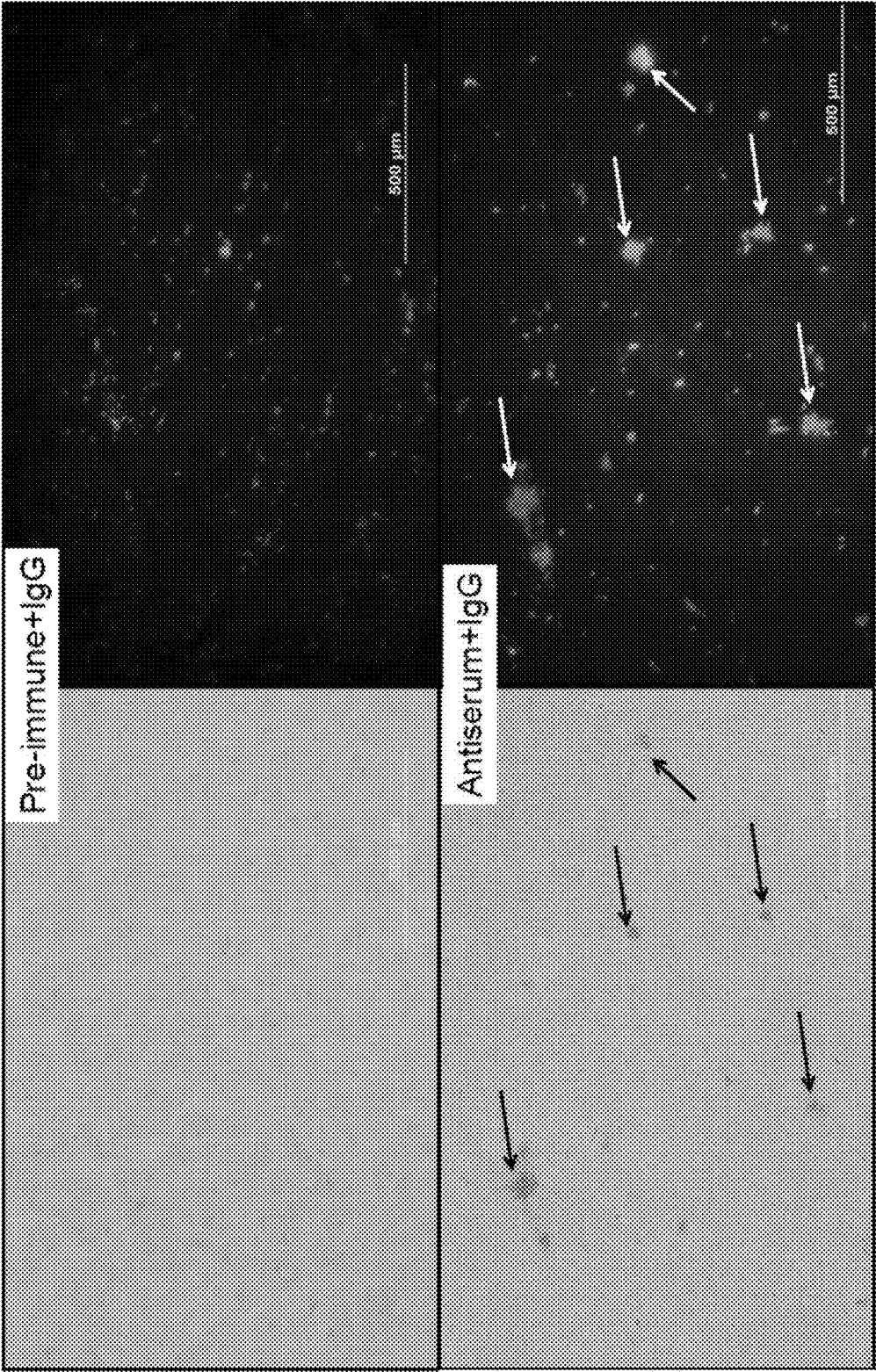


FIG. 5

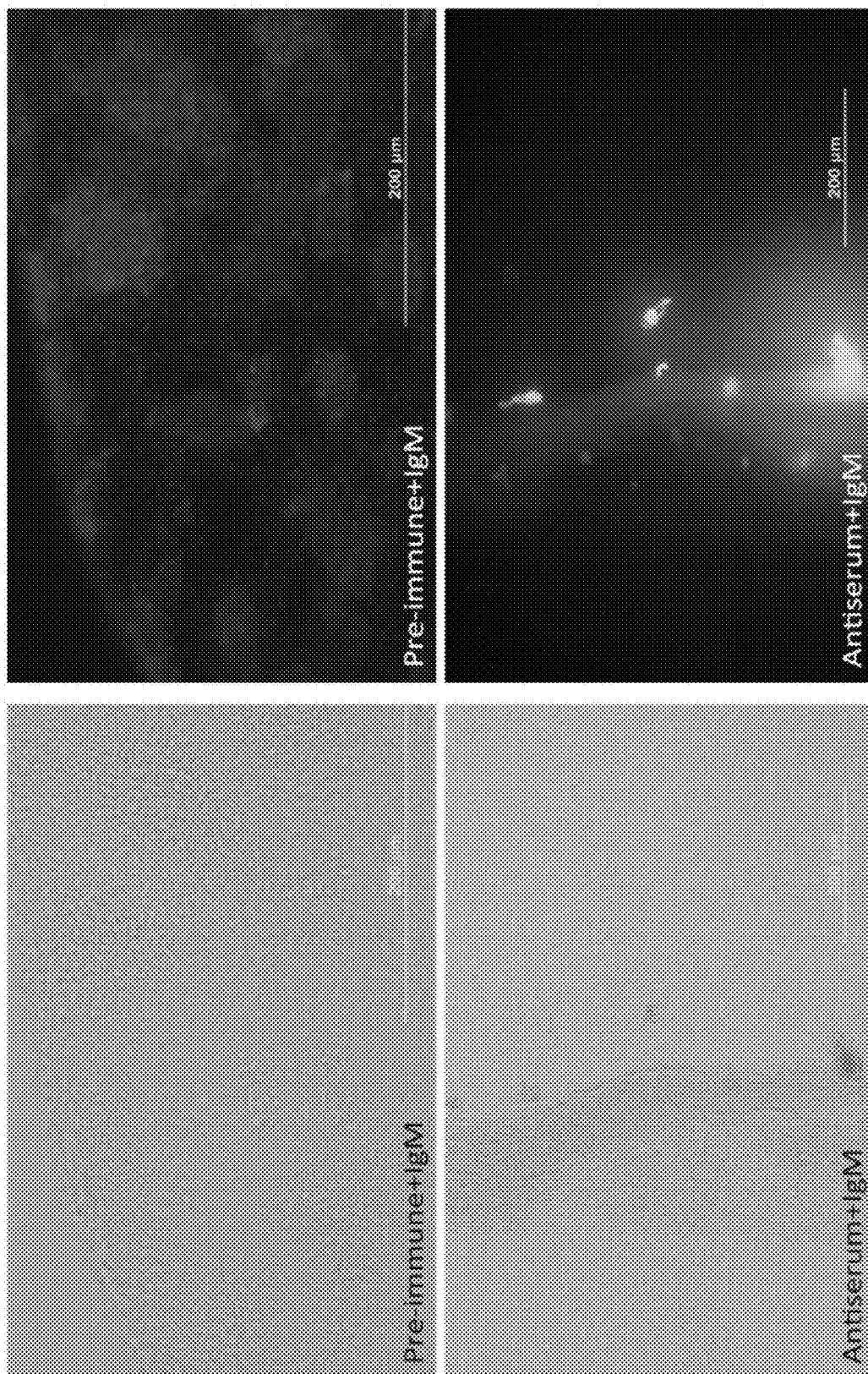


FIG. 6

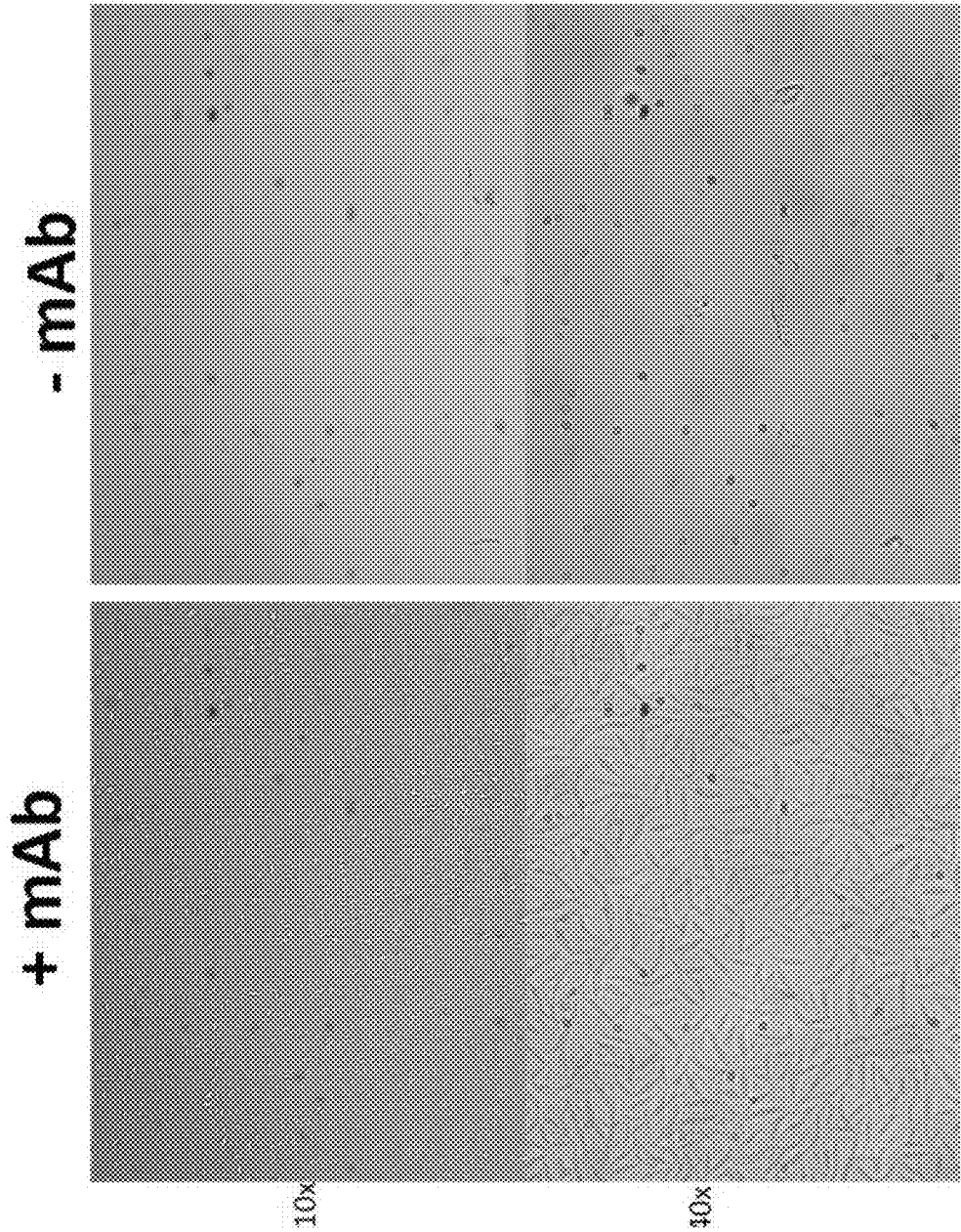


FIG. 7

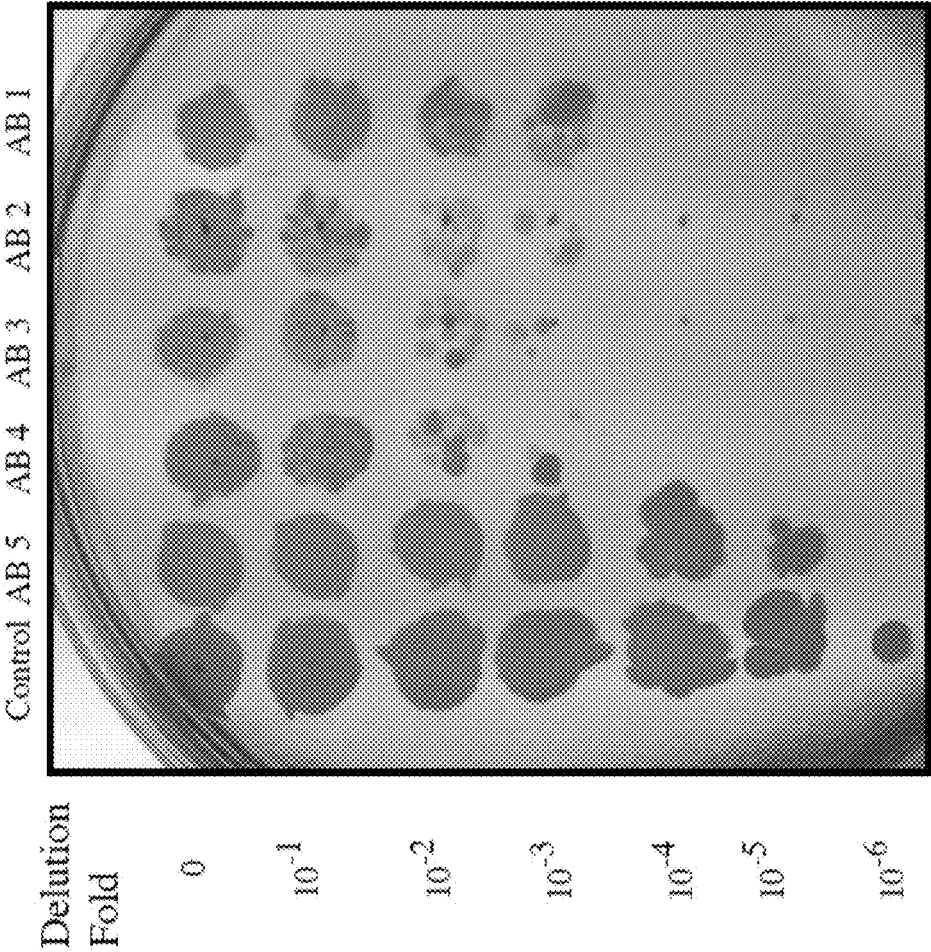


FIG. 8

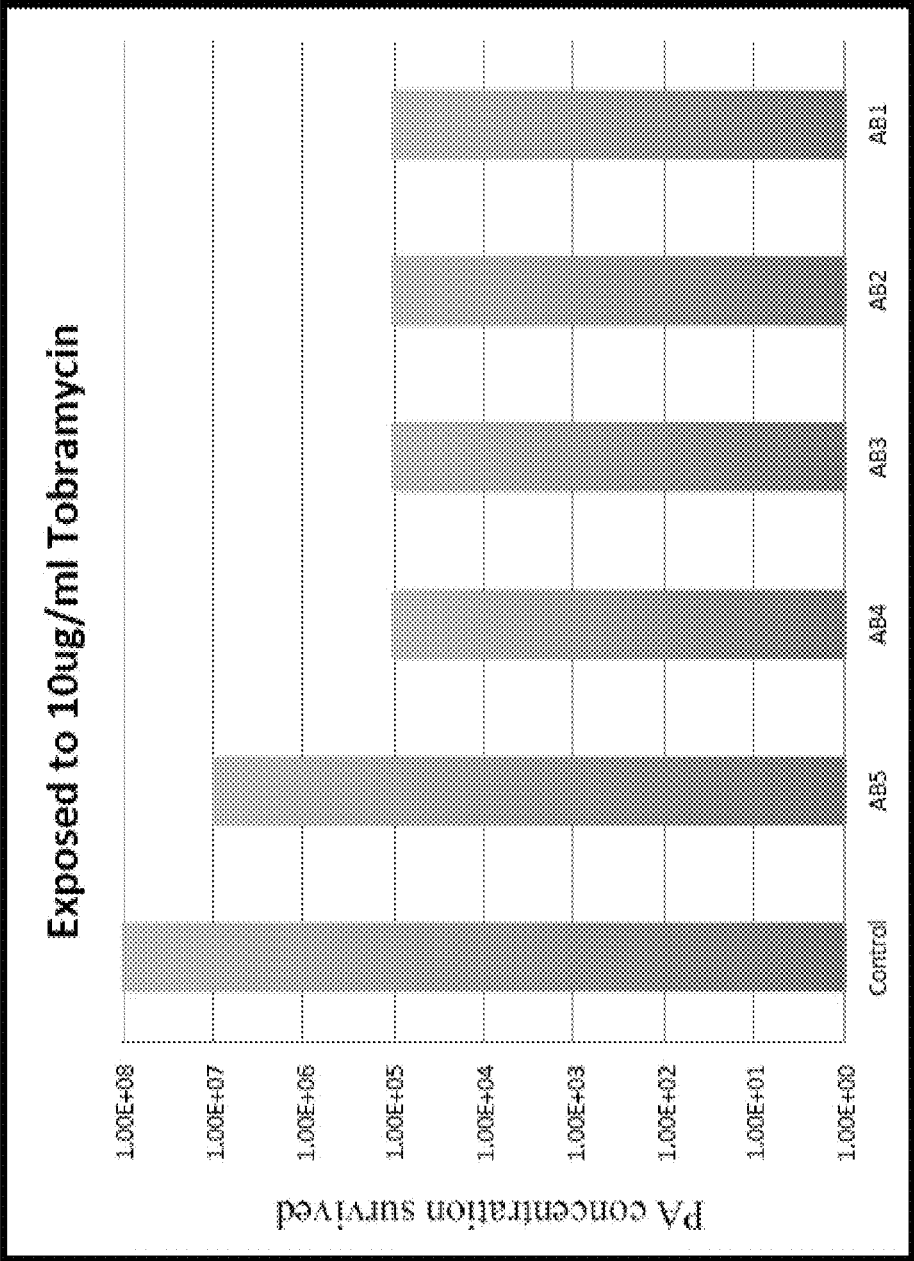
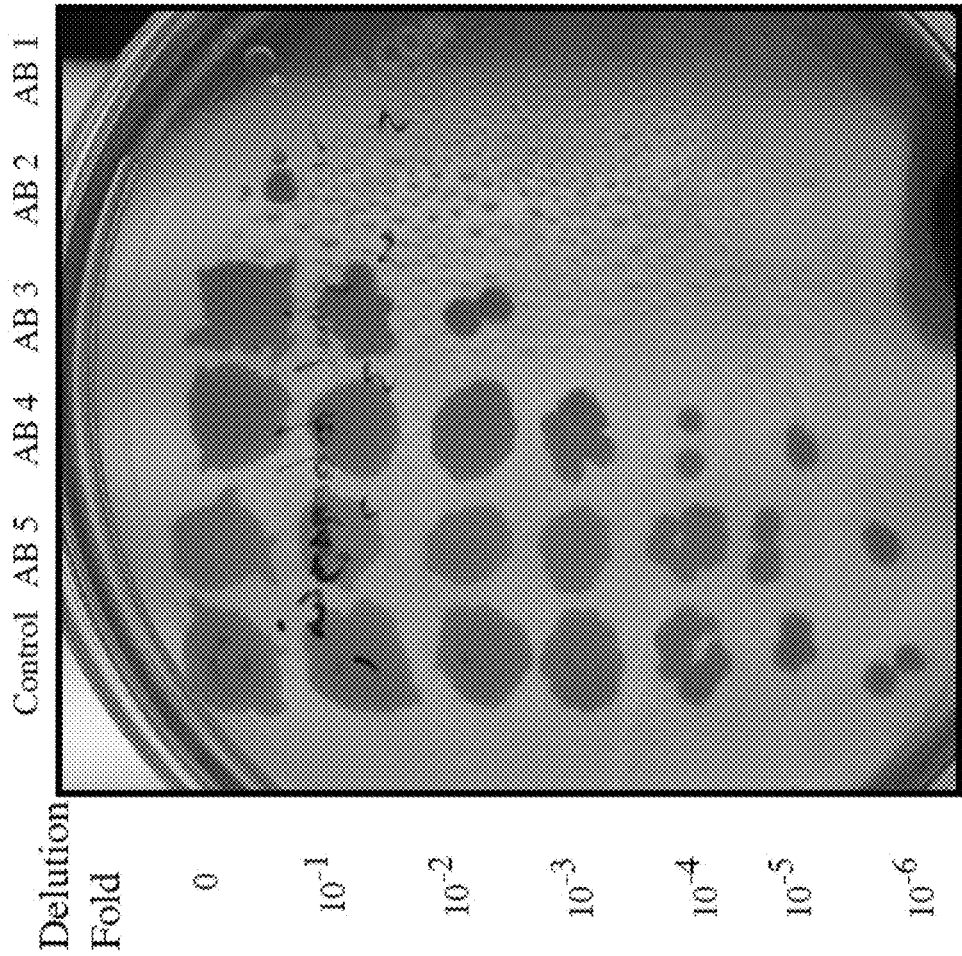


FIG. 9



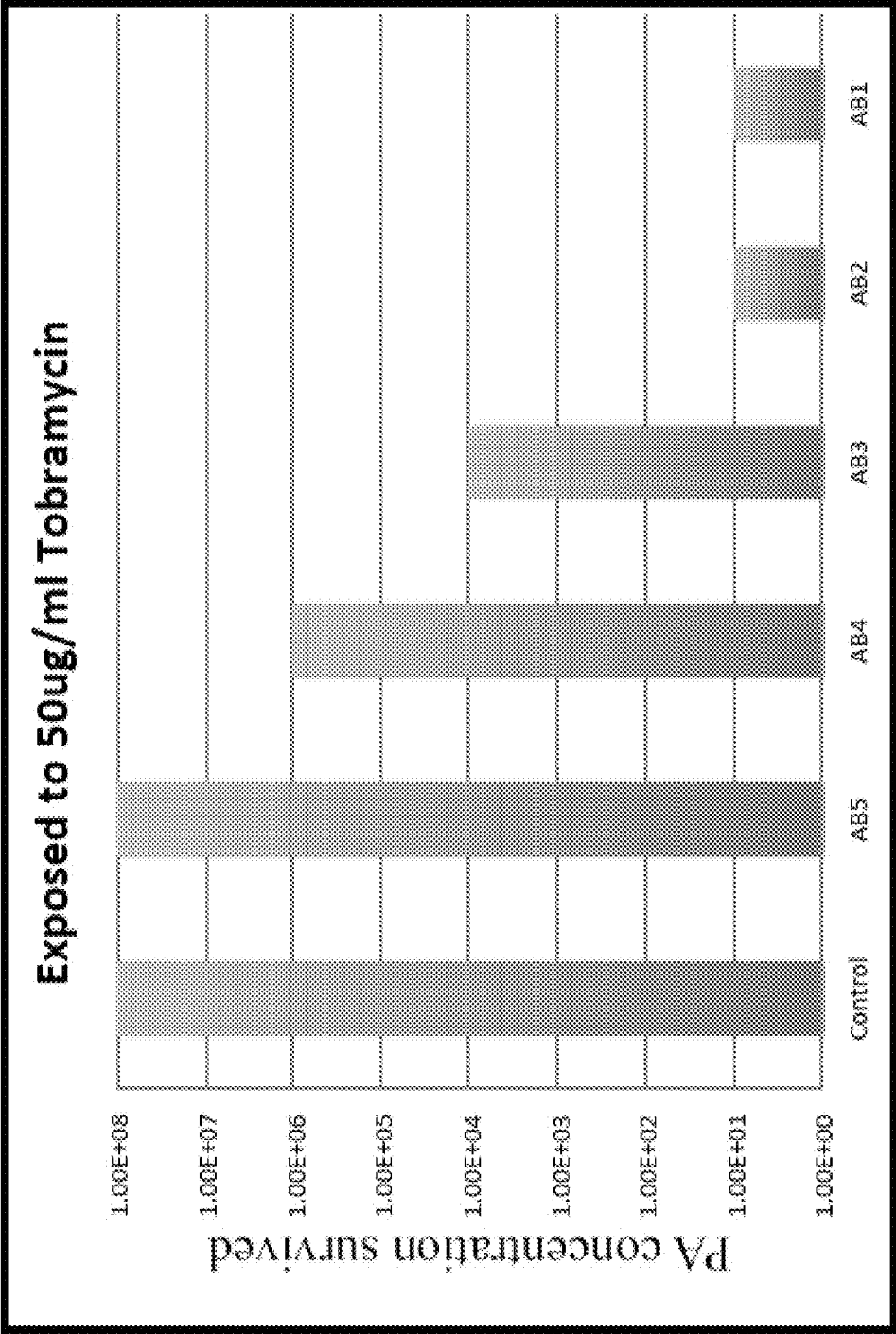


FIG. 11

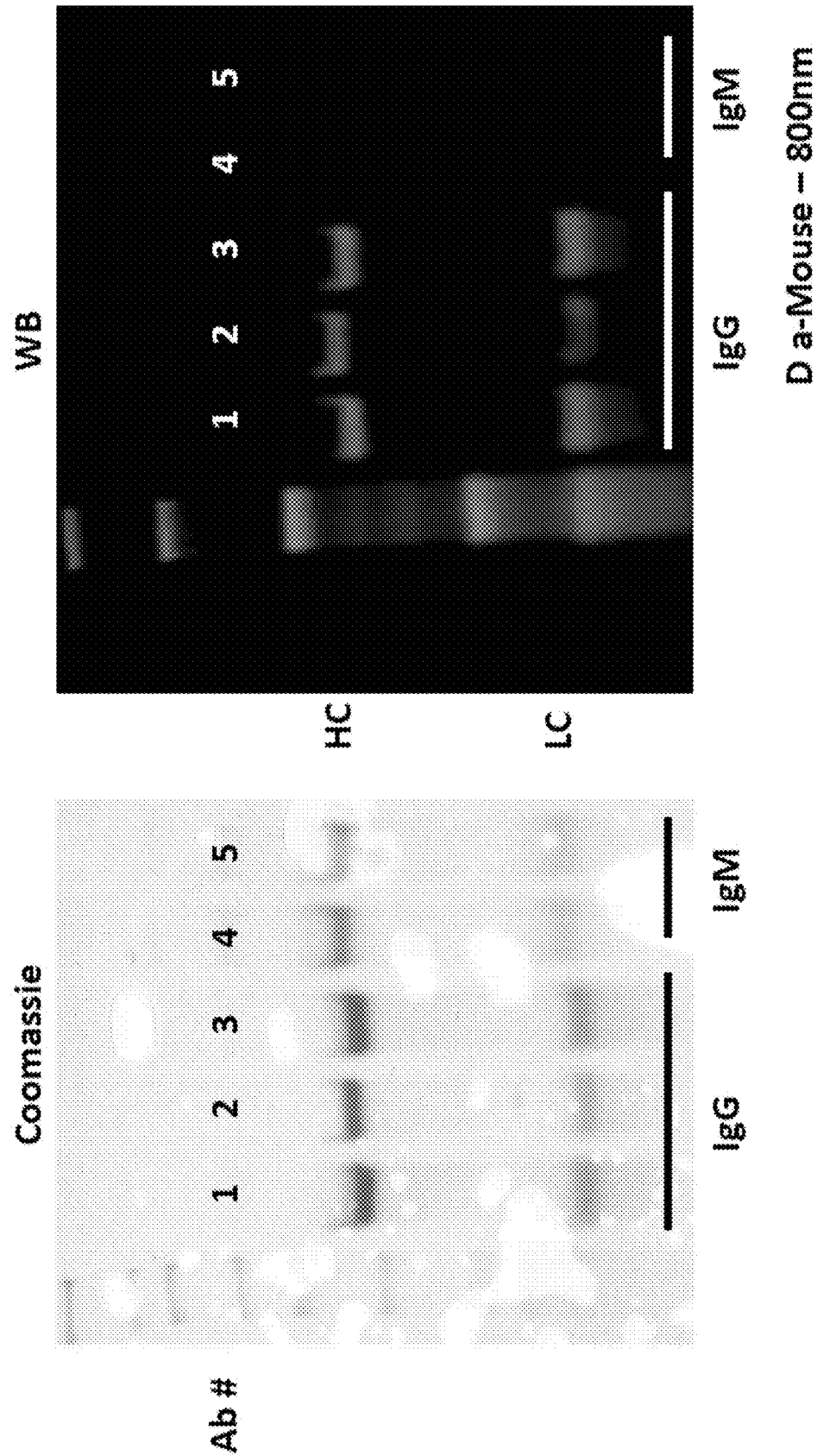


FIG. 12

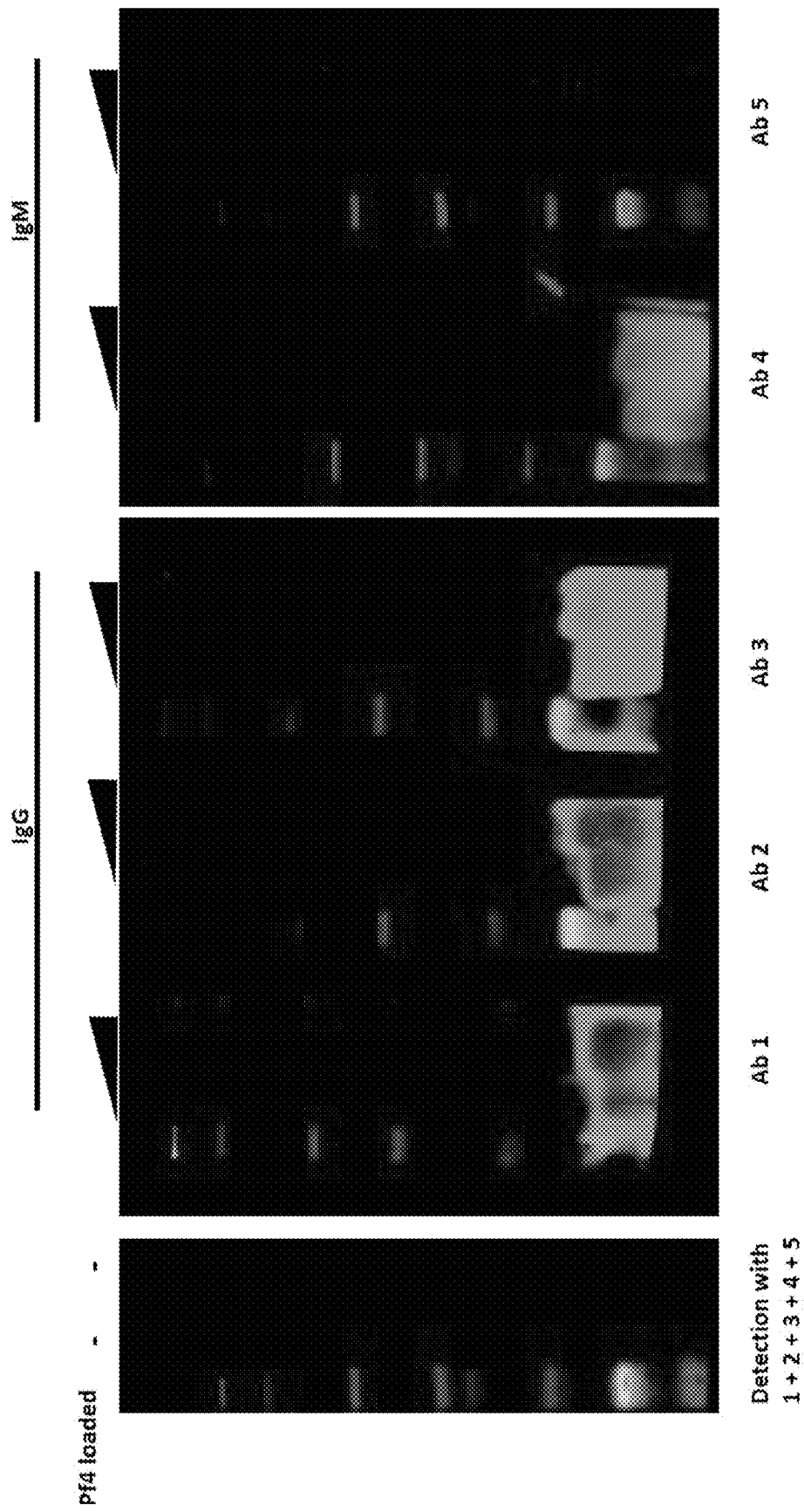


FIG. 13

MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY AND VACCINE TARGETING FILAMENTOUS BACTERIOPHAGE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 62/196,147 filed Jul. 23, 2015, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

FEDERAL FUNDING STATEMENT

[0002] This invention was made with Government support under contract HL007287 awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The Government has certain rights in the invention.

BACKGROUND

[0003] *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is an opportunistic pathogen in multiple clinical settings, including devastating pulmonary infections in individuals with the genetic disorder cystic fibrosis (CF). The virulence of *P. aeruginosa* is predicated on its ability to form biofilms, which are organized communities of bacteria encased in a polymer-rich matrix. Bacterial biofilms are ubiquitous in nature, and they endow bacteria with the ability to resist antibiotics and evade host immune defense mechanisms. See Costerton et al., *Science* 284:1318 (1999); Stewart et al., *Int. J. Med. Microbiol.* 292:107 (2002).

[0004] Thus, a need exists to develop therapeutic agents that can inhibit the formation of *P. aeruginosa* biofilms thereby making *P. aeruginosa* infections more susceptible to antibiotic treatment.

SUMMARY

[0005] Many embodiments described herein relate to a method for reducing or preventing *P. aeruginosa* biofilm formation in a human subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the human subject a first composition comprising (a) an antigen-binding polypeptide that binds Pf-family bacteriophage, or (b) a vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage.

[0006] In one embodiment, the first composition comprises an antigen-binding polypeptide. In one embodiment, the antigen-binding polypeptide binds specifically to a CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage or fragment thereof. In one embodiment, the antigen-binding polypeptide is IgG or IgM.

[0007] In one embodiment, the first composition further comprises an antibiotic, or the method further comprises administering a second composition comprising an antibiotic to the human subject.

[0008] In one embodiment, the human subject is infected with a *P. aeruginosa* strain resistant to one or more antibiotics.

[0009] In one embodiment, the first composition comprises a vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage. In one embodiment, the vaccine comprises an immunogenic fragment of Pf-family bacteriophage.

[0010] In one embodiment, the CoaB protein or fragment thereof comprises the amino acid sequence of GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM (SEQ ID NO: 1).

[0011] In one embodiment, the human subject is suffering from cystic fibrosis, burns, chronic wound, chronic rhinosinusitis, ventilator-associated pneumonia, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, septic shock, and/or gastrointestinal infections.

[0012] Further embodiments described herein relate to an antigen-binding polypeptide that binds specifically to a CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage or fragment thereof.

[0013] In one embodiment, the antigen-binding polypeptide specifically binds to an antigenic fragment of the CoaB protein comprising the amino acid sequence of

GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM. (SEQ ID NO: 1)

[0014] In one embodiment, the antigen-binding polypeptide is a monoclonal antibody, a chimeric antibody, a humanized antibody, a Fab fragment, a Fab' fragment, a F(ab')₂ fragment, or an scFv molecule. In one embodiment, the antigen-binding polypeptide is IgG or IgM.

[0015] Another embodiment described herein relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising (a) the antigen-binding polypeptide described herein or a fusion molecule comprising the antigen-binding polypeptide, and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0016] Another embodiment described herein relates to a polynucleotide encoding the antigen-binding polypeptide described herein.

[0017] Another embodiment described herein relates to an expression cassette comprising a promoter operably linked to the polynucleotide described herein.

[0018] Another embodiment described herein relates to a vector comprising the expression cassette described herein.

[0019] Another embodiment described herein relates to a transformed cell comprising the expression cassette or the vector described herein.

[0020] Another embodiment described herein relates to a method for producing an antigen-binding polypeptide, comprising culturing the transformed cell described herein, and isolating the antigen-binding polypeptide expressed by the transformed cell.

[0021] In one embodiment, the methods herein relate to the co-delivery of antibiotics with the antigen-binding polypeptide (e.g., monoclonal antibody) described herein.

[0022] Additional embodiments described herein relate to a vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage, comprising (a) an immunogenic fragment of CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage, and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

[0023] In one embodiment, the immunogenic fragment of CoaB protein consists of the amino acid sequence of GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM (SEQ ID NO:1)

[0024] These and other features, together with the organization and manner of operation thereof, will become apparent from the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0025] FIG. 1. Pf 4 bacteriophage organizes *P. aeruginosa* biofilms into a liquid crystalline structure. Panel A: PF4 production by colony biofilms formed from the indicated strains enumerated as plaque forming units/milliliter (PFU/ml). Two versions of the standard PA01 *P. aeruginosa* lab strain were used: a "rough" strain that produces only a

modest biofilm and a small colony variant (SCV) strain that produces robust biofilms. In addition, strain PA0728, a version of PA01 that does not produce Pf phage, was also used. Adjusted total Pf phage content are also plotted on the right axis. Results are mean $\pm$ SD of three experiments. Panel B: Representative images of rough and SCV colony biofilms showing transmitted light (displayed as I/I_0) and birefringence ($j\sin(dj)$). Panel C: Birefringence ($\sin(d)$) of the indicated colony biofilms was quantified after normalizing for sample thickness. Birefringence, the capacity of a material to split light into two beams with perpendicular polarization, is a signature characteristic of crystals. Thus, assessments of birefringence can be used to determine whether a biofilm is a crystal. Birefringence was again measured after washing of the bacteria to remove the extracellular matrix. Results are mean $\pm$ SD of four experiments. Panel D: Representative images for SVC and "rough" colony biofilms (placed between glass plates) visualized through crossed polarizing lenses. Birefringence is visualized as bright areas where light passes through both polarizing lenses. The birefringence patterns change when the sample is rotated with respect to the polarizing lenses, revealing extended areas of birefringence. Together, the data in FIG. 1 show that biofilms made by *P. aeruginosa* are liquid crystals and that this crystalline organization is dependent on the presence of Pf phage.

[0026] FIG. 2 shows that a filamentous bacteriophage, Pf4, contributes to *P. aeruginosa* biofilm function. FIG. 2 shows data describing biofilm characteristics for two strains of *P. aeruginosa*-PA01 (a standard laboratory strain) and PA0728 (a version of PA01 from which the promoter responsible for Pf4 phage production has been deleted, such that Pf phage production is reduced). In panel A, the Pf phage copy number is shown for *P. aeruginosa* strains PA01 and PA0728, as measured by quantitative PCR. In panel B the amount of CoaB protein, the coat protein that surrounds phage, is shown to be reduced in PA0728 versus PA01 by Mass Spectrometry. In Panel C, the amount of *P. aeruginosa* colony aggregation is shown to be reduced for PA0728 versus PA01. In Panel D, the adhesion of these bacterial colonies is shown for PA0728 versus PA01, as measured in a flow chamber and crystal violet staining. In Panel E, the susceptibility of PA0728 versus PA01 to 10 μ g/ml of the antibiotic gentamycin is shown. In panel F, the birefringence of PA0728 versus PA01 is shown. It has been recently reported that Pf phage contribute to the organization of *P. aeruginosa* biofilms into a liquid crystal and that this contributes to biofilm adhesion and antibiotic tolerance. Together, the data in FIG. 2 show that the presence of Pf phage contributes to *P. aeruginosa* biofilm function. These data are further elaborated upon in Secor et al., *Cell Host & Microbe*, 18(5):549-559 (2015).

[0027] FIG. 3 shows that supplementation of *P. aeruginosa* strain PA01 with Pf4 bacteriophage makes these colonies more tolerant to multiple antibiotics. Killing is represented as the $\log_{10}$ reduction of viable cells recovered from cultures treated with different antibiotics, all at 10 mg/ml, compared to untreated controls. Results are mean $\pm$ SD of three experiments.

[0028] FIG. 4 shows that serum from rabbits immunized with whole Pf phage prevents biofilm formation. Biofilm formation was assayed by quantification of birefringence (liquid crystal-like organization of the biofilm matrix) of

PA01 cultures 18 h after seeding and treatment with serum from rabbits before or after immunization against Pf4 phage.

[0029] FIG. 5 shows that the addition of secondary antibodies (IgG) to biofilms pre-treated with antiserum undergo aggregation and clumping. Serum from rabbits before (pre-serum) or after immunization against Pf4 phage (anti-serum) was added to cultures of a strain of PA01. Then, a fluorescently labeled secondary antibody against rabbit IgG was used to visualize the clustering of bacteria. Confocal microscopy images are shown on the Left side of the image while fluorescence microscopy images are shown on the Right.

[0030] FIG. 6 shows that the addition of secondary antibodies (IgM) to biofilms pre-treated with antiserum undergo aggregation and clumping. Serum from rabbits before (pre-serum) or after immunization against Pf4 phage (anti-serum) was added to cultures of *P. aeruginosa* strain PA01. Then, a fluorescently labeled secondary antibody against rabbit IgM was used to visualize the clustering of bacteria. Confocal microscopy images are shown on the Left side of the image while fluorescence microscopy images are shown on the Right.

[0031] FIG. 7 shows that monoclonal antibody directed against Pf-family bacteriophage disrupt tactoidal (crystalline) structure formation by Pf4-polymer solutions. For these experiments, a panel of monoclonal antibodies were generated against the coat protein (CoaB) of Pf4 bacteriophage. All of these monoclonal antibodies had similar effects on tactoidal structures.

[0032] FIG. 8 shows a semi quantitative dot colony-forming assay that demonstrates that the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibodies facilitate the penetration of antibiotics into biofilms (exposed to 10 μ g/ml of Tobramycin). These experiments were performed by adding one of 4 monoclonal antibodies (AB1, AB2, AB3, AB4) that recognize Pf phage or a control antibody that does not recognize pf phage (AB5) to dilutions of biofilm cultures of the PA01 strain of *P. aeruginosa*. The size of the bacterial colonies that grow in this setting is inversely related to the penetration of antibiotic through the biofilm.

[0033] FIG. 9 shows PA concentration survived when exposed to anti-Pf4 antibodies and 10 μ g/ml of Tobramycin. This figure provides quantification of the bacterial killing observed in FIG. 8.

[0034] FIG. 10 shows a semi quantitative dot colony-forming assay that demonstrates that the anti-Pf4 antibodies facilitate the penetration of antibiotics into biofilms (exposed to 50 μ g/ml of Tobramycin). These experiments were performed by adding one of 4 monoclonal antibodies (AB1, AB2, AB3, AB4) that recognize Pf phage or a control antibody that does not recognize pf phage (AB5) to dilutions of biofilm cultures of the PA01 strain of *P. aeruginosa*. The size of the bacterial colonies that grow in this setting is inversely related to the penetration of antibiotic through the biofilm. Compared to FIG. 8, these data show that the effect of the antibodies was more intense when the biofilms were exposed to higher concentration of Tobramycin (50 μ g/ml compared to 10 μ g/ml). In that case AB1 and AB2 cause to 7 orders of magnitude reduction in *P. aeruginosa* concentration that survived the Tobramycin treatment compare to the control.

[0035] FIG. 11 shows PA concentration survived when exposed to anti-Pf4 antibodies and 50 μ g/ml of Tobramycin. This figure provides quantification of the bacterial killing observed in FIG. 10.

[0036] FIG. 12 shows detection of the heavy and light chains of 5 different monoclonal antibodies by Coomassie staining and by Western Blot (WB). Three of the antibodies are IgG and two of the antibodies are IgM. All of these antibodies were generated against the Pf phage coat protein sequence GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM (SEQ ID NO: 1).

[0037] FIG. 13 shows detection of the CoaB coat protein of Pf bacteriophage by 5 different monoclonal antibodies by Western Blot (WB). Three of the antibodies are IgG and two of the antibodies are IgM. One of the IgM (Ab5) does not recognize Pf4 phage and is included here as a control.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Introduction

[0038] Pf-family bacteriophage play a heretofore unappreciated role in microbial biofilm formation. Monoclonal antibodies or immunizations directed against Pf-family bacteriophage provide protection against biofilm-associated infections with *P. aeruginosa* and other microbial pathogens. In particular, *P. aeruginosa* and other Gram-negative microbial pathogens can be resistant to multiple antibiotics, which is an enormous medical problem. Described herein are monoclonal antibodies and immunizations directed against Pf-family bacteriophage which can prevent biofilm formation by these microbes. Therefore, these monoclonal antibodies are an effective class of antibiotic.

[0039] In some embodiments, described herein are monoclonal antibodies (both IgG and IgM) directed against conserved regions on the CoaB coat protein of Pf-family bacteriophage. In other embodiments, described herein are synthetic peptides of these same conserved regions on the CoaB coat protein that can be used to immunize animals and human beings against Pf-family bacteriophage. Details of the methods and therapeutic agents of the present invention are provided in the following paragraphs.

[0040] Method for Treating/Preventing *P. aeruginosa* Infection

[0041] One aspect of the present invention relates to a method for treating or preventing *P. aeruginosa* infection in a human subject, which can be achieved by, for example, reducing or preventing *P. aeruginosa* biofilm formation. The method can comprise, for example, administering to the human subject a composition comprising (a) an antigen-binding polypeptide that binds Pf-family bacteriophage, or (b) a vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage.

[0042] The human subject can be administered with, for example, one or more antigen-binding polypeptides as described herein. The antigen-binding polypeptide can be, for example, an antibody such as IgG or IgM. The antigen-binding polypeptide can bind specifically to, for example, a CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage or fragment thereof. The CoaB protein or fragment thereof can be, for example, the CoaB protein of Pf4 bacteriophage. The CoaB protein or fragment thereof can comprise the amino acid sequence of, for example,

GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM. (SEQ ID NO: 1)

[0043] The human subject can be administered with, for example, one or more antibiotics. The antibiotics can comprise a known antibiotic against *P. aeruginosa*, which includes but is not limited to, Aminoglycosides (including

for example, tobramycin and gentamicin), Cephalosporins (including ceftazidime), and fluoroquinolones (including ciprofloxacin). The antibiotics can be administered to the human subject either sequentially or simultaneously with the antigen-binding polypeptides. Without being bound by any theory, it is believed that the antigen-binding polypeptide could reduce or inhibit *P. aeruginosa* biofilm formation, thereby rendering the *P. aeruginosa* more susceptible to antibiotics.

[0044] The human subject can be, for example, infected with a *P. aeruginosa* strain resistant to one or more antibiotics. The human subject can be, for example, infected with one or more additional gram negative pathogens.

[0045] The human subject can be, for example, suffering from cystic fibrosis. The human subject can be, for example, suffering from burns. The human subject can be, for example, suffering from chronic wounds. The human subject can be, for example, suffering from chronic rhinosinusitis. The human subject can be, for example, suffering from ventilator-associated pneumonia. The human subject can be, for example, suffering from catheter-associated urinary tract infections. The human subject can be, for example, suffering from septic shock. The human subject can be, for example, suffering from gastrointestinal infections.

[0046] The human subject can be administered with, for example, a vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage, such as Pf4 bacteriophage. The vaccine can comprise, for example, an immunogenic fragment of the CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage as described herein.

[0047] The human subject being vaccinated can be, for example, an immune-compromised person, such as a person suffering from AIDS. The human subject being vaccinated can be, for example a person over 60 years old, or a person over 65 years old, or a person over 70 years old.

[0048] The vaccination can immunize the human subject against, for example, *P. aeruginosa* biofilm formation. The vaccination can immunize the human subject against, for example, *P. aeruginosa* infection.

[0049] Antibody Against Pf-Family Bacteriophage

[0050] Another aspect of the present invention relates to an antigen-binding polypeptide that binds specifically to CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage or fragment thereof. The CoaB protein or fragment thereof can be, for example, the CoaB protein of Pf4 bacteriophage. The CoaB protein or fragment thereof can comprise the amino acid sequence of, for example,

GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM. (SEQ ID NO: 1)

[0051] The antigen-binding polypeptide can be, for example, a monoclonal antibody, a chimeric antibody, a humanized antibody, a Fab fragment, a Fab' fragment, a F(ab')₂ fragment, or an scFv molecule. The process for making antigen-binding polypeptides are described in, for example, WO/2008/094942, WO/2009/064854, and WO/2010/111180, which are incorporated by reference in their entireties. In one embodiment, the process comprises (a) immunizing a host with an immunogenic polypeptide of a Pf-family bacteriophage, such as an immunogenic fragment of the CoaB protein of Pf4 bacteriophage; and (b) harvesting the resulting antibody against the immunogenic polypeptide.

[0052] The antigen-binding polypeptide can be, for example, part of a fusion molecule. The fusion molecule can

comprise, for example, a therapeutic or diagnostic agent conjugated to the antigen-binding polypeptide, as described in WO/2008/094942, WO/2009/064854, and WO/2010/111180.

[0053] The monoclonal antibodies can also be functionalized to better disrupt biofilms. The functionalized monoclonal antibodies can comprise, for example, enzymes that degrade constituents of the biofilm matrix, such as DNase I or alginate lyase, or charged molecules such as QDOTs or latex beads intended to alter the tertiary structure of the biofilm matrix. Functionalization can also consist of antibodies, opsonins, reporter molecules, adjuvants, immunogens, or other proteins, carbohydrates or lipids conjugated to the antibodies.

[0054] In some embodiments, the antigen-binding polypeptide is an anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof specifically binds to the CoaB protein of Pf4 bacteriophage. In some embodiments, the monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof specifically binds to an antigenic fragment of the CoaB protein comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM (SEQ ID NO:1). In some embodiments, the monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof has a humanized heavy chain variable region and a humanized light chain variable region.

[0055] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GFTFSSYV (SEQ ID NO: 6); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ISSGGST (SEQ ID NO: 7); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LRGQDYGAAY (SEQ ID NO: 8).

[0056] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYSFTSYW (SEQ ID NO: 16); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of IYPGNSDT (SEQ ID NO: 17); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of TRSQ-FYSGSSEDAMDY (SEQ ID NO: 18).

[0057] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYTFTNYG (SEQ ID NO: 26); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of INTNTGEP (SEQ ID NO: 27); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ARKDYRYWEAY (SEQ ID NO: 28).

[0058] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSLDSDGKTY (SEQ ID NO: 9); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LVS (SEQ ID NO: 10); and

(3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of WQGTHFPQT (SEQ ID NO: 11).

[0059] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 19); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 20); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of FQGSHPWT (SEQ ID NO: 21).

[0060] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 29); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 30); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of FQGSHPVFT (SEQ ID NO: 31).

[0061] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GFTFSSYV (SEQ ID NO: 6); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ISSGGST (SEQ ID NO: 7); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LRGQDYGAAY (SEQ ID NO: 8), and (b) a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSLDSDGKTY (SEQ ID NO: 9); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LVS (SEQ ID NO: 10); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

WQGTHFPQT. (SEQ ID NO: 11)

[0062] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYSFTSYW (SEQ ID NO: 16); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of IYPGNSDT (SEQ ID NO: 17); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of TRSQ-FYSGSSEDAMDY (SEQ ID NO: 18), and (b) a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 19); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 20); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

FQGSHPWT. (SEQ ID NO: 21)

[0063] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYTFTNYG (SEQ ID NO: 26); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of INTNTGEP (SEQ ID NO: 27); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ARKDYRYWFAY (SEQ ID NO: 28), and (b) a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 29); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 30); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

FQGSHVPFT. (SEQ ID NO: 31)

[0064] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of EVKLVESGGDLVKPGGSLKLSAASGFTFSSYVMSWVRQTPEKRLEWVASISSGGSTYY PDSVKGRFTISRDNARNILYLQMSSLRSEDAMYYCLRGQDYGAAYWGQGT-LVTVSA (SEQ ID NO: 2) or a humanized version thereof.

[0065] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of EVQLQQSGTV-LARPGASVKMSCKASGYSTSYWMHWVKQRPGQGLEWIGAIYPGNSD TSYNQKFKGKAKLTAVTSASTAYMELSCLTNEDSAVFYCTRSQFYSGSSEDAMDYWGQ GTSVTVSS (SEQ ID NO: 12) or a humanized version thereof.

[0066] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QIQLQSGPELKKPGETVKISCKASGYTFTNYGMNWLKQAPGKGLKWMGWINTNTGEP TYAEFEKGRFAFSLETSASTAYLQINNLKKNEDTATYFCARKDYRYWFAYWGQGT-LVTV SA (SEQ ID NO: 22) or a humanized version thereof.

[0067] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a light chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of DVVMTQTPLTSLVTIGQPASISCKSSQSLLDSDGKTYLNWLLQRPGQSPKRLIYLVSKLD SGVPDRFTGSGSGTDFTLKISRVEAEDLGVYYCQWQGHFPQTFGGGTKEIK (SEQ ID NO: 4) or a humanized version thereof.

[0068] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a light chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of DVLMTQTPLSLPVS-LGDQASISCRSSQSIVHSNGNTYLEWYLQKPGQSP-KLLIYKVSNNRF SGVPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLKISRVEAEDLGVYFCFQGSHPVPTFGGGTKEIK (SEQ ID NO: 14) or a humanized version thereof.

[0069] In some embodiments, the anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof comprises a light chain vari-

able region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of DVLMTQTPLSLPVS-LGDQASISCRSSQSIVHSNGNTYLEWYLQKPGQSP-KLLIYKVSNNRF SGVPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLKISRVEAEDLGVYFCFQGSHPVPTFGSGTKEIK (SEQ ID NO: 24) or a humanized version thereof.

[0070] Another aspect of the present invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising (a) the antigen-binding polypeptide described herein or a fusion molecule comprising the antigen-binding polypeptide, and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In one embodiment, the active ingredient of the pharmaceutical composition consists essentially of the antigen-binding polypeptide or fusion molecule. In another embodiment, the active ingredient of the pharmaceutical composition consists of the antigen-binding polypeptide or fusion molecule.

[0071] Another aspect of the present invention relates to a polynucleotide encoding the antigen-binding polypeptide described herein. The polynucleotide encoding the antigen-binding polypeptide can be comprised in, for example, an expression cassette, with optionally a promoter operably linked to the polynucleotide. The expression cassette can be comprised in, for example, a plasmid or transformation vector. The plasmid or transformation vector can be used to obtain a transformed cell capable of producing the antigen-binding polypeptide encoded therein.

[0072] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GFTFSSYV (SEQ ID NO: 6); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ISSGGST (SEQ ID NO: 7); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

LRGQDYGAAY. (SEQ ID NO: 8)

[0073] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYSFTSYW (SEQ ID NO: 16); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of IYPGNSDT (SEQ ID NO: 17); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

TRSQFYSGSSEDAMDY. (SEQ ID NO: 18)

[0074] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYTFTNYG (SEQ ID NO: 26); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of INTNTGEP (SEQ ID NO: 27); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

ARKDYRYWFAY. (SEQ ID NO: 28)

[0075] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSLLDSDGKTY (SEQ ID NO: 9);

(2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LVS (SEQ ID NO: 10); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

WQGTHTFPQT. (SEQ ID NO: 11)

[0076] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 19); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 20); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

FQGSHPVPT. (SEQ ID NO: 21)

[0077] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 29); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 30); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of

FQGSHPVPT. (SEQ ID NO: 31)

[0078] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GFTFSSYV (SEQ ID NO: 6); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ISSGGST (SEQ ID NO: 7); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LRGQDYGAAY (SEQ ID NO: 8), and (b) a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSLDSDGKTY (SEQ ID NO: 9); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LVS (SEQ ID NO: 10); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of WQGTHTFPQT (SEQ ID NO: 11).

[0079] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYSFTSYW (SEQ ID NO: 16); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of IYPGNSDT (SEQ ID NO: 17); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of TRSQ-FYSGSSEDAMDY (SEQ ID NO: 18), and (b) a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 19); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 20); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of FQGSHPVPT (SEQ ID NO: 21).

[0080] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYTFTNYG (SEQ ID NO: 26); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of INTNTGEP (SEQ ID NO: 27); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ARKDYYWFAY (SEQ ID NO: 28), and (b) a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 29); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 30); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of FQGSHPVPT (SEQ ID NO: 31).

[0081] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a heavy chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of EVKLIVESGGDLVKPGGSLKLSAASGFTFSSYVM-SWVRQTPEKRLEWVASISSGGSTYY PDSVKGR-FTISRDNARNILYLQMSSLRSEDAMYYCLRGQDY-GAAYWGQGTILVTSA (SEQ ID NO: 2) or a humanized version thereof.

[0082] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a heavy chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of EVQLQSGTIVLARPGASVKMSCKASGYSFTSYWM-HWVKQRPQGQLEWIGAIYPGNSD TSYNQKFKG-KAKLTAVTSASTAYMELSCLTNEDSAVFCYTRSQ-FYSGSSEDAMDYWGQGTSTVTSS (SEQ ID NO: 12) or a humanized version thereof.

[0083] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a heavy chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QIQLVQSGPELKKPGETVKISCKASGYTFTNYGMN-WLKQAPGKGLKWMGWINTNTGEP TYAEFFKGR-FAFSLETSASTAYLQINNLKNEATATYFCARKDYRY-WFAYWGQGTILVTSA (SEQ ID NO: 22) or a humanized version thereof.

[0084] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a light chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of DVVMTQTPLTSLVTLGQPASISCKSSQSLDSDGK-TYLNWLLQRPQGQSPKRLIYLVSKLD SGVP-DRFTGSGSGTDFTLKISRVEAEDLGVYYCWQGTHTF-PQTFGGGTKLEIK (SEQ ID NO: 4) or a humanized version thereof.

[0085] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a light chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of DVLMTQTPLSLPVSLGDQASISCRSSQSIVHSNGN-TYLEWYLQKPGQSPKLLIYKVSNNRF SGVPDRF-SGSGSGTDFTLKISRVEAEDLGVYFCFQGSHPVPTF-GGGTKLEIK (SEQ ID NO: 14) or a humanized version thereof.

[0086] In some embodiments, the polynucleotide encodes a light chain variable region comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of DVLMTQTPLSLPVSLGDQASISCRSSQSIVHSNGN-TYLEWYLQKPGQSPKLLIYKVSNNRF SGVPDRF-

SGSGSGTDFTLKISRVEAEDLG VYYCFQGSHPVPTF-GSGTKLEIK (SEQ ID NO: 24) or a humanized version thereof.

[0087] Vaccine Against Pf-Family Bacteriophage

[0088] A further aspect of the present invention relates to a vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage, comprising an immunogenic fragment of the CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage. The CoaB protein or fragment thereof can be, for example, the CoaB protein of Pf4 bacteriophage. The CoaB protein or fragment thereof can comprise the amino acid sequence of, for example, GVIDTSAVESAIT-DGQGDM (SEQ ID NO:1).

[0089] In some embodiments, the vaccine is used to vaccinate patients newly diagnosed with cystic fibrosis before they become colonized with *P. aeruginosa* or to elderly people before they become prone to catheter infections and hospital-acquired infections. In some embodiments, the vaccine is used to vaccinate nursing home populations, or patients undergoing dialysis, mechanical ventilation or recurrent UTIs, or burn victims.

[0090] These and other features, together with the organization and manner of operation thereof, will become apparent from the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

WORKING EXAMPLES

[0091] It has been recently reported that a bacteriophage/virus produced by the bacteria *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* contributes to the formation and function of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* biofilms. In particular, it has been reported that Pf bacteriophage assemble biofilms into a liquid crystal and that this crystalline organization contributes to biofilm function, including adhesiveness and antibiotic tolerance. See Secor et al., *Cell Host & Microbe.*, 18(5):549-559 (2015). In light of these data implicating Pf bacteriophages in biofilm structure and function, vaccines and monoclonal antibodies that target Pf bacteriophages have been generated to disrupt *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* biofilms.

Example 1

Role of Pf-Family Phage in Biofilm Formation

[0092] Filamentous bacteriophage are produced by *P. aeruginosa* during the biofilm mode of growth (see Rice et al., *The ISME Journal* (2009) 3, 271-282). A mutant not capable of producing Pf4, PA0728 (FIGS. 2A and 2B) (see Castang and Dove, *J Bacteriol.* September 2012; 194(18): 5101-5109), exhibited differences in morphology (FIG. 2C), adhesion (FIG. 2D), antibiotic susceptibility (FIG. 2E), and matrix organization (birefringence, FIG. 2F).

Example 2

Inhibition of Biofilms by Antiserum

[0093] The method of preventing biofilm formation by creating vaccines and monoclonal antibodies that target Pf bacteriophage was evaluated. Specifically, rabbits were immunized with CoaB peptide, and the ability of their sera to neutralize biofilm formation was examined. This antiserum was found to inhibit biofilm formation, alter antibiotic tolerance (FIG. 3), and alter the overall organization of the biofilm matrix (reduced birefringence, FIG. 4), suggesting that anti-CoaB antibodies present in the serum are capable of

disrupting *P. aeruginosa* biofilms producing the filamentous bacteriophage Pf4. The addition of secondary antibodies (e.g., fluorescently labeled anti-rabbit IgG and IgM) to *P. aeruginosa* biofilms pre-treated with anti-Pf4 antibodies altered the gross morphology of *P. aeruginosa* biofilms (FIGS. 5 and 6).

Example 3

Production of Monoclonal Antibody

[0094] Monoclonal antibodies that target Pf4, including three IgG and two IgM antibodies, were developed as a new class of anti-microbial for use against multi-drug resistant *P. aeruginosa*. These antibodies were generated using standard, well-established techniques, generally as described in <http://www.currentprotocols.com/WileyCDA/CPUnit/reflidim0205.html>. In brief, the CoaB peptide in question was conjugated to immunogenic proteins in order to elicit an immune response in rabbits and/or mice. Clones were then isolated from individual animals with strong serum responses to the peptide in question and these were fused to competent cells to generate hybridomas. These were then grown in culture and monoclonal antibodies were harvested from the cell culture supernatants. The specificity of these against CoaB peptide was then confirmed and five clones with the greatest specificity were selected for further development.

[0095] The variable regions of the three mouse IgG anti-Pf4 monoclonal antibodies were sequenced. The VH, VL, and CDR sequences of IgG Ab #1 (1A8), IgG Ab #2 (2D4) and IgG Ab #3 (3D6) are provided below.

IgG Ab #1 VH: (SEQ ID NO: 2)
EVKLVESGGDLVKPGGSLKLS CAASGFTFSSYVMSWVRQTPEKRLEWVAS
ISSGGSTYYPDSVKGRFTISRDNARNILYLMSSLRSED TAMYYCLRGQD
YGAAIYWQGT LVTVSA.

(SEQ ID NO: 3)
GAAGTGAAGCTGGTGGAGTCTGGGGGAGACTTAGTGAAGCCTGGAGGTC
CCTGAAACTCTCCTGTGCAGCCTCTGGATTCACTTTCAGTAGCTATGTCA
TGTCTTGGGTTCCGAGACTCCAGAAAAGAGGCTGGAGTGGGTCGCATCC
ATTAGTAGTGGTGTAGCACCTACTATCCAGACAGTGTGAAGGCCGATT
CACCATCTCCAGAGATAATGCCAGGAACATCCTGTACCTGCAATGAGTA
GTCTGAGGTCTGAGGACACGGCCATGTATTACTGTTTAAGAGGCCAGGAC
TACGGCGCCGCTTACTGGGGCCAAGGACTCTGGTCACTGTCTCTGCA.

IgG Ab #1 VL: (SEQ ID NO: 4)
DVVMTQTPLTSLVITGQPASISCKSSQSLDSDGKTYLNWLLQRPQSPK
RLIYLVSKLDSGVDPDRFTGSGSGTDFTLKISRVEAEDLG VYYCWQGT HFP
QTFGGG TKLEIK.

(SEQ ID NO: 5)
GATGTTGTGATGACCCAGACTCCACTCACTTGTGCGGTACCATGGACA
ACCAGCCTCCATCTCTTGCAAGTCAAGTCAGAGCCTCTTAGATAGTGATG
GAAAGACATATTTGAATTGGTTGTACAGAGGCCAGGCCAGTCTCCAAG

-continued

CGCCTAATCTATCTGGTGTCTAACTGGACTCTGGAGTCCCTGACAGGTT
CACTGGCAGTGGATCAGGGACAGATTTCACTGAAAAATCAGCAGAGTGG
AGGCTGAGGATTTGGGAGTTTATTATTGCTGGCAAGGTACACATTTTCCT
CAGACGTTTCGGTGGAGGCACCAAGCTGGAAATCAAA.

IgG Ab #1 CDR:

CDR-H1 - GFTFSSYV.

CDR-H2 - ISSGGST.

CDR-H3 - LRGQDYGAAY.

CDR-L1 - QSLSDSGKTY.

CDR-L2 - LVS.

CDR-L3 - WQGTHTPQT.

IgG Ab #2 VH:

EVQLQQSGTIVLARPASVKMSCKASGYFTSYWMHWKQRPQGLEWIGA
IYPGNSDTSYNQKFKGAKLTAVTSASTAYMELSLTNEDSAVFYCTRSQ
FYSGSSEDAMDYWGQGTSTVTVSS.

GAGGTTCACTCCAGCAGTCTGGGACTGTGCTGGCAAGGCCTGGGGCTTC
CGTGAAGATGCTCTGCAAGGCTTCTGGCTACAGCTTTACCAGCTACTGGA
TGCACTGGGTAAAAAGAGGCTGGACAGGGCTAGAAATGGATTGGTGCT
ATTTATCTCGAAATAGTGATACTAGTTACAACCAAGTTCAAGGGCAA
GGCCAAACTGACTGCAGTCACATCCGCCAGCACTGCCTACATGGAGCTCA
GCTGCCTGACAAATGAGGACTCTGCGGTCTTTTACTGTACAAGATCCCAA
TTTTACTCCGCTAGTAGCGAGGATGCTATGGACTACTGGGTCAGGAAC
CTCAGTCACCGTCTCCTCA.

IgG Ab #2 VL:

DVLMTQTPLSLPVSLGDAQSISCRSSQSIIVHSNGNTYLEWYLQKPGQSPK
LLIYKVSINRFSGVPDRFSGSGSDFTLKISRVEAEDLGVYFCFQGSHPV
WTFGGGTKLEIK.

GATGTTTTGATGACCCAACTCCACTCTCCCTGCCTGTCAGTCTTGGAGA
TCAAGCCTCCATCTCTTGAGATCTAGTCAGAGCATTGTACATAGTAATG
GAAACACCTATTTAGAATGGTACCTGCAGAAACCAGGCCAGTCTCCAAAG
CTCCTGATCTACAAAGTTTCCAACCGATTTTCTGGGGTCCCAGACAGGTT
CAGTGGCAGTGGATCAGGGACAGATTTCACTCAAGATCAGCAGAGTGG
AGGCTGAGGATCTGGGAGTTTATTCTGCTTTCAAGGTTACATGTTCCG
TGGACGTTTCGGTGGAGGCACCAAGCTGGAAATCAAA.

-continued

IgG Ab #2 CDR:

CDR-H1 - GYSFTSYW.

CDR-H2 - IYPGNSDT.

CDR-H3 - TRSQFYSGSSEDAMDY.

CDR-L1 - QSIVHSNGNTY.

CDR-L2 - KVS.

CDR-L3 - FQGSHPWT.

IgG Ab #3 VH:

QIQLVQSGPELKKPGETVKISKASGYFTFTNYGMNWLKQAPGKGLKWMGW
INTNTGEPTYAEFPKGRFAFSLETSASTAYLQINNKNEDTATYFCARKD
YRYWFAYWGQGTSLVTVSA.

CAGATCCAGTTGGTGCAGTCTGGACCTGAGCTGAAGAAGCCTGGAGAGAC
AGTCAAGATCTCCTGCAAGGCTTCTGGGTATACCTTCAAACTATGGAA
TGAAGTGGCTGAAGCAGGCTCCAGGAAAGGGTTTAAAGTGGATGGGCTGG
ATAAACACCAACACTGGAGAGCCAACATATGCTGAAGAGTTCAAGGGACG
GTTTGCCTTCTCTTGGAAACCTCTGCCAGCACTGCCTATTGTCAGATCA
ACAACCTCAAAAATGAGGACACGGCTACATATTTCTGTGCAAGAAAGGAC
TATAGGTACTGGTTTGTCTTACTGGGCGCAAGGACTCTGGTCACTGTCTC
TGCA.

IgG Ab #3 VL:

DVLMTQTPLSLPVSLGDAQSISCRSSQSIIVHSNGNTYLEWYLQKPGQSPK
LLIYKVSINRFSGVPDRFSGSGSDFTLKISRVEAEDLGVYFCFQGSHPV
FTFGSGTKLEIK.

GATGTTTTGATGACCCAACTCCACTCTCCCTGCCTGTCAGTCTTGGAGA
TCAAGCCTCCATCTCTTGAGATCTAGTCAGAGCATTGTACATAGTAATG
GAAACACCTATTTAGAATGGTACCTGCAGAAACCAGGCCAGTCTCCAAAG
CTCCTGATCTACAAAGTTTCCAACCGATTTTCTGGGGTCCCAGACAGGTT
CAGTGGCAGTGGATCAGGGACAGATTTCACTCAAGATCAGCAGAGTGG
AGGCTGAGGATCTGGGAGTTTATTACTGCTTTCAAGGTTACATGTTCCA
TTCACGTTCCGCTCGGGACAAAGTTGGAAATAAAA.

IgG Ab #3 CDR:

CDR-H1 - GYFTNYG.

CDR-H2 - INTNTGEP.

CDR-H3 - ARKDYRYWFAY.

-continued

CDR-L1 - QSIVHSNGNTY.	(SEQ ID NO: 29)
CDR-L2 - KVS.	(SEQ ID NO: 30)
CDR-L3 - FQGSHVPFT.	(SEQ ID NO: 31)

Example 4

Inhibition of Biofilms by Monoclonal Antibody

[0096] Also tested is whether the monoclonal antibodies produced according to Example 2 can serve as effective antibiotic drugs that could be used in conjunction with conventional antibiotics, as current therapeutic options for treatment of multidrug-resistant *P. aeruginosa* are very limited. As shown in FIG. 7, the mAbs prevented liquid crystal formation of Pf4-polymer solutions suggesting that the mAbs have the same activities as the anti-Pf4 antibodies present in the antiserum of Example 2.

[0097] As used herein, the singular terms “a,” “an,” and “the” include plural referents unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. Thus, for example, reference to a marker can include multiple markers unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

[0098] As used herein, the terms “substantially,” “substantial,” and “about” are used to describe and account for small variations. When used in conjunction with an event or circumstance, the terms can refer to instances in which the event or circumstance occurs precisely as well as instances in which the event or circumstance occurs to a close approximation. For example, the terms can refer to less than or equal to $\pm 10\%$, such as less than or equal to $\pm 5\%$, less than or equal to $\pm 4\%$, less than or equal to $\pm 3\%$, less than or equal

to $\pm 2\%$, less than or equal to $\pm 1\%$, less than or equal to $\pm 0.5\%$, less than or equal to $\pm 0.1\%$, or less than or equal to $\pm 0.05\%$.

[0099] Additionally, amounts, ratios, and other numerical values are sometimes presented herein in a range format. It is to be understood that such range format is used for convenience and brevity and should be understood flexibly to include numerical values explicitly specified as limits of a range, but also to include all individual numerical values or sub-ranges encompassed within that range as if each numerical value and sub-range is explicitly specified. For example, a ratio in the range of about 1 to about 200 should be understood to include the explicitly recited limits of about 1 and about 200, but also to include individual ratios such as about 2, about 3, and about 4, and sub-ranges such as about 10 to about 50, about 20 to about 100, and so forth.

[0100] In the foregoing description, it will be readily apparent to one skilled in the art that varying substitutions and modifications may be made to the invention disclosed herein without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. The invention illustratively described herein suitably may be practiced in the absence of any element or elements, limitation or limitations, which is not specifically disclosed herein. The terms and expressions which have been employed are used as terms of description and not of limitation, and there is no intention that in the use of such terms and expressions of excluding any equivalents of the features shown and described or portions thereof, but it is recognized that various modifications are possible within the scope of the invention. Thus, it should be understood that although the present invention has been illustrated by specific embodiments and optional features, modification and/or variation of the concepts herein disclosed may be resorted to by those skilled in the art, and that such modifications and variations are considered to be within the scopes of this invention.

SEQUENCE LISTING

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<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

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Ser	Leu	Lys	Leu	Ser	Cys	Ala	Ala	Ser	Gly	Phe	Thr	Phe	Ser	Ser	Tyr
				20				25					30		

Val Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Thr Pro Glu Lys Arg Leu Glu Trp Val

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35	40	45	
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Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Arg Asn Ile Leu Tyr Leu			
65	70	75	80
Gln Met Ser Ser Leu Arg Ser Glu Asp Thr Ala Met Tyr Tyr Cys Leu			
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gacagtgtga agggccgatt caccatctcc agagataatg ccaggaacat cctgtacctg	240
caaatgagta gtctgaggtc tgaggacacg gccatgtatt actgtttaag aggccaggac	300
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35	45
Pro Lys Arg Leu Ile Tyr Leu Val Ser Lys Leu Asp Ser Gly Val Pro	
50	60
Asp Arg Phe Thr Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu Lys Ile	
65	80
Ser Arg Val Glu Ala Glu Asp Leu Gly Val Tyr Tyr Cys Trp Gln Gly	
85	95
Thr His Phe Pro Gln Thr Phe Gly Gly Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Ile Lys	
100	110

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tctggagtcc ctgacagggt cactggcagt ggatcaggga cagatttcac actgaaaatc	240
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 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

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<400> SEQUENCE: 7

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<400> SEQUENCE: 8

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<400> SEQUENCE: 9

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 1 5 10

<210> SEQ ID NO 10
 <211> LENGTH: 3
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 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 10

Leu Val Ser
 1

<210> SEQ ID NO 11
 <211> LENGTH: 9
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 11

Trp Gln Gly Thr His Phe Pro Gln Thr
 1 5

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<210> SEQ ID NO 12
 <211> LENGTH: 123
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 12

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Glu Val Gln Leu Gln Gln Ser Gly Thr Val Leu Ala Arg Pro Gly Ala
1          5          10          15
Ser Val Lys Met Ser Cys Lys Ala Ser Gly Tyr Ser Phe Thr Ser Tyr
          20          25          30
Trp Met His Trp Val Lys Gln Arg Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Glu Trp Ile
          35          40          45
Gly Ala Ile Tyr Pro Gly Asn Ser Asp Thr Ser Tyr Asn Gln Lys Phe
          50          55          60
Lys Gly Lys Ala Lys Leu Thr Ala Val Thr Ser Ala Ser Thr Ala Tyr
65          70          75          80
Met Glu Leu Ser Cys Leu Thr Asn Glu Asp Ser Ala Val Phe Tyr Cys
          85          90          95
Thr Arg Ser Gln Phe Tyr Ser Gly Ser Ser Glu Asp Ala Met Asp Tyr
          100          105          110
Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Ser Val Thr Val Ser Ser
          115          120

```

<210> SEQ ID NO 13
 <211> LENGTH: 369
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 13

```

gaggttcagc tccagcagtc tgggactgtg ctggcaaggc ctggggcttc cgtgaagatg      60
tcctgcaagg cttctggcta cagctttacc agctactgga tgcactgggt aaaacagagg      120
cctggacagg gtctagaatg gattggtgct atttacctg gaaatagtga tactagttag      180
aaccagaagt tcaagggcaa ggccaaactg actgcagtca catccgccag cactgcctac      240
atggagctca gctgcctgac aaatgaggac tctgcggtct tttactgtac aagatcccaa      300
ttttactccg gtagtagcga ggatgctatg gactactggg gtcaaggaac ctcagtcacc      360
gtctctctca                                     369

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<210> SEQ ID NO 14
 <211> LENGTH: 112
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 14

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Asp Val Leu Met Thr Gln Thr Pro Leu Ser Leu Pro Val Ser Leu Gly
1          5          10          15
Asp Gln Ala Ser Ile Ser Cys Arg Ser Ser Gln Ser Ile Val His Ser
          20          25          30
Asn Gly Asn Thr Tyr Leu Glu Trp Tyr Leu Gln Lys Pro Gly Gln Ser
          35          40          45
Pro Lys Leu Leu Ile Tyr Lys Val Ser Asn Arg Phe Ser Gly Val Pro
          50          55          60
Asp Arg Phe Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu Lys Ile
65          70          75          80

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-continued

Ser Arg Val Glu Ala Glu Asp Leu Gly Val Tyr Phe Cys Phe Gln Gly
85 90 95

Ser His Val Pro Trp Thr Phe Gly Gly Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Ile Lys
100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 15
<211> LENGTH: 336
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 15

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gatgttttga tgacccaaac tccactctcc ctgcctgtca gtcttgaga tcaagcctcc      60
atctcttgca gatctagtca gagcattgta catagtaatg gaaacaccta tttagaatgg      120
tacctgcaga aaccaggcca gtctccaaag ctctgatctt acaaagtttc caaccgattt      180
tctgggggtcc cagacaggtt cagtggcagt ggatcaggga cagatttcac actcaagatc      240
agcagagtgg aggcgtgagga tctgggagtt tattctctgt ttcaagggtc acatgttccg      300
tggaacgttcg gtggaggcac caagctggaa atcaaaa                                336

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<210> SEQ ID NO 16
<211> LENGTH: 8
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 16

Gly Tyr Ser Phe Thr Ser Tyr Trp
1 5

<210> SEQ ID NO 17
<211> LENGTH: 8
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 17

Ile Tyr Pro Gly Asn Ser Asp Thr
1 5

<210> SEQ ID NO 18
<211> LENGTH: 16
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 18

Thr Arg Ser Gln Phe Tyr Ser Gly Ser Ser Glu Asp Ala Met Asp Tyr
1 5 10 15

<210> SEQ ID NO 19
<211> LENGTH: 11
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 19

Gln Ser Ile Val His Ser Asn Gly Asn Thr Tyr
1 5 10

<210> SEQ ID NO 20
<211> LENGTH: 3
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

-continued

<400> SEQUENCE: 20

Lys Val Ser
1<210> SEQ ID NO 21
<211> LENGTH: 9
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 21

Phe Gln Gly Ser His Val Pro Trp Thr
1 5<210> SEQ ID NO 22
<211> LENGTH: 118
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 22

Gln Ile Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Pro Glu Leu Lys Lys Pro Gly Glu
1 5 10 15
Thr Val Lys Ile Ser Cys Lys Ala Ser Gly Tyr Thr Phe Thr Asn Tyr
20 25 30
Gly Met Asn Trp Leu Lys Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Lys Trp Met
35 40 45
Gly Trp Ile Asn Thr Asn Thr Gly Glu Pro Thr Tyr Ala Glu Glu Phe
50 55 60
Lys Gly Arg Phe Ala Phe Ser Leu Glu Thr Ser Ala Ser Thr Ala Tyr
65 70 75 80
Leu Gln Ile Asn Asn Leu Lys Asn Glu Asp Thr Ala Thr Tyr Phe Cys
85 90 95
Ala Arg Lys Asp Tyr Arg Tyr Trp Phe Ala Tyr Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr
100 105 110
Leu Val Thr Val Ser Ala
115

<210> SEQ ID NO 23
<211> LENGTH: 354
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 23

cagatccagt tgggtcagtc tggacctgag ctgaagaagc ctggagagac agtcaagatc 60
tcctgcaagg cttctgggta taccttcaca aactatggaa tgaactggct gaagcaggct 120
ccaggaaagg gtttaaagtg gatgggctgg ataaacacca acactggaga gccaacatat 180
gctgaagagt tcaagggacg gtttgccctc tctttggaaa cctctgccag cactgcctat 240
ttgcagatca acaacctcaa aaatgaggac acggctacat attctgtgc aagaaaggac 300
tatagggtact ggtttgctta ctggggccaa gggactctgg tcaactgtctc tgca 354

<210> SEQ ID NO 24
<211> LENGTH: 112
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 24

-continued

Asp Val Leu Met Thr Gln Thr Pro Leu Ser Leu Pro Val Ser Leu Gly
 1 5 10 15
 Asp Gln Ala Ser Ile Ser Cys Arg Ser Ser Gln Ser Ile Val His Ser
 20 25 30
 Asn Gly Asn Thr Tyr Leu Glu Trp Tyr Leu Gln Lys Pro Gly Gln Ser
 35 40 45
 Pro Lys Leu Leu Ile Tyr Lys Val Ser Asn Arg Phe Ser Gly Val Pro
 50 55 60
 Asp Arg Phe Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu Lys Ile
 65 70 75 80
 Ser Arg Val Glu Ala Glu Asp Leu Gly Val Tyr Tyr Cys Phe Gln Gly
 85 90 95
 Ser His Val Pro Phe Thr Phe Gly Ser Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Ile Lys
 100 105 110

<210> SEQ ID NO 25
 <211> LENGTH: 336
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 25

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gatgttttga tgacccaaac tccactctcc ctgcctgtca gtcttgaga tcaagcctcc      60
atctcttgca gatctagtca gagcattgta catagtaatg gaaacaccta tttagaatgg      120
tacctgcaga aaccaggcca gtctccaaag ctctgatctt acaaagtttc caaccgattt      180
tctgggggtcc cagacagggt cagtggcagt ggatcagggc cagatttcac actcaagatc      240
agcagagtgg aggctgagga tctgggagtt tattactgct ttcaagggtc acatgttcca      300
ttcacgttcg gctcggggac aaagttggaa ataaaaa                                336
  
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<210> SEQ ID NO 26
 <211> LENGTH: 8
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 26

Gly Tyr Thr Phe Thr Asn Tyr Gly
 1 5

<210> SEQ ID NO 27
 <211> LENGTH: 8
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 27

Ile Asn Thr Asn Thr Gly Glu Pro
 1 5

<210> SEQ ID NO 28
 <211> LENGTH: 11
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.

<400> SEQUENCE: 28

Ala Arg Lys Asp Tyr Arg Tyr Trp Phe Ala Tyr
 1 5 10

-continued

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<210> SEQ ID NO 29
<211> LENGTH: 11
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.
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<400> SEQUENCE: 29
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Gln Ser Ile Val His Ser Asn Gly Asn Thr Tyr
1           5           10
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<210> SEQ ID NO 30
<211> LENGTH: 3
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.
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<400> SEQUENCE: 30
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Lys Val Ser
1
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<210> SEQ ID NO 31
<211> LENGTH: 9
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Mus sp.
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<400> SEQUENCE: 31
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Phe Gln Gly Ser His Val Pro Phe Thr
1           5
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What is claimed is:

1. A method for reducing or preventing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* biofilm formation in a human subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the human subject a first composition comprising (a) an antigen-binding polypeptide that binds Pf-family bacteriophage, or (b) a vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first composition comprises the antigen-binding polypeptide.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the antigen-binding polypeptide binds specifically to a CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage or fragment thereof.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein the antigen-binding polypeptide is IgG or IgM.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein the first composition further comprises an antibiotic, or wherein the method further comprises administering a second composition comprising an antibiotic to the human subject.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the human subject is infected with a *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* strain resistant to one or more antibiotics.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the first composition comprises the vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the vaccine comprises an immunogenic fragment of CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the CoaB protein or fragment thereof comprises the amino acid sequence of GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM (SEQ ID NO: 1).

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the human subject is suffering from cystic fibrosis, burns, chronic wound, chronic rhinosinusitis, ventilator-associated pneumonia, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, septic shock, and/or gastrointestinal infections.

11. An antigen-binding polypeptide that binds specifically to a CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage or fragment thereof.

12. The antigen-binding polypeptide of claim 11, wherein the antigen-binding polypeptide specifically binds to an antigenic fragment of the CoaB protein comprising the amino acid sequence of GVIDTSAVESAITDGQGDM (SEQ ID NO: 1).

13. The antigen-binding polypeptide of claim 11, wherein the antigen-binding polypeptide comprises:

(a) a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GFTFSSYV (SEQ ID NO: 6); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ISSGGST (SEQ ID NO: 7); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LRGQDYGAAY (SEQ ID NO: 8),

a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYSFTSYW (SEQ ID NO: 16); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of IYPGNSDT (SEQ ID NO: 17); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of TRSQFYSGSSEDAMDY (SEQ ID NO: 18), or

a heavy chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-H1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of GYTFTNYG (SEQ ID NO: 26); (2) the CDR-H2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of INTNTGEP (SEQ ID NO: 27); and (3) the CDR-H3 comprising,

- ing, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of ARKDYRYWFAY (SEQ ID NO: 28); and
- (b) a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSLDSDGKTY (SEQ ID NO: 9); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of LVS (SEQ ID NO: 10); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of WQGTHFPQT (SEQ ID NO: 11),
- a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 19); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of KVS (SEQ ID NO: 20); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of FQGSHVPWT (SEQ ID NO: 21), or
- a light chain variable region comprising (1) the CDR-L1 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of QSIVHSNGNTY (SEQ ID NO: 29); (2) the CDR-L2 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of
- KVS (SEQ ID NO: 30); and (3) the CDR-L3 comprising, consisting essentially of or consisting of the amino acid sequence of FQGSHVPFT (SEQ ID NO: 31).
- 14.** The antigen-binding polypeptide of claim **11**, wherein the antigen-binding polypeptide is a monoclonal antibody, a chimeric antibody, a humanized antibody, a Fab fragment, a Fab' fragment, a F(ab')₂ fragment, or an scFv molecule.
- 15.** A pharmaceutical composition comprising (a) the antigen-binding polypeptide of claim **11** or a fusion molecule comprising the antigen-binding polypeptide of claim **11**, and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 16.** A polynucleotide encoding the antigen-binding polypeptide of claim **11**.
- 17.** An expression cassette comprising a promoter operably linked to the polynucleotide of claim **16**.
- 18.** A vector comprising the expression cassette of claim **17**.
- 19.** A transformed cell comprising the expression cassette of claim **17**.
- 20.** A vaccine against Pf-family bacteriophage, comprising (a) an immunogenic fragment of CoaB protein of Pf-family bacteriophage comprising the amino acid sequence of GVIDTSAVESAITDGGQDM (SEQ ID NO: 1), and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

* * * * *