



(12)

Rettet oversættelse af
europæisk patentskriftPatent- og
Varemærkestyrelsen

(51) Int.Cl.: **A 61 K 39/395 (2006.01)**
C 07 K 16/28 (2006.01)

(45) Oversættelsen bekendtgjort den: **2024-09-16**

(80) Dato for Den Europæiske Patentmyndigheds
bekendtgørelse om meddelelse af patentet: **2022-10-26**

(86) Europæisk ansøgning nr.: **16715337.8**

(86) Europæisk indleveringsdag: **2016-03-03**

(87) Den europæiske ansøgnings publiceringsdag: **2018-01-10**

(86) International ansøgning nr.: **GB2016050565**

(87) Internationalt publikationsnr.: **WO2016139482**

(30) Prioritet: **2015-03-03 WO PCT/GB2015/050614**
2015-07-28 US 201514811163
2015-11-09 US 201514935937

2015-04-30 US 201514700896
2015-09-09 GB 201516008
2015-12-01 US 201514955843

(84) Designerede stater: **AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV**
MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR

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(54) Benævnelse: **ANTISTOFFER, ANVENDELSER OG FREMGANGSMÅDER**

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DESCRIPTION

[0001] The present invention is as defined by the claims and relates to anti-human OX40L antibodies, new medical uses and methods. The invention is defined by the claims and any other aspects, configurations or embodiments set forth herein not falling within the scope of the claims are for information.

[0002] Any references in the description to methods of treatment refer to the compounds, pharmaceutical compositions and medicaments of the present invention for use in a method for treatment of the human (or animal) body by therapy (or for diagnosis).

BACKGROUND

[0003] OX40 ligand (OX40L) is a TNF family member, a 34 kDa type II transmembrane protein. The crystallized complex of human OX40 and OX40L is a trimeric configuration of one OX40L (trimer) and three OX40 monomers. The human extracellular domain is 42% homologous to mouse OX40L.

[0004] OX40L is not constitutively expressed but can be induced on professional APCs such as B-cells, dendritic cells (DCs) and macrophages. Other cell types such as Langerhans cells, endothelial cells, smooth muscle cells, mast cells and natural killer (NK) cells can be induced to express OX40L. T-cells can also express OX40L. The OX40L receptor, OX40, is expressed on activated T-cells (CD4 and CD8 T-cells, Th2, Th1 and Th17 cells) and CD4⁺CD25⁺ cells, even in the absence of activation.

[0005] The interaction between OX40 and OX40L occurs during the T-cell-DC interaction 2 or 3 days after antigen recognition. After leaving DCs, the OX40-expressing T-cell may interact with an OX40L-expressing cell other than a DC and receive an OX40 signal from this cell, which may provide essential signals for the generation of memory T-cells, the enhancement of Th2 response and the prolongation of the inflammatory response. OX40 signals into responder T-cells render them resistant to Treg mediated suppression.

[0006] Graft versus host disease is a major cause of mortality following allogeneic bone marrow treatment. In the acute version of the disease, mature T-cells present in the bone marrow graft recognise the donor tissue as foreign in an environment of damaged tissue, which, via host APC's cause the activation and proliferation of the donor T-cells, with subsequent T-cell migration to the liver, spleen, gut, skin and lungs, causing tissue damage by the CTL effector response and inflammatory cytokine/chemokine release. Onset for acute disease is usually within the first 100 days post transplantation (Hill Ferrara, Blood May 1, 2000 vol 95 no. 9 2754-275, Reddy-Ferrara Blood, Volume 17, Issue 4, December 2003).

[0007] Chronic GvHD usually appears 100 days posttransplantation and several factors are thought to be involved, including thymic damage caused by prior acute GvHD which results in a reduced clearance of pathogenic T-cells (Zhang et al. September 1, 2007 vol 179 no. 5 3305-3314), up-regulation of TGF- β , which causes fibrosis (McCormick et al. Immuno, November 15, 1999 vol 163 no. 10 5693-5699), and a B-cell component driven by elevated B-Cell activating factor (BAFF) (Garantopoulos et al., Clin Cancer Res October 15, 2007 13: 6107) as well as auto-antibodies against platelet derived growth factor receptor (Segal et al., Blood July 1, 2007 vol 110 no. 1 237-241).

[0008] Clinical studies have shown that OX40 is up-regulated in both acute (Morante et al., Clinical and Experimental Immunology 145:36-43) and chronic (Yotani et al., Blood November 15, 2001 vol 98 no. 10 3162-3164) GvHD. Administration of an antigenic anti-OX40 enhanced survival in a lethal acute mouse model of GvHD, with a 70% survival in the treated group compared to the untreated who all died by day 43 (Tsukada et al., Blood, 1 April 2000, Volume 95, Number 7) whereas treatment with an antigenic anti-OX40 Ab accelerated the disease and mortality (Blazar et al. Blood May 1, 2003 vol 101 no. 9 3741-3748). Blockade of the OX40-OX40L interaction has been shown to be efficacious in several other inflammatory disease, with anti-OX40 Ab being used to treat a mouse model of colitis (Totoku et al., AJP - GI April 1, 2003 vol 284 no. 4 G595-G603), and that an anti-OX40 Ab could block the development of diabetes in NOD mice (Pakala et al. European Journal of Immunology Volume 34, Issue 11, pages 3039-3046, November 2004).

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[0009]

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Groff, M., So, T., Duan, W. and Soroshy, P. (2009), The significance of OX40 and OX40L to T-cell biology and immune disease. *Immunological Reviews*, 229: 173-191.

WO 2006028979 (F. Hoffman-La Roche) describes anti-OX40 antibodies and, in particular, to anti-OX40 antibodies and variants thereof that contain a Fc part derived from human origin and do not bind complement factor C1q.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0010] The invention is defined by the claims and any other aspects, configurations or embodiments set forth herein not falling within the scope of the claims are for information. The invention provides anti-human OX40L (hOX40L) antibodies and fragments and novel medical applications for treating or preventing hOX40L-mediated diseases or conditions in humans. To this end, the invention provides:

In a first configuration

[0011] An antibody or a fragment thereof that specifically binds to hOX40L for treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition in a human in a method wherein the antibody or fragment is administered to said human, wherein the antibody or fragment is for treating or preventing said hOX40L-mediated disease or condition by decreasing one, more or all of

1. a. secretion of a cytokine selected from TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-13, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma in the human;
2. b. the proliferation of leukocytes of the human; and
3. c. binding of hOX40 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed hOX40L.

In a second configuration

[0012] An antibody or a fragment thereof, that specifically binds to hOX40L and competes for binding to said hOX40L with an antibody selected from the group consisting of O2D10, 10A07, 09H4 and 19H01.

In a third configuration

[0013] Use of an antibody or a fragment thereof, that specifically binds to hOX40L in the manufacture of a medicament for administration to a human, for treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition in the human by decreasing one, more or all of

1. a. secretion of a cytokine selected from TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-13, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma in the human;
2. b. the proliferation of leukocytes of the human; and
3. c. binding of hOX40 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed hOX40L.

In a fourth configuration

[0014] A method of treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition in a human by decreasing one, more or all of

1. a. secretion of a cytokine selected from TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-13, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma in the human;
2. b. the proliferation of leukocytes of the human; and
3. c. binding of hOX40 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed hOX40L;

In a fifth configuration

[0015] An antibody or a fragment thereof, that specifically binds to hOX40L and competes for binding to said hOX40L with the antibody O2D10, wherein the antibody or fragment comprises a VH domain which comprises a HCDR3 comprising the motif VRGXXXX, wherein X is any amino acid.

In a sixth configuration

[0016] An antibody or a fragment thereof, that specifically binds to hOX40L and competes for binding to said hOX40L with the antibody O2D10, wherein the antibody or fragment comprises a VH domain which comprises the HCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:40 or 46 or the HCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:40 or 46 comprising less than 5 amino acid substitutions.

In a seventh configuration

[0017] A human antibody or fragment thereof comprising a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGHJ6, which specifically binds to hOX40L for treating or preventing an autoimmune disease selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection.

In an eighth configuration

[0018] Use of a human antibody or fragment thereof comprising a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGHJ6, which specifically binds to hOX40L for the manufacture of a medicament for administration to a human for treating or preventing a hOX40L mediated disease or condition in the human selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection.

In a ninth configuration

[0019] A method of treating or preventing a hOX40L mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection, comprising administering to said human a therapeutically effective amount of a human antibody or fragment thereof comprising a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGHJ6, which specifically binds to hOX40L, wherein the hOX40L mediated disease or condition is thereby treated or prevented.

[0020] The invention also provides pharmaceutical compositions, kits, nucleic acids, vectors and hosts.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0021]

Figure 1: Profiling of fully human recombinant anti-OX40L antibodies in HTRF Ligand/Receptor Neutralisation assay. Data shown is representative of three repeat experiments.

Figure 2: Determining effect of anti-OX40L antibodies in allogeneic PBMC/T Mixed Lymphocyte Reaction. Data shown is from three independent donor pairings where it is assumed each donor is a different individual.

Figure 3: Expansion of Tscm cells following allogeneic HCT. Plots are gated on CD4+CD45RA⁺CCR7+ T-cells.

Figure 4: OX40L blockade controls expansion of CD4+ Tscm cells while preserving CD4+ T naïve cells following allogeneic HCT. Absolute numbers of peripheral blood CD4+ Tscm (left) and T naïve (right) following allogeneic HCT in control animals and 2010 IgG4PE treated animals.

Figure 5: OX40 expression on naïve CD4+ T and memory stem T-cells in a representative animal following allogeneic HCT. Left and middle FACS plots were gated on CD3+CD4+CD45RA⁺CCR7+. The histogram on the right shows OX40 expression in different T-cell subsets of CD4+ T-cells: Naïve (CD45RA⁺CCR7+), memory stem (SCM: CD45RA⁺CCR7+CD45RA⁺CCR7+), central memory (CM: CD45RA⁺CCR7+), effector memory (EM: CD45RA⁺CCR7+) and terminally differentiated effector-memory cells re-expressing CD45RA (TEMRA: CD45RA⁺CCR7+).

Figure 6a: Effects of OX40L blockade on SCM CD4+ T-cells. Dataspoints for 2010 IgG4PE are shown by circles, rapamycin by filled squares and tacrolimus plus methotrexate (TaoMTX) by open squares.

Figure 6b: Effects of OX40L blockade on SCM CD4+ T-cells. Dataspoints for 2010 IgG4PE are shown by circles, rapamycin by filled squares and TaoMTX by unfilled squares.

Figure 7: Kaplan-Meier survival curve for rhesus monkey recipients of hematopoietic stem cell transplants derived from the peripheral blood of haploidentical half sibling donors. Results are shown for animals that did not receive posttransplant prophylactic therapy (No-treatment control, median survival time, MST= 6 days, n=4), and those receiving rapamycin monotherapy (MST= 17 days, n=4), 2010 monotherapy (MST= 19 days, n=4), or rapamycin plus 2010 (MST= 62 days, n=3). Note that animals 2 and 3 indicated on the figure were on-study at the time of drafting, neither showed signs of GvHD at Day 62 or Day

41 post-transplant, respectively. Asterix * for the no treatment control and rapamycin monotherapy groups is data taken from Furlan et al., 2015, *Science Translational Medicine*, vol 7 (315), 315ra191.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0022] The description provides the following aspects 1 to 113.

[0023] The invention is useful, for example, for treating or preventing transplant rejection, e.g., graft versus host disease (GVHD) or allogeneic transplant rejection. The invention is also useful, for example, for treating or preventing an inflammatory bowel disease, e.g., UC or CD, or for treating or preventing an airway inflammatory disease or condition. In an example, this aspect is useful for treating or preventing asthma. The invention is also useful, for example, for treating or preventing fibrosis. The invention is also useful, for example, for treating or preventing diabetes. The invention is also useful, for example, for treating or preventing Schatzler syndrome. The invention is also useful, for example, for treating or preventing non-infectious scleritis.

1. An antibody or a fragment thereof that specifically binds to HOXA4L for treating or preventing a HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition in a human in a method wherein the antibody or fragment is administered to said human, wherein the antibody or fragment is for treating or preventing said HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition by decreasing one, more or all of
 1. a. secretion of a cytokine selected from TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-9/JL-10, IL-13, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma in the human;
 2. b. the proliferation of leukocytes of the human; and
 3. c. binding of HOXA4 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed HOXA4L.

[0024] The inventors, thus identified for the first time, decreases of (a), (b) and (c) as ways of treating and/or preventing HOXA4L-mediated disease and conditions in humans and they provide antibodies and antibody fragments for this purpose.

[0025] In an example, the secretion is leukocyte secretion. In an example, (a) is indicated by a significantly elevated level of the cytokine(s) in human blood, plasma or serum.

[0026] In an example, the cytokine is selected from (i) TNF alpha, (ii) IL-2 and (iii) interferon gamma. In an example, the cytokine is IL-2. In an example, the cytokine is interferon gamma. In an example, the cytokines are (i) and (ii); or (i) and (iii); or (i)-(ii).

[0027] In an example, the decrease of (a), (b) or (c) or any other decrease disclosed herein is a decrease of at least 10 to 20% compared to the level in a human at risk of or suffering from the HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition. In an example, the latter is the human recited in aspect 1 prior to administration of the antibody or fragment; in another example the latter is a different human. In an example, said decrease is at least 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60%.

1. (a) In an example, the antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of secretion of the relevant cytokine from leukocytes (e.g., human T-cells) in an *in vitro* assay (as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of (a).
2. (b) In an example, the antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of the proliferation of leukocytes (e.g., human PBMCs and/or human T-cells) in an *in vitro* assay (as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of (b).
3. (c) In an example, the antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of the binding of HOXA4 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed HOXA4L in an *in vitro* assay (as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of (c).

[0028] In an example, (b) and (i); or (b) and (ii); or (b) and (iii); or (i)-(ii) apply.

[0029] Additionally or alternatively, assessment of said decreases can be performed using a sample from the treated human. For example, reference is made to *J Clin Immunol*, 2004 Jan; 24(1):74-85, "Increased expression of CCL20 in human inflammatory bowel disease", Kaser A et al. This publication provides an example of a generally-applicable technique of using tissue biopsies and reading out decreased cytokine levels indicative of decreased cytokine secretion after treatment with an antibody *in vivo*. Similar methods can be used to determine decrease of the secretion of one or more cytokines in a human having received an antibody of the invention. The skilled person will be familiar with techniques for assessing cytokine levels in patients and patient samples, for example, by use of one or more of tissue biopsy, immunofluorescence, tissue staining, cytokine mRNA quantification (e.g., using PCR, such as Taqman® PCR), cytokine protein detection and quantification (e.g., using cytokine-specific tool antibody and quantification, such as by ELISA or another standard protein quantification technique). For example, where the disease or condition is one of the GI tract (e.g., IBD), one can perform biopsy of relevant gut tissue from a patient that has received an antibody of the invention, followed by quantification of cytokine mRNA and/or cytokine protein (e.g., using quantitative PCR). The result can be compared with a cytokine quantification in biopsied relevant tissue from the same patient prior to antibody administration or compared to another human patient suffering from the same disease or condition but receiving no anti-HOXA4L treatment or no treatment for the disease or condition. In this way, the skilled person can determine that the antibody of the invention decreases secretion of the cytokine in the human recipient. Instead of assessing gut tissue levels, one can instead use a different tissue sample from the human patient dependent upon the nature and location of the disease or condition. For example, where the disease or condition is one of the airways (e.g., lung), it is possible to take a lung or other airway tissue sample for cytokine assessment. Alternatively, one can use a bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) sample as will be apparent to the skilled person. In another example, for some disease or condition one can assess the decrease in cytokine in a blood, serum or plasma sample taken from a human that has received an antibody of the invention, and then comparing to the level before receiving the antibody or comparing to the level in an untreated human, as discussed above.

[0030] As is known in the art, the term "leukocytes" includes, for example, one or more of lymphocytes, polymorphonuclear leukocytes and monocytes. As is also readily apparent to the skilled person the term "monocytes" includes, for example, peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) or monocyte derived cells, e.g., dendritic cells (DCs). See, for example, *Immunology*, 2013 Nov; 218(1):1392-401; doi: 10.1016/j.immobi.2013.07.005; *Epub 2013 Jul 25*, "Leukocyte system chambers are an efficient, valid, and economic source of functional monocyte-derived dendritic cells and lymphocytes", Pfeiffer JA et al.

[0031] The proliferation of leukocytes, e.g., lamina propria lymphocytes (LPLs), can be assessed using tissue biopsy, staining and histology, as will be apparent to the skilled person. Hematoxylin and eosin stain (H&E stain or HE stain) is, for example, commonly used in histology to look for infiltrating lymphocytes a whole range of human tissue and is one of the primary stains in histology. It is the most widely used stain in medical diagnosis and is often the gold standard, and as such can be used to assess proliferation of leukocytes as per the invention. For example, GI tract tissue (e.g., gut tissue) from a human that is suffering from or at risk of a HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition can be obtained, stained and assessed for the extent of infiltration of LPLs. Comparison can be made between such tissue from a human that has received an antibody of the invention compared to the extent of infiltration in tissue obtained from the same human prior to administration of antibody or from another human that has not received treatment and is at risk of or suffering from the disease or condition. For example, the comparison is between human gut tissue taken from the same (or different) humans suffering from IBD.

[0032] One can, for example, determine if the antibody or fragment is capable of decreasing binding of HOXA4 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed HOXA4L using standard binding assays are familiar to the skilled person, e.g., using ELISA or SPR.

[0033] Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a chronic inflammatory disorder affecting the gastrointestinal tract with an apparently ever-increasing incidence and tendency to more severe clinical phenotypes. The disease is characterised by an exaggerated immune response to the luminal flora, suggesting that deficiencies in barrier function of intestinal flora may be involved, and studies support this notion (Cucchiara et al., 2012; Jostes et al., 2012; Manichini et al., 2012; Salzman et al., 2007, all cited in Deuring et al., "The cell biology of the intestinal epithelium and its relation to inflammatory bowel disease", *The International Journal of Biochemistry & Cell Biology* 45 (2013) 798-806). IBD induces two main groups: Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC). CD patients can have inflammatory lesions in the entire gastrointestinal tract, whereas the inflammation in UC patients is restricted to the colon. Reference is also made to Hisamatsu et al. ("Immune aspects of the pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel disease", *Pharmacology & Therapeutics* 137 (2013) 283-297) and the documents cited therein.

Role of Cytokines in Disease and Conditions

[0035] Reference is made to Muzes et al., *World J Gastroenterol* 2012 November 7; 18(41): 5948-5961 ISSN 1007-9327 (print) ISSN 2219-3840 (online), "Changes of the cytokine profile in inflammatory bowel Disease".

[0036] Cytokines are indispensable signals of the mucosa-associated immune system for maintaining normal gut homeostasis. An imbalance of their profile in favour of inflammation initiation may lead to disease states, such as that is observed in inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), e.g., Crohn's disease (CD) and ulcerative colitis (UC). The role of pro-inflammatory cytokines such as IL-1 α , IL-1 β , IL-2, IL-6, -8, -12, -17, -23, IFN- γ or TNF alpha in IBD is associated with the initiation and progression of UC and CD. CD is often described as a prototype of T-helper (Th) 1-mediated diseases because the primary inflammatory mediators are the Th1 cytokines such as interleukin (IL)-12, interferon (IFN)- γ , and tumour necrosis factor (TNF)- α .

[0037] Binding of TNF-like ligands to their receptors triggers extracellular pathways that are directly involved in cell proliferation, differentiation, and survival. Most members of the TNF/TNF-receptor protein superfamilies are expressed on immune cells and play a critical role in multiple components of the immune response. TNF- α is a master cytokine in the pathogenesis of IBD. It exerts its pleiotropic effects through the expression of adhesion molecules, fibroblast proliferation, procoagulant factors, as well as the initiation of cytotoxic, apoptotic and acute-phase responses. The source of TNF- α in IBD is partly the innate immune cells, such as macrophages or monocytes, and also differentiated Th1 cells. The serum levels of TNF- α correlate with the clinical activity of UC and CD[31]. It plays an orchestrating role in colonic inflammation in IBD. The role of TNF- α in CD has been widely investigated. Binding TNF- α to serum soluble TNF receptor 1 and 2 (TNFR1 and 2) initiates pro-inflammatory signalling. The levels of TNF- α in CD has been widely investigated. Binding TNF- α to serum soluble TNF receptor 1 and 2 (TNFR1 and 2) initiates pro-inflammatory signalling. The levels of TNF- α in CD has been widely investigated.

[0038] Tumour necrosis factor-like (TNL) factor, another member of the TNF family, stimulates TNF- α secretion by binding to death receptor 3 (DR3). DR3 is expressed by a high percentage of cells from mucosal biopsies of UC and CD, and an increase of TNF- α level has been observed with disease activity in IBD patients. The TLR1/4/CD3 is involved in the pathogenesis of CD. The macrophages of the lamina propria are a major producer of TLR4, which expression is markedly enhanced in CD. It has been found that TLR4 and IL-23 synergistically promotes the production of IFN- γ by mucosal T-cells. IFN- γ is produced by Th1 T-cells. Once inflammation is initiated, IFN- γ is produced and subsequently acts through various molecules and pathways of the immune system to intensify the inflammatory process. There is an overwhelming body of literature extensively documenting the proinflammatory nature of IFN- γ which has led to the mainstream opinion that IFN- γ is a prime proinflammatory cytokine in inflammation and autoimmune disease. Interferon- γ is causatively involved in experimental inflammatory bowel disease in mice (to it al., *Clinical and Experimental Immunology* (2006), 146:330-338). The study clearly demonstrated that IFN- γ -/- mice manifested attenuated colitis after stimulation with DSS, in terms of the degree of body weight loss, DAI, histological score and MPO activity. IFN- γ was increasingly produced in the colon of DSS-treated WT mice that showed severe IBD-like symptoms.

[0039] Interleukin-2 (IL-2) is produced by T-cells and is mostly important for T-cells to differentiate into effector T-cells. IL-2 is also important for T-cell proliferation. This is important for IBD because effector T-cells are thought to be a major cell type to cause damage in IBD.

[0040] IL-8 (interleukin-8; aka CXCL8) primarily mediates the activation and migration of neutrophils from peripheral blood and to sites of inflammation. The tissue level of IL-8 has been found to be higher in active UC compared to normal colonic tissue, and its serum concentration has been related to endoscopic and histological stages of UC. IL-8 is important for inflammatory settings and cancer (see, e.g., "The Chemokine CXCL8 in Carcinogenesis and Drug Response", *ISRN Oncol*. 2013 Oct 9;2013:69154; Gales D et al., and *Future Oncol*, 2010 Jan;6(1):111-6; doi: 10.2217/fon.09.128; "CXCL8 and its cognate receptors in melanoma progression and metastasis", Singh S et al.). In cancer patients, IL-8 is thought to contribute also by supporting angiogenesis.

[0041] In any configuration, aspect, concept or example herein the antibody or fragment antagonises the binding of HOXA4L on an HOXA4 receptor.

[0042] In any configuration, aspect, concept or example herein, the antibody or fragment antagonises the binding of HOXA4L to HOXA4.

[0043] In any configuration, aspect, concept or example herein, the HOXA4L receptor can be human HOXA4.

[0044] In any configuration, aspect, concept or example herein the human is suffering from or at risk of asthma and the antibody or fragment decreases IgE in a human.

[0045] In any configuration, aspect, concept or example herein the human is suffering from or at risk of asthma and the antibody or fragment is for decreasing IgE in a human.

[0046] 1. The antibody or fragment of aspect 1, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases the binding of HOXA4 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed HOXA4L and decreases the proliferation of human T-cells; wherein the antibody or fragment is for treating or preventing said HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition by decreasing the secretion of a cytokine selected from TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-9/JL-10, IL-13, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma.

[0047] 2. In an example, the cytokine is TNF alpha. In an example, the cytokine is IL-2. In an example, the cytokine is interferon gamma. In an example, the cytokines are (i) and (ii); or (i) and (iii); or (i) and (ii); or (i)-(ii).

[0048] 3. The antibody or fragment of aspect 1, wherein the leukocytes are selected from the group consisting of polymorphonuclear leukocytes, monocytes, peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs), lymphocytes, T-cells, antigen presenting cells (APCs), dendritic cells (DC cells) and natural killer cells (NK cells).

[0049] In one embodiment, the leukocytes are peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) and T-cells (e.g. PBMCs).

[0050] 4. The antibody or fragment of aspect 3, wherein the leukocytes comprise lamina propria lymphocytes (LPLs) and the disease or condition is a disease or condition of the gastrointestinal tract (GI tract).

[0051] 5. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the epithelial cells comprise selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells and airway (e.g., lung) epithelial cells.

[0052] In another embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise cells selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells, ocular cells and airway (e.g., lung) epithelial cells. In a further embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise ocular cells.

[0053] 6. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, for treating or preventing said HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition in said human by decreasing the proliferation of T-cells in said human.

[0054] In an example, the antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of the proliferation of T-cells in an *in vitro* assay (e.g., in a human DC cell/*in vitro* assay, for example as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of the proliferation of T-cells in said human.

[0055] 7. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, for treating or preventing said HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition in said human by antagonising the interaction between HOXA4L and leukocytes of the human, wherein the proliferation of leukocytes is decreased.

[0056] 8. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, for treating or preventing said HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition in said human by decreasing the proliferation of leukocytes (e.g., monocellular cells) in an *in vitro* assay (e.g., in a MLR *in vitro* assay, for example as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of the proliferation of leukocytes in said human.

[0057] 9. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, for treating or preventing said HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition in said human by decreasing the proliferation of leukocytes of the human by antagonising the HOXA4L/HOXA4L receptor interaction mediated by T-cells in said human.

[0058] 10. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, for treating or preventing said HOXA4L-mediated disease or condition in said human by decreasing the secretion of a cytokine selected from TNF alpha, IL-2 and interferon gamma in the human.

[0059] 11. In an example, the antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of the proliferation of leukocytes (e.g., monocellular cells) in an *in vitro* assay (e.g., in a MLR *in vitro* assay, for example as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of the proliferation of leukocytes in said human.

[0060] 12. In an example, the antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of the proliferation of leukocytes (e.g., monocellular cells) in an *in vitro* assay (e.g., in a MLR *in vitro* assay, for example as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of the proliferation of leukocytes in said human.

[0061] 13. The antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of the secretion of a cytokine selected from IL-2, TNF alpha and interferon gamma in an *in vitro* assay (e.g., in a MLR *in vitro* assay, for example as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of the secretion of said selected cytokine(s) in said human.

[0062] In an example, the antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of the secretion of IL-8 in an *in vitro* assay (e.g., in a MLR *in vitro* assay, for example as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of the secretion of IL-8 in said human.

[0063] 10. The antibody or fragment of aspect 9, for treating or preventing said disease or condition by decreasing the secretion of said cytokine mediated by the interaction of dendritic cells (DC cells) with T-cells in the human.

[0064] In an example, the antibody or fragment is capable of effecting a decrease of said cytokine(s) secretion in a DC cell/T-cell *in vitro* assay (for example as explained further below), and thus administration of such antibody or fragment to the human leads to decrease of the secretion of said cytokine(s) in said human.

[0065] 11. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein gastrointestinal cell, colon cell, intestinal cell or airway (e.g., lung) cell damage is a symptom or cause of said disease or condition in humans.

[0066] In another embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise cells selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells, ocular cells and airway (e.g., lung) epithelial cells. In another embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise cells selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells and ocular cells. In a further embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise ocular cells.

[0067] 12. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the human is suffering from or at risk of an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), diabetes or airway inflammation and said method treats or prevents IBD, allogeneic transplant rejection, GVHD, diabetes or airway inflammation in the human.

[0068] 12a. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the human is suffering from or at risk of an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ureitis, pyoderma gangrenosum, giant cell arteritis, Schnitzler syndrome, non-infectious scleritis, diabetes or airway inflammation and said method treats or prevents IBD, allogeneic transplant rejection, GVHD, ureitis, pyoderma gangrenosum, giant cell arteritis, Schnitzler syndrome, non-infectious scleritis, diabetes or airway inflammation in the human.

[0069] In an example of any preceding aspect the human is suffering from or at risk of an inflammatory or autoimmune disease or condition or has been diagnosed as such.

[0070] In an example, the autoimmune disease or condition is selected from the following:-

Acute disseminated encephalomyelitis (ADEM)

Adonis's disease

Allergic granulomatosis and angitis or Churg-Strauss syndrome (CSS)

Alpecia or Alopecia Areata (AA)

Ankylosing spondylitis

Autoimmune chronic active hepatitis (CAH)

Autoimmune hemolytic anemia

Autoimmune pancreatitis (AP)

Autoimmune retinopathy (AR) see Retinopathy

Autoimmune thrombocytopenic purpura

Autoimmune neutropenia

Autoimmune Inner Ear Disease (AIED)

Antiphospholipid Syndrome (APS)

Autoimmune Lymphoproliferative Syndrome (ALPS)

Behcet's syndrome

Bullous pemphigoid

Celiac disease

Churg-Strauss Syndrome (CSS) or Allergic Granulomatosis Angitis

Chronic bullous disease of childhood

Chronic inflammatory demyelinating Polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP)

Cicatricial pemphigoid (CP)

Central Nervous System Vasculitis

Crohn's Disease

Cryoglobulinemia

Dermatitis herpetiformis (DH)

Discoid lupus erythematosus (DLE)

Encephalomyelitis

Epidermolysis bullosa acquista (EBA)

Giant Cell Arteritis see Temporal arteritis

Graft-versus-host disease

Graves' Disease

Gullain-Barré syndrome

Hand-Syndrome see Primary biliary Cirrhosis

Hashimoto's thyroiditis also called autoimmune thyroiditis and chronic lymphocytic thyroiditis Hypersensitivity Vasculitis (HV) or small vessel vasculitis

Immune-mediated infertility

Inflammatory bowel disease

Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus

Isolated vasculitis of the Central nervous system or CNS Vasculitis

Isaacs' Syndrome: Neuromyotonia

Kawasaki disease (KD)

Lambert-Eaton myasthenic syndrome (LEMS)

Linear IgA disease

Lupus - see Systemic lupus erythematosus

Meniere's Disease

Microscopic Polyangiitis (MPA)

Mixed connective tissue disease or MCTD

Monoclonal Gammopathy

Myasthenia Gravis

Multiple Sclerosis

Multifocal motor neuropathy

Neuromyotonia or Isaacs' syndrome

Neutropenia see Autoimmune Neutropenia

Ophthalmitis

Opcracinus-myoclonus syndrome

orchitis

Paraneoplastic neurologic disorders

Parpighus vulgaris

Parpighus foliaceus PF)

Parpighus gestatosis (PG)

Pernicious anemia

Paraneoplastic pemphigus (PNP)

Polyangiitis - see Microscopic polyangiitis

Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)

Polymyositis/Dermatomyositis

Polymyositis Rheumatica

Primary biliary Cirrhosis (PBC) also called Hanot Syndrome

Primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC)

Raynaud's phenomenon

Recoverin-associated retinopathy(RAR) see Retinopathy

Reactive Arthritis formerly known as Reiter's syndrome,

Retinopathy

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)

Sarcoidosis

Sclerosing cholangitis see Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis

Sjögren's syndrome

Systemic necrotizing vasculitides

Stiff man syndrome or Moersch-Wolffmann syndrome
 Systemic lupus erythematosus
 Systemic sclerosis (scleroderma)
 Temporal arteritis or giant cell arteritis (GCA)
 Takayasu's arteritis
 Thromboangiitis obliterans or Buerger's disease
 Thyroiditis with hypothyroidism
 Thyroiditis with hyperthyroidism
 Type I autoimmune polyglandular syndrome (PAS)
 Type II autoimmune polyglandular syndrome
 Vasculitis

Wegener's granulomatosis

[0071] In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, the human is suffering from uveitis. For example, the uveitis is non-infectious and/or autoimmune in nature, i.e. is non-infectious uveitis or is autoimmune uveitis. For example, the non-infectious/autoimmune uveitis is caused by and/or is associated with Behcet's disease. Fuchs heterochromic iridocyclitis, granulomatous with polyangiitis, HLAB27 related disease, juvenile idiopathic arthritis, sarcoidosis, spondyloarthritis, sympathetic ophthalmia, tubulointerstitial nephritis or uveitis syndrome. In an example, the uveitis is systemic in nature, i.e. is systemic uveitis. For example, the systemic uveitis is caused by and/or is associated with ankylosing spondylitis, Behcet's disease, chronic granulomatous disease, enthesitis, inflammatory bowel disease, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, Kawasaki's disease, multiple sclerosis, polyarticular nodos, psoriatic arthritis, reactive arthritis, sarcoidosis, systemic lupus erythematosus, Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada syndrome or Whipple's disease.

[0072] In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, the human is suffering from pyoderma gangrenosum, giant cell arteritis, Sjögren syndrome or non-infectious scleritis. In an example, the human is suffering from pyoderma gangrenosum. In an example, the human is suffering from giant cell arteritis. In an example, the human is suffering from Sjögren syndrome. In an example, the human is suffering from non-infectious scleritis.

[0073] In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, the human is suffering from a hOX40L mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GvHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and atherosclerosis, in particular GvHD. In another embodiment, the human is suffering from or is at risk from multi-serial organ transplant rejection.

13. An antibody or a fragment thereof, that specifically binds to hOX40L and competes for binding to said hOX40L with an antibody selected from the group consisting of 02D10, 10A07, 09H04 and 19H01.

[0074] In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, competition is determined by surface plasmon resonance (SPR), such techniques being readily apparent to the skilled person. SPR can be carried out using Biacore™, Proteon™ or another standard SPR technique. Such competition may be used, for example, to the antibody/agents binding to identical or overlapping epitopes of hOX40L. In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, competition is determined by ELISA, such techniques being readily apparent to the skilled person. In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, competition is determined by homogeneous time resolved fluorescence (HTRF), such techniques being readily apparent to the skilled person. In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, competition is determined by fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS), such techniques being readily apparent to the skilled person. In one aspect, the HTRF, ELISA and/or FACS methods are carried out as described in the Examples hereinbelow.

[0075] 14. The antibody or fragment of aspect 13, wherein the antibody or fragment is according to any one of aspects 1 to 12.

[0076] 15. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising lambda light chain variable domains (optionally which are human).

[0077] In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment of the present invention, the variable domains of the antibody or fragment are human or humanised. Additionally, optionally the antibody or fragment further comprises human or humanised constant regions (e.g., human Fc and/or human CL). In an example of any aspect of the present invention, the variable domains of the antibody or fragment are produced by a transgenic animal (e.g., a rodent, mouse, rat, rabbit, chicken, sheep, Camelid or shark). In an example of any aspect of the present invention, the variable domains of the antibody or fragment are produced or identified by phage display, ribosome display or yeast display.

[0078] In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment of the present invention, the antibody or fragment is recombinant.

[0079] In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment of the present invention, the antibody or fragment is produced by a recombinant mammalian, bacterial, insect, plant or yeast cell. In an example, the mammalian cell is a CHO or HEK293 cell and the antibody or fragment comprises CHO or HEK293 cell glycosylation.

[0080] In an example of any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment of the present invention, the antibody or fragment is isolated.

[0081] 16. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VH domain which comprises a HCDR1 sequence selected from the group consisting of the HCDR1 of:

1. a. 02D10, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 02D10 for binding to said hOX40L;
2. b. 10A07, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 10A07 for binding to said hOX40L;
3. c. 09H04, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 09H04 for binding to said hOX40L; and
4. d. 19H01, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 19H01 for binding to said hOX40L.

[0082] 17. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VH domain which comprises a HCDR2 sequence selected from the group consisting of the HCDR2 of:

1. a. 02D10, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 02D10 for binding to said hOX40L;
2. b. 10A07, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 10A07 for binding to said hOX40L;
3. c. 09H04, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 09H04 for binding to said hOX40L; and
4. d. 19H01, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 19H01 for binding to said hOX40L.

[0083] 18. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VH domain which comprises a HCDR3 sequence selected from the group consisting of the HCDR3 of:

1. a. 02D10, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 02D10 for binding to said hOX40L;
2. b. 10A07, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 10A07 for binding to said hOX40L;
3. c. 09H04, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 09H04 for binding to said hOX40L; and
4. d. 19H01, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 19H01 for binding to said hOX40L.

[0084] 19. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VH domain which comprises (i) the CDR1 and 2, (ii) CDR1 and 3, (iii) CDR2 and 3 or (iv) CDR1, 2 and 3 sequences:

1. a. recited in (a) of aspects 16-18, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 02D10 for binding to said hOX40L;
2. b. recited in (b) of aspects 16-18, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 10A07 for binding to said hOX40L;
3. c. recited in (c) of aspects 16-18, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 09H04 for binding to said hOX40L; or
4. d. recited in (d) of aspects 16-18, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 19H01 for binding to said hOX40L.

[0085] 20. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VH domain which comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of the VH amino acid sequences in the sequence listing.

[0086] In an aspect, the invention provides an anti-hOX40L antibody or fragment (optionally according to any other aspect recited herein) comprising a VH domain which comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of the VH amino acid sequences in the sequence listing. In an aspect, the VH domain comprises an amino acid sequence selected from Seq ID No. 36, Seq ID No. 42, Seq ID No. 68, Seq ID No. 74, Seq ID No. 95 or Seq ID No. 102, in particular Seq ID No. 36 or Seq ID No. 42. Additionally or alternatively, the antibody or fragment comprises a HCDR1 domain amino acid sequence set out in the sequence listing below (i.e. Seq ID No. 4, Seq ID No. 10, Seq ID No. 36, Seq ID No. 42, Seq ID No. 68, Seq ID No. 74, Seq ID No. 95 or Seq ID No. 102, in particular Seq ID No. 36 or Seq ID No. 42). Additionally or alternatively, the antibody or fragment comprises a HCDR2 domain amino acid sequence set out in the sequence listing below (i.e. Seq ID No. 6, Seq ID No. 12, Seq ID No. 38, Seq ID No. 44, Seq ID No. 70, Seq ID No. 76, Seq ID No. 98 or Seq ID No. 104, in particular Seq ID No. 38 or Seq ID No. 44). Additionally or alternatively, the antibody or fragment comprises a HCDR3 domain amino acid sequence set out in the sequence listing below (i.e. Seq ID No. 8, Seq ID No. 14, Seq ID No. 40, Seq ID No. 45, Seq ID No. 72, Seq ID No. 78, Seq ID No. 103 or Seq ID No. 105, in particular Seq ID No. 40 or Seq ID No. 45).

[0087] In another example of the invention, the antibody or fragment comprises a VH domain amino acid sequence set out in the sequence listing below. Additionally or alternatively, the antibody or fragment comprises a HCDR1 domain amino acid sequence set out in the sequence listing below (i.e. Seq ID No. 4, Seq ID No. 10, Seq ID No. 56, Seq ID No. 58, Seq ID No. 65, Seq ID No. 70, Seq ID No. 75, Seq ID No. 88, Seq ID No. 110 or Seq ID No. 116, in particular Seq ID No. 50 or Seq ID No. 55). Additionally or alternatively, the antibody or fragment comprises a LCDR2 domain amino acid sequence set out in the sequence listing below (i.e. Seq ID No. 20, Seq ID No. 24, Seq ID No. 52, Seq ID No. 58, Seq ID No. 62, Seq ID No. 82, Seq ID No. 88, Seq ID No. 110 or Seq ID No. 116, in particular Seq ID No. 50 or Seq ID No. 55). Additionally or alternatively, the antibody or fragment comprises a LCDR3 domain amino acid sequence set out in the sequence listing below (i.e. Seq ID No. 22, Seq ID No. 28, Seq ID No. 54, Seq ID No. 60, Seq ID No. 86, Seq ID No. 92, Seq ID No. 93, Seq ID No. 114 or Seq ID No. 120, in particular Seq ID No. 54 or Seq ID No. 60).

[0088] In an example of any aspect herein, the antibody or fragment comprises a heavy chain comprising a constant region selected from the group consisting of the heavy chain constant region SEQ ID NOs in the sequence listing (i.e. any of Seq ID Nos. 126, 128, 132, or 134, in particular the constant region of Seq ID No. 128), and optionally a VH domain as recited in aspect 19 or 20. In an example, the antibody or fragment comprises two copies of such a heavy chain. In another example, the heavy chain comprise a rodent, rat, mouse, human, rabbit, chicken, Camelid, sheep, bovine, non-human primate or shark constant region (e.g., Fc), in particular a mouse constant region.

[0089] In an example of any aspect herein, the antibody or fragment comprises a heavy chain comprising a gamma (e.g., human gamma) constant region, e.g., a human gamma1 constant region. In another example of any aspect herein, the antibody or fragment comprises a human gamma 4 constant region. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region does not bind Fcγ receptors, and e.g. comprises a Leu235Glu mutation (i.e. where the wild type leucine residue is mutated to a glutamic acid residue). In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region comprises a Ser228Pro mutation to increase stability. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region is IgG4 comprising both the Leu235Glu mutation and the Ser228Pro mutation. This heavy chain constant region is referred to as "IgG4-PE" herein.

[0090] 21. In an example of any aspect herein, the antibody or fragment is chimeric, e.g., it comprise human variable domains and non-human (e.g., rodent, mouse or rat, such as mouse) constant regions.

[0091] 22. The antibody or fragment of any one of aspects 16 to 20, comprising first and second copies of said VH domain.

[0092] 22. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VL domain which comprises a LCDR1 sequence selected from the group consisting of the LCDR1 of:

1. a. 02D10, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 02D10 for binding to said hOX40L;
2. b. 10A07, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 10A07 for binding to said hOX40L;
3. c. 09H04, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 09H04 for binding to said hOX40L; and
4. d. 19H01, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 19H01 for binding to said hOX40L.

[0093] 23. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VL domain which comprises a LCDR2 sequence selected from the group consisting of the LCDR2 of:

1. a. 02D10, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 02D10 for binding to said hOX40L;
2. b. 10A07, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 10A07 for binding to said hOX40L;
3. c. 09H04, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 09H04 for binding to said hOX40L; and
4. d. 19H01, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 19H01 for binding to said hOX40L.

[0094] 24. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VL domain which comprises a LCDR3 sequence selected from the group consisting of the LCDR3 of:

1. a. 02D10, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 02D10 for binding to said hOX40L;
2. b. 10A07, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 10A07 for binding to said hOX40L;
3. c. 09H04, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 09H04 for binding to said hOX40L; and
4. d. 19H01, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 19H01 for binding to said hOX40L.

[0095] 25. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VL domain which comprises (i) the CDR1 and 2, (ii) CDR1 and 3, (iii) CDR2 and 3 or (iv) CDR1, 2 and 3 sequences:

1. a. recited in (a) of aspects 22-24, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 02D10 for binding to said hOX40L;
2. b. recited in (b) of aspects 22-24, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 10A07 for binding to said hOX40L;
3. c. recited in (c) of aspects 22-24, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 09H04 for binding to said hOX40L; or

4. d. recited in (d) of aspects 22-24, and wherein the antibody or fragment competes with 19H01 for binding to said hOX40L.

[0097] 26. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, comprising a VL domain which comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of the VL amino acid sequences in the sequence listing.

[0098] In an aspect of the invention, there is provided an anti-hOX40L antibody or fragment (optionally according to any other aspect here), comprising a VL domain which comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of the VL amino acid sequences in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No: 16, Seq ID No: 48, Seq ID No: 80 or Seq ID No: 108, in particular Seq ID No: 48).

[0099] In an example of any aspect herein, the antibody or fragment comprises a light chain (e.g., lambda light chain) comprising a constant region selected from the group consisting of the light chain constant region sequences in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No: 136, Seq ID No: 138, Seq ID No: 140, Seq ID No: 16, Seq ID No: 144, Seq ID No: 146, Seq ID No: 148, Seq ID No: 154, Seq ID No: 156, Seq ID No: 160, Seq ID No: 162, Seq ID No: 164 or Seq ID No: 166), and optionally a VL domain (e.g., kappa VL) as recited in aspect 25 or 26. In an example, the antibody or fragment comprises two copies of such a light chain (optionally also two copies of the heavy chain described above). In another example, the light chain comprises a rodent, rat, mouse, human, rabbit, chicken, Camelid, sheep, bovine, non-human primate or shark constant region.

[0100] In an example of any aspect herein, the antibody or fragment comprises a light chain (e.g., kappa light chain) comprising a constant region selected from the group consisting of the light chain constant region sequences in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No: 136, Seq ID No: 138, Seq ID No: 140, Seq ID No: 142, Seq ID No: 144, Seq ID No: 146, Seq ID No: 148, Seq ID No: 154, Seq ID No: 156, Seq ID No: 160, Seq ID No: 162, Seq ID No: 164 or Seq ID No: 166), and optionally a VL domain (e.g., lambda VL) as recited in aspect 25 or 26. In an example, the antibody or fragment comprises two copies of such a light chain (optionally also two copies of the heavy chain described above). In another example, the light chain comprises a rodent, rat, mouse, human, rabbit, chicken, Camelid, sheep, bovine, non-human primate or shark constant region.

[0101] In an example, the antibody or fragment comprises a lambda light chain comprising a constant region selected from the group consisting of the light chain constant region sequences in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No: 146, Seq ID No: 148, Seq ID No: 154, Seq ID No: 156, Seq ID No: 160, Seq ID No: 162, Seq ID No: 164 or Seq ID No: 166), and optionally a kappa VL domain.

[0102] In an example, the antibody or fragment comprises a kappa light chain comprising a constant region selected from the group consisting of the light chain constant region sequences in the sequence listing (i.e. i.e. Seq ID No:136, Seq ID No:138, Seq ID No:140, Seq ID No:142 or Seq ID No:144), and optionally a lambda VL domain.

[0103] In an example, the VL domains of the antibody or fragment are lambda Light chain variable domains. In an example, the VL domains of the antibody or fragment are kappa Light chain variable domains.

[0104] 27. The antibody or fragment of any one of aspects 22 to 26, comprising first and second copies of said VL domain.

[0105] 28. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the hOX40L is human cell surface-expressed hOX40L, e.g., on endothelial cells (e.g., an airway or GI tract endothelial cell).

[0106] In another embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise cells selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells, ocular cells and airway (e.g., lung) epithelial cells. In another embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise cells selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells and ocular cells. In a further embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise cells selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells and ocular cells.

[0107] 29. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases the proliferation of human PBMCs or T-cells in the presence of hOX40L in an *in vitro* mixed lymphocyte reaction (MLR) assay by at least 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% compared to the proliferation of human PBMCs or T-cells in the presence of hOX40L in an *in vitro* control MLR assay in the absence of an antibody that is specific for hOX40L. An illustration of a suitable assay is provided in the examples below.

[0108] 30. The antibody or fragment of aspect 29, wherein the hOX40L in the assay is surface-expressed on human dendritic cells (DC cells).

[0109] An illustration of a suitable assay is provided in the examples below.

[0110] 31. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases NF- κ B activity in human HT-1080 cells expressing hOX40 receptor *in vitro* in the presence of hOX40L.

[0111] In an example, the antibody or fragment the decrease in NF- κ B activity is determined by detecting a decrease in IL-8 secretion by HT-1080 cells (ATCC® CCL-121) (optionally transfected with hOX40 Receptor, in the presence of hOX40) *in vitro*.

[0112] 32. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases IL-8 secretion from human HT-1080 cells expressing hOX40 receptor *in vitro* in the presence of hOX40L.

[0113] 33. The antibody or fragment of aspect 32, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases IL-8 secretion by at least 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% compared to the IL-8 production by HT-1080 cells expressing hOX40 receptor *in vitro* in the presence of hOX40L in the absence of an antibody that is specific for hOX40L.

[0114] 34. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases hOX40L-stimulated human T-cell proliferation *in vitro*.

[0115] 35. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases hOX40L-stimulated IL-2 secretion from human T-cells *in vitro*.

[0116] 36. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases cytokine secretion mediated by the interaction of human dendritic cells (DC cells) with human T-cells, wherein the cytokine is selected from one, two, more or all of TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-13, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma.

[0117] This can be assessed, for example, using a MLR *in vitro* assay (e.g., a DC/T-cell MLR *in vitro* assay). An illustration of a suitable assay is provided in the examples below.

[0118] In an example, the DC cells are mismatched to the T-cells, e.g., MHC mis-matched, as is possible for example when the DC cells are from a human that is different from the T-cell human source. In an example, the DC cells are produced by *in vitro* induction of human monocytes with GM-CSF and IL-4.

[0119] 37. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases interferon gamma secretion by at least 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% compared to the production of interferon gamma mediated by the interaction of human dendritic cells (DC cells) with human T-cells in the absence of an antibody that is specific for hOX40L.

[0120] 38. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases TNF alpha secretion by at least 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% compared to the production of TNF alpha mediated by the interaction of human dendritic cells (DC cells) with human T-cells in the absence of an antibody that is specific for hOX40L.

[0121] 39. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases IL-2 secretion by at least 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% compared to the production of IL-2 mediated by the interaction of human dendritic cells (DC cells) with human T-cells in the absence of an antibody that is specific for hOX40L.

[0122] 40. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases cytokine secretion (e.g., leukocyte cytokine secretion) in a human peripheral blood mononuclear cell (PBMC) mixed lymphocyte (MLR) assay, wherein the cytokine is selected from one, two, more or all of TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-4, IL-3, IL-6, IL-8, IL-10, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma.

[0123] 41. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases interferon gamma secretion by at least 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% compared to the production of interferon gamma in a human PBMC MLR assay in the absence of an antibody that is specific for hOX40L.

[0124] In one embodiment, the comparison is to the production of interferon gamma in a human PBMC MLR assay in the absence of antibody.

[0125] 42. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases TNF alpha secretion by at least 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% compared to the production of TNF alpha in a human PBMC MLR assay in the absence of an antibody that is specific for hOX40L.

[0126] 43. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment decreases IL-2 secretion by at least 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% compared to the production of IL-2 in a human PBMC MLR assay in the absence of an antibody that is specific for hOX40L.

[0127] 44. The antibody or fragment of any one of aspects 36 to 43, wherein the cells are primary cells.

[0128] A "primary cell" refers to a cell in a human or such a cell that has been taken from the patient for binding to the antibody or fragment of the invention *in vitro* (as may be useful, for example, in a method of diagnosis of OX40L status or disease/condition status in the human). Primary cells as used herein are not cells of human cell lines, which typically have undergone many cultures *in vitro*. The ability of the antibody or fragment of the invention to specifically inhibit hOX40L binding to receptor in this embodiment is advantageous since it provides a direct indication of the utility for addressing cells in human patients suffering or at risk of a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition.

[0129] 45. The antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect, wherein the antibody or fragment inhibits binding of hOX40L to a hOX40L receptor (e.g., hOX40) with an IC₅₀ of 1×10⁻⁸ or less in a HTRF (homogenous time resolved fluorescence) assay.

[0130] In an example, the IC₅₀ is in the range from 1×10⁻⁸ to 1×10⁻¹¹ or in the range from 1×10⁻⁹ to 1×10⁻¹⁰.

[0131] 46. A pharmaceutical composition for treating and/or preventing a OX40L-mediated condition or disease, the composition comprising an antibody or fragment of any preceding aspect and a diluent, excipient or carrier, and optionally further comprising an anti-inflammatory drug.

[0132] In an example, the anti-inflammatory drug is independently selected from the group consisting of corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), anti-IL2R-23 antibodies (e.g. ustekinumab), anti-VLA-4 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-44B1 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tocilizumab), anti-HL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab) or anti-TNF α antibodies/TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab, certolizumab pegol). In an example, the anti-inflammatory drug is independently selected from the group consisting of corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone) and anti-LFA1 antibodies.

[0133] 47. A pharmaceutical composition or kit for treating and/or preventing a OX40L-mediated condition or disease, the composition or kit comprising an antibody or fragment of the invention (and optionally an anti-inflammatory drug) optionally in combination with a label or instructions for use to treat and/or prevent said disease or condition in a human; optionally wherein the label or instructions comprise a marketing authorisation number (e.g., an FDA or EMA authorisation number); optionally wherein the kit comprises an IV or injection device that comprises the antibody or fragment.

[0134] 48. A nucleic acid that encodes the HCDR3 of an antibody recited in any one of aspects 1 to 45.

[0135] In one embodiment, the HCDR3 herein are according to Kabat nomenclature. In another embodiment, the HCDR3 herein are according to the IMGT nomenclature.

[0136] 49. The nucleic acid of aspect 48 comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a VH domain of an anti-hOX40L antibody, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a HCDR3 sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98 or 99% identical or is 100% identical to a HCDR3 sequence in the sequence listing.

[0137] In an aspect, the invention provides a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a VH domain of an anti-hOX40L antibody, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a HCDR3 sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98 or 99% identical or is 100% identical to a HCDR3 sequence in the sequence listing. Optionally, the antibody is according to any other aspect herein.

[0138] In another embodiment, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 49 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a HCDR3 sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions, wherein each substitution produces no amino acid change or produces a conservative amino acid change (i.e., the nucleotide substitution is a synonymous substitution) in the corresponding protein sequence. The skilled person will be familiar with conservative amino acid changes.

[0139] Amino acid substitutions include alterations in which an amino acid is replaced with a different naturally-occurring amino acid residue. Such substitutions may be classified as "conservative", in which case an amino acid residue contained in a polypeptide is replaced with another naturally occurring amino acid of similar character either in relation to polarity, side chain functionality or size. Such conservative substitutions are well known in the art. Substitutions encompassed by the present invention may also be "non-conservative", in which an amino acid residue which is present in a peptide is substituted with an amino acid having different properties, such as naturally-occurring amino acid or a different group (e.g., substituting a charged or hydrophobic amino acid with an aliphatic one), or alternatively, in which a naturally-occurring amino acid is substituted with a non- conventional amino acid.

[0140] Additionally or alternatively, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 49 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a HCDR3 sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 synonymous nucleotide substitutions and no, 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions that produce conservative amino acid changes in the corresponding protein sequence.

[0141] 50. A nucleic acid that encodes the HCDR2 of an antibody recited in any one of aspects 1 to 45, optionally wherein the nucleic acid is according to aspect 48 or 49.

[0142] 51. The nucleic acid of aspect 50 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98 or 99% identical or is 100% identical to a HCDR2 sequence in the sequence listing.

[0143] In an aspect, the invention provides a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a VH domain of an anti-hOX40L antibody, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a HCDR2 sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98 or 99% identical or is 100% identical to a HCDR2 sequence in the sequence listing. Optionally, the antibody is according to any other aspect herein.

[0144] In another embodiment, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 51 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a HCDR2 sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions, wherein each substitution produces no amino acid change or produces a conservative amino acid change (i.e., the nucleotide substitution is a synonymous substitution) in the corresponding protein sequence. The skilled person will be familiar with conservative amino acid changes.

[0145] Additionally or alternatively, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 50 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a HCDR2 sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 synonymous nucleotide substitutions and no, 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions that produce conservative amino acid changes in the corresponding protein sequence.

[0146] 52. A nucleic acid that encodes the HCDR1 of an antibody recited in any one of aspects 1 to 45, optionally wherein the nucleic acid is according to any one of aspects 48 to 51.

[0147] 53. The nucleic acid of aspect 52 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98 or 99% identical or is 100% identical to a HCDR1 sequence in the sequence listing.

[0148] In an aspect, the invention provides a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a VH domain of an anti-hOX40L antibody, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises a HCDR1 sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98 or 99% identical or is 100% identical to a HCDR1 sequence in the sequence listing. Optionally, the antibody is according to any other aspect herein.

[0149] In another embodiment, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 52 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a HCDR1 sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions, wherein each substitution produces no amino acid change or produces a conservative amino acid change (i.e., the nucleotide substitution is a synonymous substitution) in the corresponding protein sequence. The skilled person will be familiar with conservative amino acid changes.

[0150] Additionally or alternatively, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 52 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a HCDR1 sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 synonymous nucleotide substitutions and no, 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions that produce conservative amino acid changes in the corresponding protein sequence.

[0151] 54. A nucleic acid that encodes a VH domain and/or a VL domain of an antibody recited in any one of aspects 1 to 45.

[0152] 55. The nucleic acid of aspect 54 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98 or 99% identical or is 100% identical to a VH domain nucleotide sequence in the sequence listing.

[0153] In another embodiment, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 54 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a VH domain nucleotide sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions, wherein each substitution produces no amino acid change or produces a conservative amino acid change (i.e., the nucleotide substitution is a synonymous substitution) in the corresponding protein sequence. The skilled person will be familiar with conservative amino acid changes.

[0154] Additionally or alternatively, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 54 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a VH domain nucleotide sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 synonymous nucleotide substitutions and no, 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions that produce conservative amino acid changes in the corresponding protein sequence.

[0155] 56. The nucleic acid of aspect 54 or 55 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80, 85, 90, 95, 96, 97, 98 or 99% identical to or is 100% identical to a VL domain nucleotide sequence in the sequence listing.

[0156] In another embodiment, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 54 or 55 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a VL domain nucleotide sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions, wherein each substitution produces no amino acid change or produces a conservative amino acid change (i.e., the nucleotide substitution is a synonymous substitution) in the corresponding protein sequence. The skilled person will be familiar with conservative amino acid changes.

[0157] Additionally or alternatively, there is provided the nucleic acid of aspect 54 or 55 comprising a nucleotide sequence that is 100% identical to a VL domain nucleotide sequence in the sequence listing, except for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7 synonymous nucleotide substitutions and no, 1, 2 or 3 nucleotide substitutions that produce conservative amino acid changes in the corresponding protein sequence.

[0158] 57. A nucleic acid that encodes a heavy chain or a light chain of an antibody recited in any one of aspects 1 to 45.

[0159] 58. The nucleic acid of aspect 57, comprising a nucleotide sequence as recited in any one of aspects 48 to 56.

[0160] 59. A vector (e.g., a mammalian expression vector) comprising the nucleic acid of any one of aspects 48 to 58, optionally wherein the vector is a CHO or HEK293 vector. In an example, the vector is a yeast vector, e.g., a *Saccharomyces* or *Pichia* vector.

[0161] 60. A host comprising the nucleic acid of any one of aspects 48 to 58 as the vector of aspect 59. In an example, the host is a mammalian (e.g., human, e.g., CHO or HEK293) cell line or a yeast or bacterial cell line.

[0162] 61. Use of an antibody or a fragment thereof, that specifically binds to hOX40L in the manufacture of a medicament for administration to a human, for treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition in the human by decreasing one, more or all of

1. a. secretion of a cytokine selected from TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-13, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma in the human;
2. b. the proliferation of leukocytes of the human; and
3. c. binding of hOX40 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed hOX40L.

[0163] The features of any of the previous aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use.

[0164] 62. In an example, the human is suffering from or at risk of asthma and the antibody or fragment is for decreasing IgE in the human, thereby treating, preventing or reducing asthma in the human.

[0165] 62. A method of treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition in a human by decreasing one, more or all of

1. a. secretion of a cytokine selected from TNF alpha, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-13, IL-17, RANTES and interferon gamma in the human;
2. b. the proliferation of leukocytes of the human; and
3. c. binding of hOX40 receptor expressed by human T-cells with endothelial cell expressed hOX40L;

wherein the method comprises administering to said human a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody or fragment that specifically binds to hOX40L.

[0166] The features of any of the previous aspects, examples or embodiments optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this method.

[0167] The method of the invention treats or prevents said disease or condition in the human. A "therapeutically effective amount" of the antibody or fragment is that amount (administered in one or several doses, which may be spaced in time, e.g., substantially monthly administration) that is effective to bring about said treatment or prevention. This will be readily apparent to the skilled person and may vary according to the particular human patient and disease or condition being addressed.

[0168] In an example, the human is suffering from or at risk of asthma and the antibody or fragment decreases IgE in the human, thereby treating, preventing or reducing asthma in the human.

[0169] 63. The method or use of aspect 61 or 62, for treating or preventing said hOX40L-mediated disease, condition or epithelial cell damage in said human by decreasing the proliferation of T-cells in said human.

[0170] 64. The method or use of any one of aspects 61 to 63, for treating or preventing said hOX40L-mediated disease, condition or epithelial cell damage in said human by antagonising the interaction between hOX40L and leukocytes of the human, wherein the proliferation of leukocytes is decreased.

[0171] 65. The method or use of any one of aspects 61 to 64, for treating or preventing said hOX40L-mediated disease, condition or epithelial cell damage in said human by decreasing the proliferation of leukocytes of the human by antagonising the OX40L/OX40L receptor interaction mediated by T-cells in said human.

[0172] 66. The method or use of any one of aspects 61 to 65, for treating or preventing said hOX40L-mediated disease, condition or epithelial cell damage in said human by decreasing the secretion of IL-8 cytokine in the human.

[0173] 67. The method of aspect 66, for treating or preventing said disease, condition or epithelial cell damage by decreasing the secretion of said IL-8 mediated by the interaction of dendritic cells (DC cells) with T-cells in the human.

[0174] 68. The method or use of any one of aspects 61 to 67, wherein gastrointestinal cell, colon cell, intestinal cell or airway (e.g., lung) cell damage is a symptom or cause of said disease or condition in humans.

[0175] In another embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise cells selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells, ocular cells and airway (e.g., lung) epithelial cells. In another embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise cells selected from the group consisting of gastrointestinal cells, colon cells, intestinal cells and ocular cells. In a further embodiment, the epithelial cells comprise ocular cells.

[0176] 69. The method or use of any one of aspects 61 to 68, wherein the human is suffering from or at risk of an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), diabetes or airway inflammation and said method treats or prevents IBD, allogeneic transplant rejection, GVHD, diabetes or airway inflammation in the human.

[0177] 69a. The method or use of any one of aspects 61 to 68, wherein the human is suffering from or at risk of an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), uveitis, pyoderma gangrenosum, giant cell arteritis, Schnitzler syndrome, non-infectious scleritis, diabetes or airway inflammation and said method treats or prevents IBD, allogeneic transplant rejection, GVHD, diabetes or airway inflammation in the human.

[0178] In any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, the human is suffering from or at risk of a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection, for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD.

[0179] 70. The method or use of any one of aspects 61 to 69a, where the antibody or fragment is according to any one of aspects 1 to 45 or any example, configuration, concept, aspect or embodiment described herein.

[0180] 71. The antibody, fragment, composition, kit, method or use of any preceding aspect, for treating or preventing an inflammatory or autoimmune disease or condition in a human or for reducing or preventing angiogenesis in a human.

[0181] 72. The antibody, fragment, composition, kit, method or use of any preceding aspect, wherein the disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, bronchiolitis, gingivitis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), asthma, adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), septic shock, ulcerative colitis, Sjögren's syndrome, airway inflammation, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and atherosclerosis.

[0182] 72a. The antibody, fragment, composition, kit, method or use of any preceding aspect, wherein the disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, bronchiolitis, gingivitis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), asthma, adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), septic shock, ulcerative colitis, Sjögren's syndrome, airway inflammation, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, pyoderma gangrenosum, giant cell arteritis, Schnitzler syndrome, non-infectious scleritis, diabetes, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and atherosclerosis.

[0183] In any aspect, configuration, concept or embodiment, the human is suffering from or at risk of a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection, for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD.

[0184] In an example, the disease or condition is an ION40L-mediated disease or condition disclosed in US7812133 or EP1791869.

[0185] In an example, the disease or condition is an inflammatory or autoimmune disease or condition. In an example, the disease or condition is transplant rejection.

[0186] As used herein, inflammatory disease or condition refers to pathological states resulting in inflammation, for example caused by neutrophil chemoataxis. Examples of such disorders include inflammatory skin diseases including psoriasis, responses associated with inflammatory bowel disease (such as Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), ischemic reperfusion, adult respiratory distress syndrome, dermatitis, meningitis, encephalitis, uveitis, autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, Sjögren's syndrome, vasculitis, diseases involving leukocyte diapedesis, central nervous system (CNS) inflammatory disorder, multiple organ injury syndrome secondary to septicemia or trauma, alcoholic hepatitis, bacterial pneumonia, antigen antibody complex mediated diseases, inflammations of the lung, including pleuritis, alveolitis, vasculitis, pneumonia, chronic bronchitis, bronchiectasis, and cystic fibrosis, etc. The preferred indications are bacterial pneumonia and inflammatory bowel disease such as ulcerative colitis. The invention is thus in an example provided for treating or preventing any one or more of such conditions.

[0187] In an example, the disease or condition is cancer.

[0188] 73. In an example, the disease is uveitis, such as systemic uveitis or a autoimmune/non-infectious uveitis.

[0189] 73. An antibody or a fragment thereof, that specifically binds to hOX40L and competes for binding to said hOX40L, with the antibody C2D10, wherein the antibody or fragment comprises a VH domain which comprises a HCDR3 comprising the motif VRGX₃Y, wherein X is any amino acid.

[0190] The features of the antibodies of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to these antibodies, e.g. the antibody may be a human antibody or chimeric antibody having functional features as described herein. Competition may be determined as described in any aspect, embodiment, example, concept or configuration described herein, e.g. as determined by SPR, ELISA, HTRF or FACS.

[0191] In one embodiment, the antibody or fragment competes with the variable regions of Q2D10 (e.g. competes with an antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region of SEQ ID No:34 and the light chain variable region of SEQ ID No:40). In another embodiment, the antibody or fragment competes with Q2D10 IgG4-PE having a heavy chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:62 and a light chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:64.

[0192] In another embodiment, the antibody or fragment additionally or alternatively competes with 10A7. In one embodiment, the antibody or fragment competes with the variable regions of 10A7 (e.g. competes with an antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region of SEQ ID No: 2 and the light chain variable region of SEQ ID No:16). In another embodiment, the antibody or fragment competes with Q2D10 IgG4-PE having a heavy chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:30 and a light chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:32.

[0193] In an embodiment, the amino acid is any naturally-occurring amino acid.

[0194] 74. The antibody or fragment according to aspect 73, where X is a neutral amino acid, optionally P or G.

[0195] In an embodiment, X is P or G. In an embodiment, X is selected from P, N, or G. In another embodiment, X is selected from P, G or N. In another embodiment, X is selected from P, G or A.

[0196] 75. An antibody or a fragment thereof, optionally according to aspect 73 or 74, that specifically binds to hOX40L and competes for binding to said hOX40L with the antibody D2D10, wherein the antibody or fragment comprises a VH domain which comprises the HCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:40 or 46 or comprising less than 5 amino acid substitutions.

[0197] The features of the antibodies of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to these antibodies, e.g. the antibody may be a human antibody or chimeric antibody having functional features as described herein. Competition may be determined as described in any aspect, embodiment, example, concept or configuration described herein, e.g. as determined by SPR, ELISA, HTRF or FACS.

[0198] In an embodiment, the HCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:40 or 46 comprises less than 4 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 3 or fewer). In an embodiment, the HCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:40 or 46 comprises less than 3 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 2 or 1 substitution). In an embodiment, the HCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:40 or 46 comprises less than 2 amino acid substitutions (i.e. one substitution).

[0199] In one embodiment, the antibody or fragment competes with the variable regions of Q2D10 (e.g. competes with an antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region of SEQ ID No:34 and the light chain variable region of SEQ ID No:40). In another embodiment, the antibody or fragment competes with Q2D10 IgG4-PE having a heavy chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:62 and a light chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:64.

[0200] In another embodiment, the antibody or fragment additionally or alternatively competes with 10A7. In one embodiment, the antibody or fragment competes with the variable regions of 10A7 (e.g. competes with an antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region of SEQ ID No: 2 and the light chain variable region of SEQ ID No:16). In another embodiment, the antibody or fragment competes with Q2D10 IgG4-PE having a heavy chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:30 and a light chain amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No:32.

[0201] 76. An antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 75, the VH domain comprising a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and which is derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGH6 (e.g. IGH6P02).

[0202] In an embodiment, the human JH gene segment is selected from IGH6P01, IGH6P02, IGH6P03 and IGH6P04. In another embodiment, the human JH gene segment is selected from IGH6P01, IGH6P02 and IGH6P04. In another embodiment, the JH gene segment is IGH6P02.

[0203] In a further embodiment, the human VH gene segment is IGHV3-23, or example selected from IGHV3-2301, IGHV3-2302, IGHV3-2303, IGHV3-2304 or IGHV3-2305. In another embodiment, the human VH gene segment is IGHV3-2301 or IGHV3-2304, in particular IGHV3-2304.

[0204] In a further embodiment, the human DH gene segment is IGHD3-10, for example selected from IGHD3-10P01 or IGHD3-10P02. In one embodiment, the human DH gene segment is IGHD3-10P01.

[0205] 77. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 76, the VH domain comprising the HCDR1 sequence of SEQ ID NO:36 or 42 or comprising less than 4 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 3 or fewer).

[0206] In an embodiment, the HCDR1 sequence of SEQ ID NO:36 or 42 comprises less than 3 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 2 or 1 substitution). In an embodiment, the HCDR1 sequence of SEQ ID NO:36 or 42 comprising less than 4 amino acid substitutions.

[0207] 78. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 77, the VH domain comprising the HCDR2 sequence of SEQ ID NO:38 or 44, or the HCDR2 sequence of SEQ ID NO:38 or 44 comprising less than 5 amino acid substitutions.

[0208] In an embodiment, the HCDR2 sequence of SEQ ID NO:38 or 44 comprises less than 4 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 3 or fewer). In an embodiment, the HCDR2 sequence of SEQ ID NO:38 or 44 comprises less than 3 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 2 or 1 substitutions). In an embodiment, the HCDR2 sequence of SEQ ID NO:38 or 44 comprises less than 2 amino acid substitutions (i.e. one substitution).

[0209] 79. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 79, the VH domain comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 34, or a heavy chain variable domain amino acid sequence that is at least 80% (e.g. at least 85%) identical to SEQ ID NO:34.

[0210] In an embodiment, the heavy chain variable domain amino acid sequence is at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96% at least 97% at least 98% or at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO:34.

[0211] 80. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 79 comprising first and second copies of said VH domain.

[0212] 81. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 80, comprising a VL domain which comprises the LCDR1 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60, or the LCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60 comprising less than 5 amino acid substitutions.

[0213] In an embodiment, the LCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60 comprises less than 4 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 3 or fewer). In an embodiment, the LCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60 comprises less than 3 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 2 or 1 substitutions). In an embodiment, the LCDR3 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60 comprises less than 2 amino acid substitutions (i.e. one substitution).

[0214] 82. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 81, comprising a or said VL domain, which VL domain comprises the LCDR2 sequence of SEQ ID NO:52 or 58, or the LCDR2 sequence of SEQ ID NO:52 or 58 comprising less than 2 amino acid substitutions.

[0215] 83. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 82, comprising a or said VL domain, which VL domain comprises the LCDR1 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60, or the LCDR1 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60 comprising less than 4 amino acid substitutions.

[0216] In an embodiment, the LCDR1 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60 comprises less than 3 amino acid substitutions (i.e. 2 or 1 substitutions). In an embodiment, the LCDR1 sequence of SEQ ID NO:54 or 60 comprises less than 2 amino acid substitutions (i.e. one substitution).

[0217] 84. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 83, comprising a or said VL domain, which VL domain comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 48, or a light chain variable domain amino acid sequence that is at least 80% (e.g. at least 85%) identical to SEQ ID NO:48.

[0218] In an embodiment, the light chain variable domain amino acid sequence is at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 96% at least 97% at least 98% or at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO:48.

[0219] 85. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 81 to 84, comprising first and second copies of said VL domain.

[0220] 86. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 81 to 85, wherein the antibody or fragment comprises a kappa light chain.

[0221] In another embodiment, the VL domain is a kappa VL domain. In an embodiment, the kappa VL domain is derived from the recombination of a human VL gene segment, and a human JL gene segment, wherein the human VL gene segment is IGKV1D-39. In another embodiment, the VL gene segment is IGKV1D-39*01.

[0222] In a further embodiment, the human JL gene segment is IGKQ1 or IGKQ3. In another embodiment, the JL gene segment is IGKJ1*01. In another embodiment, the JL gene segment is IGKJ3*01.

[0223] 87. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 75 to 86 wherein the amino acid substitutions are conservative amino acid substitutions, optionally wherein the conservative substitutions are from one of six groups (each group containing amino acids that are conservative substitutions for one another) selected from:

1. 1) Alanine (A), Serine (S), Threonine (T);
2. 2) Aspartic acid (D), Glutamic acid (E);
3. 3) Asparagine (N), Glutamine (Q);
4. 4) Arginine (R), Lysine (K);
5. 5) Isoleucine (I), Leucine (L), Methionine (M), Valine (V); and
6. 6) Phenylalanine (F), Tyrosine (Y), Tryptophan (W)

[0224] In an embodiment, the conservative amino acid substitutions are as described herein. For example, the substitution may be of Y with F, T with S or K, P with A, E with D or Q, N with D or G, R with K, G with N or A, T with S or K, D with N or E, I with L or V, F with Y, S with T or A, R with K, G with N or A, K with R, A with S, K or P. In another embodiment, the conservative amino acid substitutions may be wherein Y is substituted with F, T with A or S, I with L or V, W with Y, M with L, N with D, G with A, T with A or S, D with R, I with L or V, F with Y or L, S with A or T and A with S, G, T or V.

[0225] 88. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 87, wherein the antibody or fragment comprises a constant region, e.g. an IgG4 constant region, optionally wherein the constant region is IgG4-PE (Seq ID No: 128).

[0226] In another example of any aspect herein, the antibody or fragment comprises a human gamma 4 constant region. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region does not bind Fc-γ receptors, and e.g. comprises a Leu235Glu mutation (i.e. where the wild type leucine residue is mutated to a glutamic acid residue). In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region comprises a Ser228Pro mutation to increase stability.

[0227] 89. The antibody according to any one of aspects 73 to 88, wherein the antibody comprises a heavy chain and a light chain, the heavy chain amino acid sequence consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID No:62 and the light chain amino acid sequence consisting of the sequence of SEQ ID No:64.

[0228] 90. An antibody or fragment as defined in any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99, 101 or 102 for use in treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, or transplant rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis or atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD.

[0229] The features of the antibodies, and the hOX40L-mediated disease of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments as described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use. Any of the compositions, dosing schedules or modes of administration as described in any aspect, configuration, concept, example or embodiment herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use.

[0230] 91. Use of an antibody or fragment as defined in any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99, 101 or 102 for the treatment or prevention of a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition in the human selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant/rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis or atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD.

[0231] The features of the antibodies, and the hOX40L-mediated disease of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments as described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use. Any of the compositions, dosing schedules or modes of administration as described in any aspect, configuration, concept, example or embodiment herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use.

[0232] 92. A method of treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis or atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD in a human, comprising administering to said human a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody or fragment as defined in any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99, 101 or 102, wherein the hOX40L-mediated disease or condition is thereby treated or prevented.

[0233] The features of the antibodies, and the hOX40L-mediated disease of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments as described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this method. Any of the compositions, dosing schedules or modes of administration as described in any aspect, configuration, concept, example or embodiment herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this method.

[0234] 93. The antibody or fragment according to aspect 90, the use according to aspect 91, or the method according to aspect 92, wherein the hOX40L-mediated disease or condition is GVHD.

[0235] In another embodiment, the antibody or fragment is capable of treating or preventing GVHD.

[0236] 94. The antibody or fragment, the use or the method according to any one of aspects 90 to 93, wherein the antibody is administered prophylactically.

[0237] In an embodiment, the prophylaxis prevents the onset of the disease or condition or of the symptoms of the disease or condition. In one embodiment, the prophylactic treatment prevents the worsening, or onset, of the disease or condition. In one embodiment, the prophylactic treatment prevents the worsening of the disease or condition.

[0238] In another embodiment, said antibody is administered intravenously. In another embodiment, said antibody is administered at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. at about 8 mg/kg). In another embodiment, said antibody is administered at a dose selected from about 0.1 mg/kg, about 0.5 mg/kg, about 1 mg/kg, 3 mg/kg, 5 mg/kg, about 10 mg/kg, about 15 mg/kg, about 20 mg/kg, about 25 mg/kg, about 30 mg/kg, about 40 mg/kg, about 50 mg/kg, about 60 mg/kg, about 70 mg/kg, about 80 mg/kg about 90 mg/kg or about 100 mg/kg, in particular about 1 mg/kg, or about 3 mg/kg.

[0239] In another embodiment, said antibody is administered 1-4 days before transplant, e.g. 1-3 days before transplant or 1-2 days before transplant. In another embodiment, said antibody is administered weekly, bi-weekly or monthly following transplant, e.g. bi-weekly. In a further embodiment, said antibody is administered intravenously prophylactically 1-3 days before transplant at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. about 8 mg/kg) and then intravenously, bi-weekly at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. about 8 mg/kg).

[0240] In another embodiment, the patient is monitored periodically post-transplant, for the presence of a biomarker predictive for the development of GVHD (e.g. acute GVHD), and the anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention is administered once the biomarker levels are such that the patient is determined to be at risk of developing GVHD (e.g. acute GVHD). This strategy would avoid unnecessary dosing of drug and unnecessary suppression of the immune system. Examples of biomarkers which may be used as predictive biomarkers of acute GVHD may be those identified in Levine et al., "A prognostic score for acute graft-versus-host disease based on biomarkers: a multicenter study", Lancet Haematol 2016, 2:e21-29. These biomarkers include, but are not limited to TNFR1, ST-2, sTAF and IL2R α and RegD.

[0241] 95. A human antibody or fragment thereof comprising a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGJH6 (e.g. IGJH6*02), which specifically binds to hOX40L, in the manufacture of a medicament for administration to a human for treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition in the human selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis or atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD.

[0242] The features of the antibodies, and the hOX40L-mediated disease of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments as described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use. Any of the compositions, dosing schedules or modes of administration as described in any aspect, configuration, concept, example or embodiment herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use.

[0243] 96. Use of a human antibody or fragment thereof comprising a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGJH6 (e.g. IGJH6*02), which specifically binds to hOX40L, in the manufacture of a medicament for administration to a human for treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition in the human selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis or atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD.

[0244] The features of the antibodies, and the hOX40L-mediated disease of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments as described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use. Any of the compositions, dosing schedules or modes of administration as described in any aspect, configuration, concept, example or embodiment herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this use.

[0245] 97. A method of treating or preventing a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis or atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD in a human, comprising administering to said human a therapeutically effective amount of a human antibody or fragment thereof comprising a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGJH6 (e.g. IGJH6*02), which specifically binds to hOX40L, wherein the hOX40L-mediated disease or condition is thereby treated or prevented.

[0246] The features of the antibodies, and the hOX40L-mediated disease of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments as described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this method. Any of the compositions, dosing schedules or modes of administration as described in any aspect, configuration, concept, example or embodiment herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this method.

[0247] In an embodiment of any one of aspects 95 to 97, the human JH gene segment is selected from IGJH6*01, IGJH6*02, IGJH6*03 and IGJH6*04. In another embodiment of any one of aspects 95 to 97, the human JH gene segment is selected from IGJH6*01, IGJH6*02 and IGJH6*04. In another embodiment of any one of aspects 95 to 97, the human JH gene segment is IGJH6*02.

[0248] In a further embodiment of any one of aspects 95 to 97, the human VH gene segment is IGHV3-23, for example selected from IGHV3-23*01, IGHV3-23*02, IGHV3-23*03, IGHV3-23*04 or IGHV3-23*05. In another embodiment of any one of aspects 95 to 97 the human VH gene segment is IGHV3-23*01 or IGHV3-23*04, in particular IGHV3-23*04.

[0249] In a further embodiment of any one of aspects 95 to 97, the human DH gene segment is IGHD3-10, for example selected from IGHD3-10*01 or IGHD3-10*02. In one embodiment of any one of aspects 95 to 97, the human DH gene segment is IGHD3-10*01. In one embodiment of any one of aspects 95 to 97, the human DH gene segment is IGHD3-10*02.

[0250] In an embodiment of any one of aspects 90 to 97, the antibody is capable of treating or preventing GVHD. In another embodiment of any one of aspects 90 to 97, the antibody or fragment is used for the treatment or prevention of a disease other than GVHD, but the antibody or fragment is capable of treating or preventing GVHD.

[0251] 98. The antibody or fragment according to aspect 86, or the antibody or fragment according to aspect 95, the use according to aspect 96, or the method according to aspect 97, wherein the antibody or fragment comprises a kappa light chain, e.g. wherein the VL domain of the light chain is derived from the recombination of a human VL gene segment, and a human JL gene segment, wherein the human VL gene segment is IGKV1D-39 (e.g. IGKV1D-39*01), and optionally the human JL gene segment is IGKU1 (e.g. IGKU1*01) or IGKQ3 (e.g. IGKQ3*01).

[0252] In another embodiment, the VL domain is a kappa VL domain. In an embodiment, the kappa VL domain is derived from the recombination of a human VL gene segment, and a human JL gene segment, wherein the human VL gene segment is IGKV1D-39. In another embodiment, the VL gene segment is IGKV1D-39*01.

[0253] In a further embodiment, the human JL gene segment is IGKQ1. In another embodiment, the JL gene segment is IGKJ1*01. In a further embodiment, the human JL gene segment is IGKQ3. In another embodiment, the JL gene segment is IGKJ3*01.

[0254] 99. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99, 101 or 102, or the antibody or fragment use or method according to any one of aspects 90 to 98, wherein the antibody or fragment enables greater than 80% stem cell donor chimerism by day 12 in a Rhesus macaque model of haplo-identical hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, optionally wherein the antibody is for the prevention of GVHD.

[0255] In another aspect, there is provided an antibody or fragment, use or method according to any one of aspects 95 to 98, wherein the antibody or fragment is for treating or preventing transplant rejection (e.g. GVHD) in a human by enabling greater than 80% stem cell donor chimerism by day 12 in said human following donor human hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

[0256] In another embodiment, there is provided an antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 89, 99, 101 or 102, wherein the antibody or fragment enables greater than 80% stem cell donor chimerism by day 12 in a Rhesus macaque model of haploidentical hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

[0257] In one embodiment, the chimerism is T cell (CD3+/CD20+) chimerism. In another embodiment, the chimerism is peripheral blood chimerism. In another embodiment, the chimerism is peripheral blood or T cell (CD3+/CD20+) chimerism.

[0258] In one embodiment, the stem cell donor chimerism (e.g. the peripheral blood or T cell (CD3+/CD20+) chimerism) is determined using divergent donor- and recipient-specific MHC-linked micro satellite markers, by comparing peak heights of the donor- and recipient-specific amplicons. In another embodiment, stem cell donor chimerism is determined as described in Kean, LS, et al., "Induction of chimerism in rhesus macaques through stem cell transplant and costimulation blockade-based immunosuppression", *Am J Transplant* 2007 Feb;7(2):329-35. In another embodiment, stem cell donor chimerism is determined as described in Example 7.

[0259] In one embodiment, the *Rhesus macaque* model of haploidentical haematopoietic stem cell is performed by the transplant (HSCT) recipient animals undergoing a conditioning procedure together with anti-OX40L antibody administration, followed by infusion of a peripheral blood product isolated from a half-sibling donor animal, following which animals continue to receive weekly doses of the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention, and blood samples are taken and analysed for chimerism.

[0260] In another embodiment, in the HSCT model, recipient animals receive a conditioning radiation dose of 1020 cGy in 4 dose fractions over 2 days (experimental Day -2 and Day -1) to ablate the host hematopoietic system before intravenous administration of an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention (Day -2, with subsequent intravenous doses on Days 5, 12, 19, 26, 33, 40, 47) and transplant of white blood cell- and stem cell-enriched peripheral blood from an MHC half-matched (half-sibling) donor animal to reconstitute the recipient's immune system, together with provision of continuous supportive care, blood sampling and monitoring for signs of GVHD.

[0261] In one embodiment, the antibody or fragment, use or method is for the prevention of GVHD.

[0262] In an embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention is administered prophylactically. In one embodiment, the prophylactic treatment prevents the worsening or onset of the disease or condition.

[0263] In another embodiment, said antibody is administered intravenously. In another embodiment, said antibody is administered at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. at about 8 mg/kg). In another embodiment, said antibody is administered intravenously. In another embodiment, said antibody is administered at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. at about 8 mg/kg). In another embodiment, said antibody is administered at a dose of about 0.1 mg/kg, about 0.5 mg/kg, about 1 mg/kg, 3 mg/kg, 5 mg/kg, about 10 mg/kg, about 20 mg/kg, about 25 mg/kg, about 30 mg/kg, about 40 mg/kg, about 50 mg/kg, about 60 mg/kg, about 70 mg/kg, about 80 mg/kg about 90 mg/kg or about 100 mg/kg, in particular about 1 mg/kg, or about 3 mg/kg.

[0264] In another embodiment, said antibody is administered 1-4 days before transplant, e.g. 1-3 days before transplant or 1-2 days before transplant. In another embodiment, said antibody is administered weekly, bi-weekly or monthly following transplant, e.g. bi-weekly. In a further embodiment, said antibody is administered intravenously prophylactically 1-3 days before transplant at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. about 8 mg/kg) and then intravenously, bi-weekly at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. about 8 mg/kg).

[0265] In another embodiment, the patient is monitored periodically post-transplant, for the presence of a biomarker predictive for the development of GVHD (e.g. acute GVHD), and the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention is administered once the biomarker levels are such that the patient is determined to be at risk of developing GVHD (e.g. acute GVHD). This strategy would avoid unnecessary dosing of drug and unnecessary suppression of the immune system. Examples of biomarkers which may be useful as predictive biomarkers of acute GVHD may be those identified in Levine et al., "A prognostic score for acute graft-versus-host disease based on biomarkers: a multicentre study", *Lancet Haematol* 2015; 2:e21-29. These biomarkers include, but are not limited to TNF α , ST-2, elafin and Reg3 α .

[0266] In a further embodiment, the HSCT model is conducted as described in Miller, Weston P, et al. "GVHD after haploidentical transplantation: a novel, MHC-defined rhesus macaque model identifies CD28 $+$ CD8 $+$ T cells as a reservoir of breakthrough T-cell proliferation during costimulation blockade and sirolimus-based immunosuppression", *Blood*, 116, 24 (2010) 5403-5416. In a further embodiment, the HSCT model is carried out as described in Example 7.

[0267] 100. The antibody or fragment, use or method according to any one of aspects 95 to 99, wherein the antibody is as defined in any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99, 101 or 102.

[0268] 101. The antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99 or 102, or the antibody or fragment, use or method according to any one of aspects 90 to 100, wherein the antibody or fragment expresses as a stably transfected pool in Lanza GS-XceedTM at level greater than 1.5g/L in a fed batch overgrow culture using Lanza version B feed system with an overgrow period of 14 days.

[0269] In one embodiment, the expression level is greater than 1.0g/L, greater than 1.1g/L, greater than 1.2g/L, greater than 1.4g/L.

[0270] 102. An antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99 or 101, or the antibody or fragment, use or method according to any one of aspects 90 to 101, wherein the antibody or fragment maintains a naïve population of CD4 $+$ T-cells of >20% of total CD4 $+$ T cell population at day 12 in a *Rhesus macaque* model of haploidentical hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

[0271] In another aspect, there is provided an antibody or fragment according to any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99 or 101, or an antibody or fragment, use or method according to any one of aspects 90 to 101, wherein the antibody or fragment is for treating or preventing transplant rejection in a human by maintaining a naïve population of donor CD4 $+$ T-cells of >20% of total CD4 $+$ T cell population at day 12 in said human following donor human hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

[0272] In one embodiment, the HSCT model is as described in any embodiment contemplated hereinabove, e.g. as described in connection with aspect 99.

[0273] In another embodiment, the naïve population is measured by evaluating the relative proportion of specific T cell phenotypes using flow cytometry where cell subsets are identified by labelling with fluorescent antibody probes and whereby naïve CD4 or CD8 T-cells are labelled CD4+/CD28+/CD95 $+$ or CD8+/CD28+/CD95 $+$, respectively, central memory CD4 or CD8 T-cells are labelled CD4+/CD28+/CD95 $+$ or CD8+/CD28+/CD95 $+$, respectively, and effector memory CD4 or CD8 T-cells are labelled CD4+/CD28/CD95 $+$ or CD8+/CD28/CD95 $+$, respectively.

[0274] 103. The antibody or fragment, use or the method according to any one of aspects 90 to 102, further comprising administering to the human a further therapeutic agent, optionally wherein the further therapeutic agent is independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporine, methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, azathioprine, leflunomide, abatacept, CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CD28 antibodies, anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-CD40 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fumagilin, infliximab, golimumab, or certolizumab pegol and Vorinostat, in particular romipitant (romipimod), tacrolimus, cilostazol, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-LFA1 antibodies, anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), cyclophosphamide and anti-thymocyte globulins.

[0275] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is an anti-inflammatory drug. In another embodiment, the anti-inflammatory drug is independently selected from the group consisting of corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), anti-IL2R α antibodies, anti-IL2R β antibodies, anti-IL2R γ antibodies, anti-IL2R α antibodies (e.g. ustekinumab), anti-IL2R β antibodies (e.g. abatacept), anti-IL2R γ antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-CD40 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL2R α antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-IL2R β antibodies (e.g. adalimumab), anti-IL2R γ antibodies (e.g. infliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α /TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vorinostat, in particular rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cilostazol, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-LFA1 antibodies, anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), cyclophosphamide and anti-thymocyte globulins.

[0276] In one embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and further therapeutic agents independently selected from the group consisting of calcineurin inhibitors (e.g. tacrolimus, cyclosporin), mTOR inhibitors (e.g. rapamycin (sirolimus)), and anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. basiliximab, daclizumab).

[0277] In one embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and further therapeutic agents independently selected from the group consisting of immunosuppressants that modulate IL-2 signalling (e.g. tacrolimus, cilostazol, rapamycin (sirolimus)), and anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. basiliximab, daclizumab).

[0278] In one embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and tacrolimus. In another embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and tacrolimus. In another embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and cilostazol. In another embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and cyclophosphamide. In another embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and mycophenolate mofetil.

[0279] 104. The antibody or fragment, use or the method according to aspect 103, wherein the further therapeutic agent is administered sequentially or simultaneously with the anti-OX40L antibody or fragment.

[0280] 105. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody or fragment as defined in any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99, 101 or 102 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier and optionally further comprising a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporine, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2R α antibodies (e.g. ustekinumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-LFA1 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-CD45 antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-CD40L antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL2R α antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-IL2R β antibodies (e.g. adalimumab), anti-IL2R γ antibodies (e.g. infliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α /TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vorinostat, in particular rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cilostazol, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-LFA1 antibodies, anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), cyclophosphamide and anti-thymocyte globulins.

[0281] The pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents or carriers as described herein apply *mutatis mutandis* to these compositions.

[0282] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is an antiinflammatory drug. In another embodiment, the antiinflammatory drug is independently selected from the group consisting of corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), anti-IL2R α antibodies, anti-IL2R β antibodies, anti-IL2R γ antibodies (e.g. ustekinumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-LFA1 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-CD45 antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-CD40L antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL2R α antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-IL2R β antibodies (e.g. tozilizumab), anti-IL2R γ antibodies (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vorinostat, in particular rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cilostazol, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-LFA1 antibodies, anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), cyclophosphamide and anti-thymocyte globulins.

[0283] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is independently selected from the group consisting of calcineurin inhibitors (e.g. tacrolimus, cilostazol), mTOR inhibitors (e.g. rapamycin (sirolimus)), and anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. basiliximab, daclizumab).

[0284] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is independently selected from the group consisting of immunosuppressants that modulate IL-2 signalling (e.g. tacrolimus, cilostazol, rapamycin (sirolimus)), and anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. basiliximab, daclizumab).

[0285] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is rapamycin (sirolimus). In another embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is tacrolimus. In another embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate. In another embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is cyclophosphamide. In another embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is a combination of cyclosporine and methotrexate.

[0286] 106. A pharmaceutical composition according to aspect 105, or a kit comprising a pharmaceutical composition as defined in aspect 105, wherein the composition is for treating and/or preventing a hOX40L-mediated condition or disease selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and scleroderma, in particular GVHD.

[0287] 107. A HOX40L-mediated disease of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this combination.

[0288] 108. A pharmaceutical composition according to aspect 105 or aspect 106 in combination with, or kit according to aspect 106 comprising a label or instructions for use to treat and/or prevent said disease or condition in a human, optionally wherein the label or instructions comprise a marketing authorisation number (e.g., an FDA or EMA authorisation number), optionally wherein the kit comprises an IV or injection device that comprises the antibody or fragment.

[0289] 109. The labels, instructions, hOX40L-mediated diseases and conditions of any of the aspects, configurations, concepts, examples or embodiments described herein optionally apply *mutatis mutandis* to this combination.

[0290] 110. A nucleic acid that encodes the HCDR3 of an antibody or fragment as defined in any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99, 101 or 102.

[0291] 110. A nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 33 and/or SEQ ID NO: 47.

[0292] 111. A nucleic acid that encodes a heavy chain or a light chain of an antibody recited in any one of aspects 73 to 89, 98, 99, 101 or 102.

[0293] 112. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of any one of aspects 108 to 111, optionally wherein the vector is a C194 or HEP293 vector.

[0294] 113. A host comprising the nucleic acid of any one of aspects 108 to 111 or the vector of aspect 112.

[0295] 114. The present invention furthermore relates to the following concepts:

Concept 1. A method of reducing the proportion of (e.g. of reducing or decreasing the level of) CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ memory stem T-cells (Tscm) comprising combining said cells with an agent (such as an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells), and whereby the proportion of said Tscm cells is reduced (e.g. whereby the level of said Tscm cells is decreased or depleted).

[0296] Tscm cells as defined herein are characterised as CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+. For alternative prior art classifications of different T-cell types, see the figure in Gattinoni and Restivo (2013). Other markers may be present or absent, but Tscm cells must at a minimum be CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+. The various cell-surface markers are, in one embodiment, identified using flow cytometry using methods which are well-known to those skilled in the art. In one embodiment, the Tscm cells may additionally be CD62L+. Flow cytometry techniques are well-known to those skilled in the art. Agents which may be used in flow cytometry techniques are defined in Example 7 below. In one embodiment, the flow cytometry is carried out as described in Example 7 below. In another embodiment, the flow cytometry is carried out as described in Baumgarth & Roederer (2000), *Journal of Immunological Methods*, 243, 77-97. (see concept 25 hereinbelow).

[0297] In a particular embodiment, the Tscm cells are characterised as being CD4+CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+.

[0298] Without being bound by theory, it is thought that reducing this Tscm population will have a number of benefits in various diseases, as set out herein. In one embodiment, the Tscm cells are active Tscm cells.

[0299] Throughout concepts 1 to 83 herein, the proportion or level of Tscm cells may be reduced in a sample, or indeed in a sample of the blood of a subject. The proportion or level of Tscm cells may be determined relative to the entire T-cell population in the sample. In one embodiment, the proportion or level of Tscm cells is determined relative to other T-cells in the sample. T-cells generally may be identified as being CD3+, and include Tn cells, Tscm cells, Tcm cells, Teff cells. In a particular embodiment, the proportion or level of Tscm cells is determined relative to Tn cells (as defined hereinbelow). In another embodiment, a level of T-cell types may be the same as a proportion of Tscm cells, in various stimuli such as inflammatory cytokines.

[0300] In a particular embodiment, the Tscm cells are characterised as being CD4+CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+.

[0301] Without being bound by theory, it is thought that reducing this Tscm population will have a number of benefits in various diseases, as set out herein. In one embodiment, the Tscm cells are active Tscm cells.

[0302] Throughout concepts 1 to 83 herein, the proportion or level of Tscm cells may be reduced in a sample, or indeed in a sample of the blood of a subject. The proportion or level of Tscm cells may be determined relative to the entire T-cell population in the sample. In one embodiment, the proportion or level of Tscm cells is determined relative to other T-cells in the sample. T-cells generally may be identified as being CD3+, and include Tn cells, Tscm cells, Tcm cells, Teff cells. In a particular embodiment, the proportion or level of Tscm cells is determined relative to Tn cells (as defined hereinbelow). In another embodiment, a level of T-cell types may be the same as a proportion of Tscm cells, in the sample. The proportion or level of Tscm cells may be altered by depletion or by a decrease. In one embodiment, a ratio of T-cell types may be the same as a proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. as for concept 2 hereinbelow). In another embodiment, a level of T-cell types may be the same as a proportion of Tscm cells, in the sample. In one embodiment, the ratio or proportion of Tscm:Tn is greater than 50:50. Particular ratios and proportions are as described in concepts 23 and 24.

[0303] As used in concepts 1 to 83 herein "depleting" and "depletes" describes an active effect following combination with an agent (such as an antibody) on the desired target to kill or remove the target cells (e.g. Tscm cells). When the agent is an antibody, this is usually achieved through effector functions, such as ADC, ADCC or CDC. Alternatively, the target may be killed or removed by a toxin, which may be conjugated to a drug or targeting moiety (such as an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody). Such toxins will selectively kill or remove the cell to which they are targeted. Suitable immun conjugates are described on

page 90, and on pages 114 to 116, and 134 (in particular pages 114 to 116) herein.

[0304] "Decreasing" or "decreases" as used in concepts 1 to 83 herein refers to a mechanism other than depletion, which reduces the absolute number of cells in a given population. This may be achieved indirectly, for example through a blocking or neutralising agent (such as an antibody) against a target which indirectly results in the killing of a target cell (such as a Tscm), or prevents the expansion or growth of the target cells, resulting in an apparent decrease in proportions relative to another type of cell (such as Tn cells).

[0305] As used in concepts 1 to 83 herein, a "level" of a T-cell population may refer to the absolute number, or to the relative proportion of a type of T-cell.

[0306] Throughout the various concepts 1 to 83 described herein, an agent which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells may be, for example, an antibody or fragment thereof, a short interfering RNA (SiRNA), a zinc finger, a DARPin, an aptamer, a Spiegelmer, an anti-cain, a receptor-Fc fusion, a ligand-Fc fusion or a small molecule. In one embodiment, the agent targets OX40 (e.g. human OX40), or ligands of OX40. In another embodiment, the agent targets OX40L (e.g. human OX40L), or receptors of OX40L. In one example, the agent may be an OX40-Fc fusion protein (e.g. HOX40-Fc fusion), or may be an OX40L-Fc fusion (e.g. HOX40L-Fc fusion).

[0307] In a particular embodiment, the agent is an antibody or fragment thereof. Formats and structures of antibodies and fragments are described elsewhere herein and may be applied to any of the concepts disclosed herein. The antibody or fragment may be any of the constructs as described herein (for example, as in any one of concepts 52 to 64 herein). In a particular embodiment, the agent is an anti-human OX40 antibody or fragment thereof. In another particular embodiment, the agent is an anti-human OX40L antibody, such as an antibody comprising the amino acid sequence of O2010 described herein or an antibody comprising the amino acid sequence of ovalbumin.

[0308] Concept 2. A method for altering the ratio of cell types in a T-cell population in a sample, the method comprising:

1. a. providing said population, wherein the population comprises a mixture of different T-cell types, wherein the population comprises CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells,
2. b. providing an agent which reduces the proportion of anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, and
3. c. combining said cell population with an amount of said agent (e.g. antibody or fragment thereof) effective to alter the ratio (e.g. to reduce the proportion) of Tscm cells in said population.

[0309] Throughout concepts 1 to 83 herein, the ratio of T-cell types may be altered in a sample, for example by increasing the proportion of naive T-cells (Tn, as defined hereinbelow). In another embodiment, the ratio of T-cell types may be altered by decreasing the proportion of Tscm cells. The ratio of Tscm cells may be determined relative to the entire sample. In one embodiment, the ratio of T-cells is determined by comparing the proportion of naive T-cells or Tscm cells relative to other T-cells in the sample. T-cells generally may be identified as being CD3+, and include Tn cells, Tscm cells, Tcm cells, Tem cells and Teff cells. In a particular embodiment, the ratio of T-cells is determined as the ratio of Tscm cells relative to naive T-cells in the sample. The ratio of T-cells may be altered by depletion or by a decrease of Tscm cells. The ratio of T-cells may be altered by an increase or expansion of naive T-cells.

[0310] Concept 3. A method according to concept 2, wherein in step a), the population further comprises CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+naive T-cells (Tn).

[0311] Naive T-cells (Tn) as defined in concepts 1 to 83 herein are characterised as CD45RA+CCR7+CD95-. Further markers may be present or absent, but Tn cells must at a minimum be CD45RA+CCR7+CD95-. In one embodiment, Tn cells may additionally be CD8+ or CD4+, in particular CD4+. It is thought that Tn are beneficial because these represent the entire pool of T-cells from which adaptive T-cell immune responses can develop to protect an individual when exposed to potentially harmful pathogens and malignant cells.

[0312] Concept 4. A method according to concept 3 wherein the ratio of Tscm:Tn in the population of step a) is greater than 50:50.

[0313] Concept 5. A method according to any one of concepts 1 to 4, wherein the method is carried out *ex vivo* in a sample of blood extracted from a human donor subject.

[0314] Concept 6. A method according to concept 5, wherein blood produced by said method is reintroduced to a recipient human subject.

[0315] In one embodiment, the recipient human subject is the same donor human subject from whom the sample was removed. In another embodiment, the recipient human subject is different to the donor human subject. When the recipient is different to the donor, it is preferable that the donor is of the same gender as the recipient subject. In another embodiment, the donor may be of a similar age and ethnicity as the recipient subject. In another embodiment, the donor may have the same or similar allelotype markers as the recipient subject.

[0316] In another embodiment, the recipient human donor may receive more than one transfusion of donor blood, according to the severity of the disease to be treated.

[0317] Concept 7. A method according to any one of concepts 1 to 4, wherein the method is carried out *in vivo* in a human subject.

[0318] Concept 8. A method according to concept 7, wherein the subject has or is at risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition.

[0319] As used herein, a subject may be identified as being "at risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition" when the cellular changes in their T-cell population have begun to take place, but the subject has not yet presented symptoms or would not be diagnosed as having such a disease by any conventional method. Thus, the methods and uses disclosed herein may aid in the early identification of patients who will develop such diseases. In one embodiment, the disease is prevented (i.e. the treatment is prophylactic).

[0320] In a particular embodiment, the subject is at risk of GVHD or transplant rejection when they are pre-operative for a transplant. Potential transplant therapies are envisaged in concept 78 hereinbelow.

[0321] In any of concepts 1 to 83 described herein, a Tscm-mediated disease may be as defined in any of concepts 71 to 80 hereinbelow.

[0322] Concept 9. A method of treating or reducing the risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject, the method comprising combining a population of T-cells with an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells), and whereby the proportion of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells is reduced in the population (e.g. whereby the level of said Tscm cells is decreased or depleted).

[0323] As used in concepts 1 to 83 herein, the "treatment" of a Tscm-mediated disease includes the reduction of one or more symptom(s) of said Tscm-mediated disease. The "prevention" of a Tscm-mediated disease includes the prevention of one or more symptom(s) of said Tscm-mediated disease.

[0324] Concept 10. A method according to any one of concepts 7 to 9, wherein the agent (e.g. antibody or fragment thereof) is combined by administering said agent (e.g. antibody or fragment) in a therapeutically effective amount to said subject, whereby said Tscm-mediated disease or condition is treated or the risk of said Tscm-mediated disease or condition is reduced in said subject.

[0325] In one embodiment, the administration is prophylactic to reduce the risk of a Tscm-mediated disease.

[0326] In any of the concepts described herein, a therapeutically effective or prophylactically effective amount of the antibody or fragment is as described elsewhere (see page 29, 73, 105 to 107 for therapy, and pages 72, and 102 to 103 for prophylaxis). In any of the concepts described herein, modes and compositions for administration may be as described elsewhere (see pages 118 to 142 herein). In one embodiment, the antibody or fragment is administered by bolus injection (e.g. intravenously).

[0327] Concept 11. A method of treating or reducing the risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells), and whereby the proportion of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells is reduced (e.g. whereby the level of said Tscm cells is decreased or depleted), wherein the Tscm-mediated disease or condition is thereby treated or the risk of said Tscm-mediated disease or condition is reduced.

[0328] Concept 12a. An agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells) for use in treating or reducing the risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject, or concept 12b. An anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof for use in treating or reducing the risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject.

[0329] Concept 13a. Use of an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells) for the treatment or prevention of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject, or concept 13b. Use of an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof for the treatment or prevention of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject.

[0330] Concept 14a. Use of an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells) in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject, or concept 14b. The use of an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject.

[0331] Concept 15a. A composition comprising an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells) for the treatment or prevention of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject, or concept 15b. A composition comprising an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof for the treatment or prevention of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in a subject.

[0332] Concept 16. A method of treating a disease or condition in a subject in need thereof, comprising:

1. a. performing an assay to measure the level of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tn cells and the level of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells in a sample obtained from the subject; and
2. b. Administering an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells), such as an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, to the subject when the ratio of Tscm:Tn cells in the sample is determined in the assay to be greater than 50:50.

[0333] Concept 17a. An agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells) for use in therapy of a subject, wherein the agent is to be administered to a subject who has, or has been determined to have, a ratio of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells:CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tn cells of greater than 50:50, or concept 17b. An anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof for use in therapy of a subject, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof is to be administered to a subject who has, or has been determined to have, a ratio of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells:CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tn cells of greater than 50:50.

[0334] Concept 17b. Use of an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells) for therapy of a subject who has, or has been determined to have, a ratio of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells:CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tn cells of greater than 50:50, or concept 17b. Use of an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof for therapy of a subject who has, or has been determined to have, a ratio of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells:CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tn cells of greater than 50:50.

[0335] Concept 18a. Use of an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells) in the manufacture of a medicament for use in therapy of a subject, wherein the agent is to be administered to a subject who has, or has been determined to have, a ratio of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells:CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tn cells of greater than 50:50, or concept 18b. Use of an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for use in therapy of a subject, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof is to be administered to a subject who has, or has been determined to have, a ratio of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells:CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tn cells of greater than 50:50.

[0336] In any of concepts 17 to 19, the ratio is determined in a sample, for example, in a sample of blood obtained from said subject.

[0337] Concept 20. A method according to concept 16a or b, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use according to concept 17a or b, or the use according to concept 18a or b or concept 19 a or b, wherein the therapy is the treatment or prevention of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition.

[0338] In another embodiment, the subject has or is at risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition. The Tscm-mediated disease or condition may be as defined in any one of concepts 71 to 80 hereinbelow.

[0339] Concept 21. A method of classifying a subject as having or as being at risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition (e.g. which disease or condition is suitable for treatment with an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof), comprising:

1. a. performing an assay that detects (i) CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+Tscm cells, and (ii) CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tn cells in a sample obtained from said subject; and
2. b. classifying the subject as having, or as being at risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition if the ratio of Tscm:Tn cells in the sample is greater than 50:50.

[0340] Concept 22. A method according to concept 21 further comprising the step of:

- c. administering to said subject an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof which reduces the proportion of said Tscm cells in the blood of said subject, (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells) if said subject has been classified as having or as being at risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition in step b).

[0341] Tscm-mediated diseases or conditions which may be suitable for treatment with an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof are as described in any one of concepts 71 to 80 hereinbelow.

[0342] Concept 23. A method according to any one of concepts 4, 16, or 20 to 22, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use according to concept 17 or 20, or the use according to any one of concepts 18 to 20, wherein the ratio of Tscm:Tn cells is (or is determined or classified to be) greater than 60:40, or greater than 70:30, or is greater than 75:25, such as greater than 80:20.

[0343] In another embodiment, the ratio is (or is determined or classified to be) greater than 65:45. In another embodiment, the ratio is (or is determined or classified to be) greater than 65:35.

[0344] Concept 24. A method, agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, or the use according to concept 23, wherein the ratio of Tscm:Tn cells is (or is determined or classified to be) greater than 80:20, or is greater than 85:15, for example greater than 90:10, e.g. greater than 95:5.

[0345] Concept 25. A method according to any one of concepts 4, 16, or 20 to 24, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use according to any one of concepts 17, 20, 23 or 24, or the use according to any one of concepts 18 to 20, 23 or 24, wherein the ratio of Tscm:Tn cells is determined (or is determinable) by flow cytometry.

[0346] Flow cytometry techniques are well-known to those skilled in the art, as discussed above. Agents which may be used in flow cytometry techniques are defined in Example 7 below. In one embodiment, the flow cytometry is carried out as described in Example 7 below. In another embodiment, the flow cytometry is carried out as described in Baumgärtl & Roederer (2000).

[0347] Concept 26. A method for treating or reducing the risk of a Tscm-mediated disease or condition with an agent (e.g. an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof) which reduces the proportion of Tscm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tscm cells), or with an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, comprising the steps of:

1. a. determining whether the subject is a candidate for treatment by detecting the presence of OX40 on the surface of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+Tscm cells obtained from a sample from the subject, and
2. b. administering said agent, such as said antibody or fragment, to the subject if the subject is identified as a candidate for treatment.

[0348] Concept 27. A method according to concept 26, wherein the presence of OX40 on the surface of the Tscm cells is determined using flow cytometry.

[0349] In one embodiment, the subject is a human and the OX40 is human OX40.

[0350] Concept 28. A method, comprising:

1. a. obtaining at least two T-cell samples derived from a subject who has or is at risk of a Tcm-mediated disease or condition, wherein said at least two samples comprise a first sample and a second sample;
 2. b. determining levels of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells in said first and second samples;
 3. c. treating said subject to reduce the proportion of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells (e.g. to deplete or decrease the level of Tcm cells) by administering an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or by administering an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, if the levels of Tcm cells in said second sample are elevated as compared to said first sample, in order to treat or reduce the risk of said Tcm-mediated disease or condition.

[0351] The levels of Tcm in said first and second samples in step b. may be either the absolute number of Tcm cells, or may be the relative proportions of Tcm (e.g. the ratio of Tcm/Tn, or Tcm/total T-cell count). The levels of Tcm cells may be elevated in the second sample if they are statistically significantly higher than the levels in the first sample.

[0352] Concept 29. A method according to concept 28, wherein said first sample is collected:

1. i. before the onset of said disease or condition; or
2. ii. after the onset of said disease or condition; and

optionally wherein said second sample is collected no longer than one month, e.g. no longer than one week after the first sample.

[0353] As used in the concepts herein, a subject may be determined to be "before the onset of a Tcm-mediated disease or condition" if the subject is presenting no symptoms which would conventionally be associated with said disease or condition or if the subject would not be diagnosed as having such a disease or condition by any conventional method. For example, the presence of signs and symptoms of acute GvHD may be staged and graded according to a standardised scale such as described in Przepiorka et al. (1995), 1994 Consensus Conference on Acute GvHD Grading Bone Marrow Transplant 1995, 15, 825-828. Similar disease grading scales are also in routine clinical use for other relevant diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis and inflammatory bowel diseases.

[0354] Concept 28. A method according to concept 28 or concept 29, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is a transplant, and wherein in step c) the treatment is in order to reduce the risk of transplant rejection, optionally wherein the first sample is taken before the transplant, and the second sample is taken after the transplant.

[0355] The first sample may be taken pre-operatively, e.g. after the subject has been identified as a candidate for treatment. The second sample is taken after the transplant and may be used by physicians as a method of monitoring the acceptance of the transplant. Thus, it may be that the physician may take more than one sample after the transplant, e.g. a daily blood sample to monitor the subject for changes in the proportion of Tcm/Tn or the levels of Tcm in the sample. The samples may be taken every other day, weekly, monthly or longer (including yearly) according to the likelihood of transplant rejection. For example, if the transplant is autologous, then the likelihood of transplant rejection may be reduced as compared to an allogeneic transplant, and therefore the time period between sample collections post-transplant may be longer than with an allogeneic transplant, where the risk of rejection is higher.

[0356] Concept 31. A method according to concept 30, wherein in step a), the first sample is collected no longer than a week, e.g. no longer than 6 days, no longer than 5 days, no longer than 4 days, or no longer than 3 days, such as no longer than 2 days before said transplant.

[0357] Concept 32. A method according to any one of concepts 28 to 31, wherein the second sample is collected no longer than 6 days, no longer than 5 days, no longer than 4 days, or no longer than 3 days, such as no longer than 2 days after the first sample or after said transplant.

[0358] Concept 33. A method according to any one of concepts 28 to 32, wherein in step c), the levels of Tcm cells in said second sample are greater than double the levels as compared to said first sample, for example are greater than three times the level, or preferably are greater than 4 times the levels as compared to said first sample.

[0359] In one embodiment, in step c), the levels of Tcm cells in said second sample are greater than 4 times (e.g. greater than 4.5 times) the levels as compared to said first sample. In another embodiment, in step c), the levels of Tcm cells in said second sample are greater than 5 times the levels as compared to said first sample.

[0360] Concept 34. A method according to any one of concepts 30 to 33, wherein the subject is given a prophylactic dose of an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or is given a prophylactic dose of an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, before said transplant, and the first sample is taken before administration of said agent, or antibody or fragment thereof, and wherein the second sample is taken after the transplant or after administration of the agent, or the antibody or fragment thereof (preferably, where in the second sample is taken after the transplant).

[0361] In one embodiment, the prophylactic dose is an effective prophylactic dose. By "effective", it is meant that the dose is effective to reduce the proportion or level of Tcm as described herein, or effective to prevent or reduce the risk of a Tcm-mediated disease or condition.

[0362] The methods as described herein may be used to correct an already-aberrant level of Tcm cells, by administration of an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or by administration of an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, before a transplant, in order to reduce the risk of transplant rejection after the transplant. Therefore, multiple samples may be taken after administration of the agent (or of the anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof), but before the transplant. Comparison may be made between the collected samples and a sample obtained from a healthy donor.

[0363] Concept 35. A method according to any one of concepts 30 to 33, wherein the subject is given a therapeutic dose of an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or is given a therapeutic dose of an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, after the transplant, and wherein the first sample is taken before said transplant, and the second sample is taken after the transplant.

[0364] In one embodiment, the therapeutic dose is an effective therapeutic dose. By "effective", it is meant that the dose is effective to reduce the proportion or level of Tcm as described herein, or effective to treat a Tcm-mediated disease or condition.

[0365] In one embodiment, the second sample is taken after the administration of the agent, or antibody or fragment thereof. This would enable a physician to check that the levels or proportion of Tcm cells remain "normal", i.e. as compared to the first sample, or to a sample obtained from a healthy donor.

[0366] Concept 36. A method according to any one of concepts 30 to 33, wherein the subject is given a therapeutic dose of an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or is given a therapeutic dose of an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, after the transplant, and wherein the first sample is taken before said transplant, and the second sample is taken after the administration of said agent, or of said antibody or fragment thereof.

[0367] Concept 37. A method according to any one of concepts 34 to 36, further comprising the steps of:

d. obtaining a third sample derived from said subject;

e. determining the levels of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells in said third sample;

f. treating said subject to reduce the proportion of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells (e.g. to deplete or decrease the level) of Tcm cells by administering an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or by administering an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof, if the levels of Tcm cells in said third sample are elevated as compared to said second or said first sample.

[0368] The levels are considered to be "elevated" as described hereinabove (e.g. as for concept 28 or 33).

[0369] Concept 38. A method according to concept 37, wherein steps d) to f) are repeated as necessary until the levels of Tcm cells remain at a therapeutically-effective, or at a prophylactically-effective level, e.g. at a substantially constant level in said subject.

[0370] As used in the concepts herein, a "substantially constant level" may be described as within 30% variance between samples. In one embodiment, a substantially constant level is within 20% variance between samples. In another embodiment, a substantially constant level is within 15% variance between samples, such as within 10% variance between samples, e.g. within 5% variance between samples.

[0371] Concept 39. A method according to any one of concepts 28 to 38, wherein the second sample is taken no longer than one month after the first sample, such as no longer than one week, no longer than 6 days, no longer than 5 days, no longer than 4 days, or no longer than 3 days, e.g. no longer than 2 days after the first sample, and optionally wherein the third sample is taken no longer than one month after the second sample, such as no longer than one week, no longer than 6 days, no longer than 5 days, no longer than 4 days, or no longer than 3 days, e.g. no longer than 2 days after the second sample.

[0372] Timepoints for taking any of the samples described in these concepts will depend on a number of factors, such as the likelihood of the subject having or being at risk of a Tcm-mediated disease (e.g. GvHD or transplant rejection), the level determined in the previous sample, the type of transplant, etc. A person skilled in the art will be able to determine appropriate time points as necessary or desired. The timepoints may be monthly, every other month, quarterly, half-yearly or yearly, if desired.

[0373] Concept 40. *In vitro* use of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells, as a diagnostic for a Tcm-mediated disease or condition in a subject (for example, which disease or condition can be treated or prevented with an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or with an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof in the subject).

[0374] In one embodiment, there is provided biomarker of an autoimmune disease, HIV-1, and a T-cell malignancy, wherein the biomarker is a CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cell. In another embodiment, the biomarker is of any of the diseases described in concepts 71 to 80 hereinbelow. In another embodiment, the Tcm cell is a CD4+CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cell.

[0375] Concept 41. Use of a biomarker of a Tcm-mediated disease or condition, wherein the biomarker is CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells, *in vitro* as a diagnostic for a Tcm-mediated disease or condition (e.g. which disease or condition can be treated or prevented with an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or with an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof in the subject).

[0376] In one embodiment, the Tcm-mediated diseases are any of those described in concepts 71 to 80 hereinbelow.

[0377] Concept 42. A method of maintaining CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+ Tcm cells, whilst depleting CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells in a population of T-cells in a sample, said method comprising contacting said sample with an effective amount of an agent which reduces the proportion of Tcm cells (e.g. which depletes or decreases the level of said Tcm cells), or with an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof.

[0378] As used in concepts 1 to 83 herein, "maintains" or "maintaining" with respect to a level or a proportion may be described as substantially constant. A substantially constant level may be within 30% variance between samples. In one embodiment, a substantially constant level is within 20% variance between samples. In one embodiment, a substantially constant level is within 15% variance between samples, such as within 10% variance between samples, e.g. within 5% variance between samples. In another embodiment, a substantially constant level is one which does not show a statistically significant change in level. In one embodiment, a substantially constant level is one which reaches the 95% confidence level (e.g. greater than 97% or greater than 99%). "Statistically significant" may be as defined above in concept 28 herein.

[0379] Concept 43. A method according to concept 42, wherein the level of said Tn cells are at least maintained, whilst the levels of said Tcm cells are decreased in said sample, optionally wherein the sample is from a subject.

[0380] Concept 44. A method according to any one of concepts 2 to 6, 10, 16, 20, 21, 23 to 39 or 42 to 44, an agent or an antibody or fragment thereof for the use according to any one of concepts 12, 17, 20, 21, 23 to 25, the use according to any one of concepts 13, 14, 18 to 20 or 23 to 25 or 44, or the composition according to concept 15 to concept 44, wherein the agent (e.g. the antibody or fragment thereof) maintains CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+ Tn cells (e.g. depletes or decreases the level of Tn cells).

[0381] Concept 45. A method or fragment thereof according to any one of concepts 1 to 8, 10, 16, 20, 21, 23 to 39 or 42 to 44, an agent or an antibody or fragment thereof for the use according to any one of concepts 12, 17, 20, 21, 23 to 25, or 44, the use according to any one of concepts 13, 14, 18 to 20 or 23 to 25 or 44, or the composition according to concept 15 or concept 44, wherein the agent (e.g. the antibody or fragment thereof) maintains CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+ Tn cells.

[0382] Concept 46. A method according to concept 42 or 45, an agent or an antibody or fragment thereof for the use according to concept 45, the use according to concept 45, or the composition according to concept 45, wherein the Tn cells are maintained at a level of not below 50% of the level of said Tn cells in a sample from a healthy donor or from said subject before the onset of disease.

[0383] The healthy donor is preferably of the same species at the subject, for example, wherein the subject is a human, the donor is most preferably also a human. The donor is also preferably of the same gender as the subject. The donor is preferably of a similar age and ethnicity as the subject.

[0384] Concept 47. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 46, wherein the Tn cells are maintained at a level of not below 55% (such as not below 60%, for example not below 65%, e.g. not below 70%).

[0385] Concept 48. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 47, wherein the Tn cells are maintained at a level of not below 75% (such as not below 80%, for example not below 85%, e.g. not below 90%).

[0386] Concept 49. A method according to any one of concepts 1 to 8, or 42 to 48, an agent or an antibody or fragment thereof for the use according to any one of concepts 38 to 41, or the composition according to any one of concepts 44 to 48, wherein the Tcm cells are depleted or decreased to a level of less than 50% of the level of said Tcm cells in a sample from a healthy donor or from said subject before the onset of disease.

[0387] Concept 50. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 49, wherein the Tcm cells are depleted or decreased to a level of less than 45% (such as less than 40%, for example less than 35%, e.g. less than 30 % or less than 25%).

[0388] Concept 51. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 50, wherein the Tcm cells are depleted or decreased to a level of less than 20% (such as less than 15%, for example less than 10%).

[0389] Concept 52. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment is a depleting antibody or fragment that specifically binds OX40 (in particular human OX40), optionally wherein the antibody is engineered for enhanced ADCC, ADC and/or CDC.

[0390] The potency of Fc-mediated effects may be enhanced by engineering the Fc domain by various established techniques. Such methods increase the affinity for certain Fc receptors, thus creating potential diverse profiles of activation enhancement. This can be achieved by modification of one or several amino acid residues (e.g. as described in Lazar et al., 2006, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A., Mar 14, 103(11) 4005-10) or by altering the natural glycosylation profile of the Fc domain by, for example, generating under-fucosylated or de-fucosylated variants (as described in Natsume et al., 2009, Drug Des. Dev. Ther., 3:7-16). For example, to increase ADCC, residues in the hinge region can be altered to increase binding to Fc-gamma RII (see, for example, Shields et al., 2001, J. Biol. Chem., Mar 2, 276(5) 6591-604).

[0391] Equally, the enhancement of CDC may be achieved by amino acid changes that increase affinity for C1q, the first component of the classic complement activation cascade (see Idozoglu et al., J. Immunol., 2001, 166:2571-2575). Another approach is to create a chimeric Fc domain created from human IgG1 and human IgG3 segments that exploit the higher affinity for C1q (Natsuue et al., 2008, Cancer Res., 68: 3863-3872).

[0392] The antibody may be a targeting antibody (such as an anti-OX40 or an anti-OX40L antibody) which exhibits its effects through a toxin, to which the antibody may be conjugated. Such toxins will selectively kill or remove the cell to which they are targeted. Suitable immunoconjugates are described on page 90, and on pages 114 to 118, and 134 (in particular pages 114 to 118) herein.

[0393] Thus, in one embodiment, the antibody or fragment thereof is de-Ascytolysed. In another embodiment, the antibody or fragment thereof contains one or more mutations in the hinge or Fc region which enhances the ADCC and/or the CDC functionality.

[0394] Methods for determining depletion and/or ADCC and/or CDC functionality may be as described herein, or as well-known by those skilled in the art.

[0395] The OX40 antibodies may be as described in WO2014/48956 (Biorox Products & Janssen Pharmaceuticals; see claims on pages 138 to 139 for specific sequences), WO2013/068563 (Biorox Products & Janssen Pharmaceuticals; see claims on pages 138 to 139 for specific sequences), WO2013/010120 and WO2013/19202 (Providence Health & Services - Oregon, see mAb 9812 as described in Weinberg, A.D., et al., J. Immunother., 29, 575-595 (2006), and fusions with IL-2), WO2013/038191 (Biorox B.V.; see claims 4 to 11 for specific antibody sequences), WO2013/026321 (Board of Regents, the University of Texas System; see claims 1 to 12 for specific antibody sequences), WO2013/008171 (Glemark Pharmaceuticals S.A.; see claims 1, 2, 5 to 12, 16 to 21 and 28 to 29 for specific antibody sequences), WO2012/027328 (Board of Regents, the University of Texas System; see claims 1 to 11 for specific antibody sequences), WO2009/079335 (Medarex, Inc./Pfizer, Inc.; see claims 1 to 9 and 11 to 17 for specific antibody sequences), WO2008/016115 (Genentech, Inc.; see claims 1 to 12 for specific antibody sequences), WO2007/062245 (Krim Pharma Kabushiki Kaisha & La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology; see claim 12 for specific antibody sequences), WO09/06498 (CureVac/Holm B.V.; see claims 3 and 4 for specific antibody sequences).

[0396] More generally anti-OX40 antibodies are described in WO93/26955, WO95/1251, WO95/1915 and WO95/12673.

[0397] Concept 53. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody is an antagonistic or blocking antibody.

[0398] Methods for determining antagonism or blocking functionality may be as described herein, or as well-known by those skilled in the art. For example, *in vitro* techniques include SPR and/or ELISA, which are described elsewhere herein.

[0399] Concept 54. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 53, wherein the antibody specifically binds to OX40L (in particular human OX40L).

[0400] The OX40L antibodies may be any antibody or fragment as described herein. In one embodiment, the OX40L antibody is the antagonist anti-human OX40L (gp34) antibody i-k1 described by Matsumura et al., *J Immunol.* (1999), 163:3007.

[0401] Concept 55. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 56, wherein the antibody antagonizes specific binding of OX40 to OX40L, e.g. as determined using SPR or ELISA.

[0402] SPR and ELISA methods may be as described elsewhere herein.

[0403] Concept 56. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody is a humanized, human or fully human antibody.

[0404] Other antibody constructs may be as described herein.

[0405] Concept 57. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody is a fragment of an antibody selected from the list of multispecific antibodies (e.g. bi-specific antibodies), intrabodies, single-chain Fv antibodies (scFv), camelized antibodies, Fab fragments, F(ab') fragments, disulfide-linked Fvs (sdFv), anti-idiotypic (anti-iD) antibodies, and epitope-binding fragments thereof.

[0406] Concept 58. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment enables greater than 80% stem cell donor chimerism by day 12 in a Rhesus macaque model of haplodidential hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

[0407] Concept 59. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment expresses as a stably transfected pool in Lenzza GS-Xceed™ M at level greater than 1.5g/L in a fed batch overgrow culture using Lenzza version B fed system with an overgrow period of 14 days.

[0408] Concept 60. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGHJ6 (e.g. IGHJ6*02).

[0409] Concept 61. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a HCDR3 selected from:

1. a. the HCDR3 of antibody 2D10 (Seq ID No 40 or Seq ID No 45);
2. b. the HCDR3 of antibody 2D10 (Seq ID No 8 or Seq ID No 14);
3. c. the HCDR3 of antibody 2D10 (Seq ID No 78 or Seq ID No 79);
4. d. the HCDR3 of antibody 1B101 (Seq ID No 100 or Seq ID No 105);
5. e. a HCDR3 of any of the antibodies disclosed in WO2011/073180 (Ablynx, Seq ID Nos: 161 to 167 therein);
6. f. an HCDR3 of any of the antibodies disclosed in WO2006/029879 (Roche/Genentech, Seq ID Nos: 33 to 38 therein); or
7. g. an HCDR3 of any of the antibodies disclosed in US7,812,133 (Genentech, Seq ID Nos: 11 or 12 therein).

[0410] Concept 62. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises:

1. a. the CDRs of antibody 2D10 (Seq ID No 40 or Seq ID No 45 for CDRH3, Seq ID No 36 or Seq ID No 44 for CDRH2, Seq ID No 50 or Seq ID No 56 for CDRH1, Seq ID No 52 or Seq ID No 58 for CDRL2 and Seq ID No 54 or Seq ID No 60 for CDRL3);
2. b. the CDRs of antibody 10A7 (Seq ID No 8 or Seq ID No 14 for CDRH3, Seq ID No 6 or Seq ID No 12 for CDRH2, Seq ID No 4 or Seq ID No 10 for CDRH1, Seq ID No 18 or Seq ID No 24 for CDRL1, Seq ID No 20 or Seq ID No 26 for CDRL2 and Seq ID No 22 or Seq ID No 28 for CDRL3);
3. c. the CDRs of antibody 09H04 (Seq ID No 72 or Seq ID No 76 for CDRH3, Seq ID No 68 or Seq ID No 72 for CDRH2, Seq ID No 84 or Seq ID No 80 for CDRH1, Seq ID No 88 or Seq ID No 90 for CDRL2 and Seq ID No 86 or Seq ID No 92 for CDRL3);
4. d. the CDRs of antibody 1H101 (Seq ID No 100 or Seq ID No 105 for CDRH3, Seq ID No 98 or Seq ID No 104 for CDRH2, Seq ID No 96 or Seq ID No 102 for CDRH1, Seq ID No 110 or Seq ID No 116 for CDRL1, Seq ID No 112 or Seq ID No 118 for CDRL2 and Seq ID No 114 or Seq ID No 120 for CDRL3);
5. e. the CDRs of any of the antibodies disclosed in WO2011/073180 (Ablynx, Seq ID Nos: 161 to 167 therein for CDRH3, Seq ID Nos: 147 to 153 therein for CDRH2, and Seq ID Nos: 133 to 139 therein for CDRH1);
6. f. the CDRs of any of the antibodies disclosed in WO2006/029879 (Roche/Genentech, Seq ID Nos: 33 to 38 therein for CDRH3, Seq ID Nos: 21 to 25 therein for CDRH1 and Seq ID Nos: 26 to 32 therein for CDRH2, Seq ID Nos: 39 to 44 therein for CDRL1, Seq ID Nos: 45 to 50 therein for CDRL2, and Seq ID Nos: 51 to 57 therein for CDRL3); or
7. g. the CDRs of any of the antibodies disclosed in US7,812,133 (Genentech, Seq ID Nos: 11 or 12 therein for CDRH3, Seq ID Nos: 7 or 8 therein for CDRH1 and Seq ID Nos: 9 or 10 therein for CDRH2, Seq ID Nos: 1 or 2 therein for CDRL1, Seq ID Nos: 3 or 4 therein for CDRL2, and Seq ID Nos: 5 or 6 therein for CDRL3).

[0411] Concept 63. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises the VH and/or VL domains selected from the following:

1. a. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 2D10 (Seq ID No 34 for VH and/or Seq ID No 48 for VL);
2. b. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 10A7 (Seq ID No 2 for VH and/or Seq ID No 16 for VL);
3. c. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 09H04 (Seq ID No 65 for VH and/or Seq ID No 80 for VL);
4. d. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 1H101 (Seq ID No 94 for VH and/or Seq ID No: 108 for VL);
5. e. a VH domain of any of the antibodies disclosed in WO2011/073180 (Ablynx, Seq ID Nos: 177 to 185, 189 to 226 therein [reproduced herein as Seq ID Nos: 177 to 213]);
6. f. the VH and/or VL domains of any of the antibodies disclosed in WO2006/029879 (Roche/Genentech, Seq ID Nos: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 17, 19 and 20 therein for VH domains, and Seq ID Nos: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 16 and 18 therein for VL domains [reproduced herein as Seq ID Nos: 214 to 230]); or
7. g. the VH and/or VL domains of any of the antibodies disclosed in US7,812,133 (Genentech, Seq ID Nos: 15 and 16 therein for VH domains, and Seq ID Nos: 13 and 14 therein for VL domains [reproduced herein as Seq ID Nos: 231 to 234]).

[0412] Concept 64. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody is oxfumab.

[0413] Concept 65. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, where in the Tcm cells and/or the Tn cells are CD4+.

[0414] In another embodiment, the Tcm cells and/or the Tn cells are CD8+.

[0415] Concept 66. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 64, wherein the Tcm cells and/or the Tn cells are circulating T-cells.

[0416] Concept 67. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 65, wherein the Tcm cells and/or the Tn cells are in a sample of blood, e.g. peripheral blood.

[0417] Whereas T-cells present in blood are relatively straightforward to isolate and characterize, T-cells which are present in the tissues of a subject are generally more difficult to isolate. That said, it may be possible to isolate T-cells from various tissues (such as skin, tissues of the GI tract, e.g. bowel, and from inflamed joints, e.g. synovium).

[0418] Concept 68. A method according to any one of concepts 9 to 11, 16, 20 to 39 or 43 to 67, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use according to any one of concepts 12, 17, 20, 21, 23 to 25 or 44 to 67, a use according to any one of concepts 13, 14, 18 to 20 or 23 to 25 or 44 to 67, or a composition according to any one of concepts 15 or 44 to 67, wherein the subject is a human patient.

[0419] Concept 69. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 68, wherein the subject is at risk of a Tcm-mediated disease or condition.

[0420] Concept 70. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 69, wherein the subject has a Tcm-mediated disease or condition.

[0421] Concept 71. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, where the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is mediated by CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells.

[0422] Concept 72. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any one of concept 68 to 70, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is characterised by having a ratio of CD45RA+CCR7+CD95+OX40+ Tcm cells:CD45RA+CCR7+CD95- Tn cells of greater than 50:50.

[0423] In another embodiment, the disease or condition is characterised by having a ratio of Tcm cells:Tn cells as set out in any of concepts 23 to 25.

[0424] Concept 73. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 72, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is characterised by having a ratio of Tcm:Tn of greater than 60:40, or greater than 70:30, or greater than 75:25, such as greater than 70:30.

[0425] Concept 74. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 73, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is characterised by having a ratio of Tcm:Tn of greater than 80:20, or greater than 85:15, for example greater than 90:10, e.g. greater than 95:5.

[0426] Concept 75. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is selected from an autoimmune disease, HIV-1, and a T-cell malignancy.

[0427] Concept 76. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 75, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is selected from GvHD, transplant rejection, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, multiple sclerosis, juvenile dermatomyositis, T-cell lymphoma and T-cell leukaemia.

[0428] Concept 77. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 76, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection.

[0429] Concept 78. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 76, wherein the transplant is a cell, tissue or organ transplant (e.g. liver, lung, heart, kidney or bowel), or a blood transplant (e.g. autologous or allogeneic), for example where the blood is bone marrow-derived, is cord-blood derived (umbilical), or is peripherally derived.

[0430] In one embodiment, the transplant is a CAR T-cell transplant (chimeric antigen receptor).

[0431] Concept 79. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 76, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is a T-cell lymphoma selected from T-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, peripheral T-cell lymphoma (PTCL), anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL), angioimmunoblastic lymphoma, cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, adult T-cell leukaemia/lymphoma, blastic NK-cell lymphoma, enteropathy-type T-cell lymphoma, hematosplenic gamma-delta T-cell lymphoma, lymphoblastic lymphoma (T-LBL) and nasal NK/T-cell lymphoma.

[0432] Concept 80. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to concept 76, wherein the Tcm-mediated disease or condition is a T-cell leukaemia selected from granular lymphocytic leukaemia (GLL), T-cell prolymphocytic leukaemia (T-PLL), T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (T-ALL) and Sezary syndrome.

[0433] Concept 81. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a further therapeutic agent, optionally where the further therapeutic agent is independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2/IL23 antibodies (e.g. ustekinumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), anti-CD40 antibodies (e.g. abatacept), CCR5 receptor antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-IL4R antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. adalimumab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine, in particular rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-CD40 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine.

[0434] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is independently selected from the group consisting of calneurin inhibitors (e.g. tacrolimus, cyclosporin), mTOR inhibitors (e.g. rapamycin (sirolimus)), and antiproliferative agents (e.g. mycophenolate mofetil, cyclophosphamide).

[0435] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is independently selected from the group consisting of immunosuppressants that modulate IL-2 signalling (e.g. tacrolimus, cyclosporin, rapamycin (sirolimus), and anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. basiliximab, daclizumab)).

[0436] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is rapamycin (sirolimus). In another embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is tacrolimus. In another embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate. In another embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is cyclophosphamide. In another embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is mycophenolate mofetil.

[0437] Concept 82. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of rapamycin.

[0438] Concept 83. A method, an agent or an antibody or fragment for the use, a use or a composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount of tacrolimus.

[0439] The inventors have surprisingly found that an anti-CD40L antibody may provide synergistic effects when administered as part of a combination therapy with a further therapeutic agent. To that end, further concepts are provided below.

Concept 101. Use of an anti-CD40L antibody or fragment thereof for the treatment or prevention of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition in a subject in combination with a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2/IL23 antibodies (e.g. ustekinumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CCR5 receptor antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-IL4R antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. adalimumab), anti-CD45 antibodies (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine.

Concept 102. Use of an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof for the treatment or prevention of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition in a subject in combination with a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2/IL23 antibodies (e.g. ustekinumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-IL4R antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine.

Concept 103. Use of an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition in a subject in combination with a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2/IL23 antibodies (e.g. ustekinumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CCR5 receptor antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-IL4R antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine.

antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-VLA4 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fadarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-s4b7 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine.

Concept 104 A composition comprising an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof for the treatment or prevention of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition in a subject in combination with a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2R α -23 antibodies (e.g. utekumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. rituximab), anti-CD3 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CC5 receptor antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-VLA4 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fadarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-s4b7 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine, whereas the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is thereby treated or prevented.

[0440] In any of the concepts herein, the combination may be used in the prevention of an OX40L-mediated disease. In any of the concepts, the combination may be used to reduce the risk of an OX40L-mediated disease. In any of the concepts, the combination may be used in the treatment of an OX40L-mediated disease.

[0441] A "combination" as described here may be as defined elsewhere herein, for example on page 100, on pages 105 to 107, and on pages 119 to 120. In one embodiment, the disease is rheumatoid arthritis or psoriasis, and the further therapeutic agent is an anti-IL-17 antibody (such as brodalumab, secukinumab and ixekizumab). Combinations may be administered concomitantly or sequentially. Administration may be via any of the methods disclosed herein, for example, as discussed in the section entitled "Methods of Administration and Dosing" beginning on page 130 herein.

[0442] As used in any of the concepts herein, the "treatment" of an OX40L-mediated disease includes the reduction of one or more symptom(s) of said OX40L-mediated disease. Treatment may be interpreted as described elsewhere herein, for example on page 107, and in the section entitled "Kits" (beginning on page 149, in particular page 152).

[0443] Immunosuppressive drug intervention in the management of GvHD associated with hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) may be administered to treat patients with confirmed disease. GvHD grading may be determined as described below.

[0444] In one embodiment, the administration is prophylactic to reduce the risk of an OX40L-mediated disease. As used in the concepts herein, "prevention" (or "prevent" or "preventing" and the like) of an OX40L-mediated disease includes the prevention of one or more symptom(s) of said OX40L-mediated disease. Preventing may refer to the total or partial inhibition of the development, recurrence, onset or spread of an OX40L-mediated disease and/or symptom related thereto, resulting from the administration combination of therapies provided herein (e.g., a combination of prophylactic and/or therapeutic agents). Preventing may be interpreted as disclosed elsewhere herein.

[0445] Immunosuppressive drug intervention in the management of GvHD associated with hematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) may be administered to prevent disease in patients known to be at risk.

[0446] Thus, in one embodiment, a prophylactically-effective dose is administered before the onset of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition. As used in the concepts herein, a subject may be determined to be "before the onset of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition" if the subject is presenting no symptoms which would conventionally be associated with said disease or condition or if the subject would not be diagnosed as having such a disease or condition by any conventional method. In another embodiment, administration which is before the onset of disease may be termed "pre-emptive treatment", which refers to the use of further therapeutic agents (such as immunosuppressant agents) and/or an anti-OX40L antibody in the invention in individuals at risk of developing disease and where there may be early signs that emergence of clinically-relevant GvHD is imminent. For example, an experimental or predictive serum or cellular biomarker may indicate the optimal time for initiation of pre-emptive GvHD treatment.

[0447] For example, the presence of signs and symptoms of acute GvHD in a human may be staged and graded according to a standardised scale such as described in Przepiorka *et al.* In a primate, such as a rhesus macaque monkey, the presence of signs and symptoms of acute GvHD may be staged and graded according to a standardised scale such as described herein in Example 7. Similar disease grading scales are also in routine clinical use for other relevant diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis and inflammatory bowel disease.

[0448] "Prevention" or "prophylaxis" may be as described in aspect 94 herein, with dosages and timings of administration of the anti-OX40L antibody as described. A prophylactic agent may be used in any of the methods described on page 102 to 103.

[0449] The OX40L-mediated disease or conditions may be any of the diseases or conditions mentioned herein, including those which are defined elsewhere herein as T-cell-mediated diseases or conditions (see concepts 75 to 80 hereinabove). In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated diseases or conditions are as described in any of aspects 12, 12a, 69, 69a, 71, 72, 72a, 90 to 93 as described herein. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or conditions are as described in any of aspects 12, 12a, 69, 69a, 71, 72, 72a, 90 to 93 as described herein. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is a HOX40L-mediated disease or condition as described herein, for example on pages 103 to 104, or on page 131. In another embodiment, the OX40L-mediated diseases or conditions are as described in the section entitled "Methods of Administration and Dosing" beginning on page 130 herein. In a preferred embodiment, the disease or condition is GvHD. In another embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is Chorn's disease. In another embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). In another embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is ulcerative colitis. In another embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is psoriasis.

[0450] In any of concepts described herein, the anti-OX40L antibody and/or the further therapeutic agent are administered to the subject. Administration may be by any method described herein, for example as described on page 93, or in the sections entitled "Pharmaceutical compositions" and "Methods of Administration" beginning on pages 118 and 130 respectively. In one embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention is administered intravenously. In one embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention is administered subcutaneously.

[0451] In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is rapamycin (sirolimus) and is administered orally. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is tacrolimus and is administered orally. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is methotrexate and is administered orally and/or intravenously. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is cyclosporine and is administered intravenously and/or orally. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is methyl prednisolone and is administered orally and/or intravenously.

[0452] Concept 106: A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any one of concepts 101 to 105, wherein the subject has a post-treatment or post-prophylaxis survival time of at least 14 days, or at least 21 days, or at least 28 days, or at least 40 days, or at least 50 days, or at least 60 days.

[0453] Concept 107: A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any one of concepts 101 to 105, wherein post-prophylaxis, the subject has at least 7 days, or at least 14 days, or at least 21 days, or at least 28 days, or at least 40 days, or at least 50 days, or at least 60 days disease-free.

[0454] Concept 108: A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any one of concepts 101 to 105, wherein post-treatment, the subject has at least 7 days, or at least 14 days, or at least 21 days, or at least 28 days, or at least 40 days, or at least 50 days, or at least 60 days disease progression-free.

[0455] Concept 109: A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any one of concepts 106 to 108, wherein the number of days of survival, the number of disease free days, or the number of disease-progression free days is at least 2 months, or at least 3 months, or at least 4 months, or at least 5 months, such as at least 6 months.

[0456] Concept 110: A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 109, wherein the number of days of survival, the number of disease free days, or the number of disease-progression free days is at least 9 months, or at least 1 year.

[0457] Concept 111: A method of preventing the onset of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition in a subject by administering a prophylactically-effective amount of an anti-OX40L antibody and administering a prophylactically-effective amount of a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2R α -23 antibodies (e.g. utekumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. rituximab), anti-CD3 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CC5 receptor antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-VLA4 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fadarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-s4b7 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine, whereas the onset of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is prevented.

[0458] By "prophylactically-effective", it is meant that the dose is effective to prevent or reduce the risk of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition.

[0459] In one embodiment, the combination may be used to reduce the risk of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition. In concept 111, the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and the further therapeutic agent may be administered to the patient prophylactically, which administration may be sequential or simultaneous. The dosing regimens and modes of administration may be those which are normal or traditionally administered by physicians for the further therapeutic agent. The dosing regimens and modes of administration may be those which are normal or traditionally administered by physicians for the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention. However, the concurrent use of both agents is expected to result in an improved prophylaxis as compared to either agent alone.

[0460] Concept 112: A method of treating an OX40L-mediated disease or condition in a subject by administering a prophylactically-effective amount of an anti-OX40L antibody and administering a therapeutically-effective amount of a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2R α -23 antibodies (e.g. utekumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. rituximab), anti-CD3 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CC5 receptor antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-VLA4 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fadarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-s4b7 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine, whereas the onset of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is treated.

[0461] By "therapeutically effective", it is meant that the dose is effective to treat an OX40L-mediated disease or condition. Effective may be as defined on pages 96 to 97, or on page 152 herein, and may provide serum concentrations as described in the section entitled "Pharmaceutical Compositions" starting on page 118 herein.

[0462] In concept 112, the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention may be administered to the patient, but despite prophylaxis, the onset of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition occurs (the onset may be delayed by a number of days or weeks, as compared with a patient who had not been receiving the antibody of the invention). In this case, a therapeutically-effective amount of a further therapeutic agent may be administered to treat the disease or condition.

[0463] Concept 113: A method of treating an OX40L-mediated disease or condition in a subject by administering a prophylactically-effective amount of an anti-OX40L antibody and administering a prophylactically-effective amount of a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2R α -23 antibodies (e.g. utekumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. rituximab), anti-CD3 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CC5 receptor antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-VLA4 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fadarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-s4b7 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine, whereas the onset of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is treated.

[0464] In concept 113, the further therapeutic agent may be administered to the patient, but despite prophylaxis, the onset of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition occurs (the onset may be delayed by a number of days or weeks, as compared with a patient who had not been receiving the further therapeutic agent). In this case, a therapeutically-effective amount of an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention may be administered to treat the disease or condition.

[0465] Concept 114: A method of treating an OX40L-mediated disease or condition in a subject by administering a therapeutically-effective amount of an anti-OX40L antibody and administering a therapeutically-effective amount of a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-IL2R α -23 antibodies (e.g. utekumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. rituximab), anti-CD3 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CC5 receptor antagonists (e.g. maraviroc), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-VLA4 antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fadarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-s4b7 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vincristine, whereas the onset of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is treated.

[0466] In concept 114, both the anti-OX40L antibody of the invention and the further therapeutic agent are not administered until there are clinical signs of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition. The combination treatment of both agents may provide further benefits as compared to either agent alone.

[0467] Concept 115: A method according to concept 111 or concept 113, wherein the further therapeutic agent is independently selected from rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate, cyclophosphamide, cyclosporin, and a combination of cyclosporin and methotrexate.

[0468] In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, particularly GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is rapamycin (sirolimus). In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, particularly GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is tacrolimus. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, particularly GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is cyclosporine. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, particularly GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, particularly GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is cyclophosphamide. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, particularly GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is a combination of cyclosporine and methotrexate. In one embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is administered to a patient who is already receiving cyclosporine. In another embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is administered to a patient who is already receiving tacrolimus and methotrexate. In another embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is administered to a patient who is already receiving a combination of cyclosporine and methotrexate. In another embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is administered to a patient who is already receiving cyclophosphamide.

[0469] In one embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is administered to a patient who is already receiving rapamycin (sirolimus). In another embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is administered to a patient who is already receiving a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate. In another embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is administered to a patient who is already receiving cyclophosphamide. In another embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is administered to a patient who is already receiving cyclosporine.

[0470] These further therapeutic agents may be used prophylactically in the treatment of OX40L-mediated diseases or conditions. For example, in GvHD, preventive therapy (prophylaxis) is typically administered around the time of HSCT and is continued for a period of time following transplant to maintain immunosuppression during the period of greatest risk of developing acute GvHD. Specific drug regimens differ between transplant centres, but as example prophylaxis with calcineurin inhibitors such as cyclosporine or tacrolimus, or with rapamycin (sirolimus) may be initiated within the 7 day period preceding transplant (such as Day -3, or Day -1 pre-HSCT), or immediately following the HSCT procedure (e.g. on Day 0, or Day +1 after transplant). Prophylaxis with mycophenolate mofetil is typically dosed following HSCT, for example starting between Day +1 to Day +5 post-transplant. Prophylaxis with these agents may be continued, for example, between 20 to 180 days or longer following transplant, with daily doses calculated to maintain serum levels in the range to achieve effective immunosuppression without limiting side effects. In addition to calcineurin inhibitors, methotrexate is often used as an adjunct to prophylaxis, typically being administered on Days +1, +3, +6, and +11 post-transplant.

[0471] An anti-OX40L antibody of the invention may be used as prophylaxis in combination with tacrolimus, cyclosporin, a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate, a combination of cyclosporine and methotrexate, cyclophosphamide, mycophenolate mofetil or rapamycin, where prophylaxis with any of these agents is started before or around the time of HSCT, or immediately following the transplant procedure, for example within the period 7 days before, to 7 days after transplant. Tacrolimus, or cyclosporine, or rapamycin may then be administered at therapeutically effective dose and frequency, for example daily, for up to 180 days following the transplant. An anti-OX40L antibody of the invention may be administered concurrently, starting before or around the time of HSCT, or immediately following the transplant procedure, for example within the period 7 days before, to 7 days after transplant. The anti-OX40L antibody may then be continued, for example, between 20 to 180 days following the transplant. Under these circumstances the combined activity of the anti-OX40L antibody and the additional prophylactic agent would be expected to display a synergistic effect in preventing the onset and / or severity of GvHD.

[0472] Concept 116: A method according to concept 112 or concept 114, wherein the further therapeutic agent is a corticosteroid (e.g. methylprednisolone).

[0473] In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is methylprednisolone.

[0474] In cases where breakthrough GvHD occurs (for example, even despite prophylaxis), treatment may be initiated immediately upon confirmation of Grade II or higher GvHD disease. Systemic corticosteroids such as methylprednisolone are the first-line treatment of choice, administered concurrently with ongoing prophylaxis with, for example, a calcineurin inhibitor such as cyclosporine or tacrolimus.

[0475] Where first-line treatment or prophylaxis fails to control GvHD, "salvage therapy" may be attempted in which case additional previously unused immunosuppressants such as rapamycin or mycophenolate mofetil may be administered. Thus, in one embodiment, a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention is administered to a patient who is refractory to prophylaxis or treatment with any of the further therapeutic agents mentioned herein. In another embodiment, an anti-OX40L antibody of the invention is administered as a salvage therapy.

[0476] Concept 117. A method of prolonging survival in a subject having or at risk of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition by administering a therapeutic or prophylactic combination of an anti-OX40L antibody and a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporine, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-CD12L-23 antibodies (e.g. utekumab), anti-CD30 antibodies (e.g. rituximab), anti-CD40 antibodies, anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-IL4R antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fludarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vironostat.

[0477] In one embodiment, the risk of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD. A number of factors affect the severity and disease progression in GvHD, such as the pre-transplant conditioning regimen (e.g. myeloablation by irradiation, preparative chemotherapy), degree of donor-recipient tissue matching (HLA matching, and/or relationship of donor-recipient), and therapeutic or prophylactic treatment regimens.

[0478] In general, however, in primates, such as rhesus macaque that have received haploidial stem cell transplants, the mean survival time (MST) post-transplant and in the absence of therapy is 8 days.

[0479] Concept 118. A method according to concept 117, wherein survival is increased by at least 7 days, or by at least 14 days, or by at least 20 days, or by at least 30 days or by at least 40 days, or by at least 50 days, or by at least 60 days, or by at least 70 days.

[0480] Concept 119. A method of increasing the number of disease-free, or disease-progression free, days in a subject having or at risk of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition by administering a therapeutic or prophylactic combination of an anti-OX40L antibody and a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporine, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-CD12L-23 antibodies (e.g. utekumab), anti-CD30 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), anti-CD40 antibodies, anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-IL4R antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fludarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vironostat.

[0481] In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD. In humans, the presence of signs and symptoms of acute GvHD may be staged and graded according to a standardised scale such as described in Przepiorka et al. In primates, such as rhesus macaque, the presence of signs and symptoms of acute GvHD may be staged and graded according to a standardised scale such as described herein in Example 7.

[0482] Thus, the number of disease free days may be measured by absence of clinical grading symptoms. The number of disease-progression free days may be measured as the number of days where the clinical grading score does not change.

[0483] Concept 120. A method according to concept 119, wherein the number of disease-free, or disease-progression free, days is at least 7 days, or at least 14 days, or at least 21 days, or at least 28 or at least 40 days, or at least 50 days, or by at least 60 days, or at least 70 days.

[0484] Concept 121. A method according to concept 120, wherein the number of disease free, or disease-progression free, days is at least 90 days, at least 180 days or at least 365 days.

[0485] Concept 122. A method of treating or reducing the risk of transplant rejection or GvHD in a subject by administering a therapeutic or prophylactic combination of an anti-OX40L antibody and a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporine, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-CD12L-23 antibodies (e.g. utekumab), anti-CD30 antibodies (e.g. brentuximab), anti-CD40 antibodies, anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-IL4R antibodies (e.g. natalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fludarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tozilizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α / TNF α -Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vironostat, wherein the combination results in an increased survival in a Rhesus macaque model of haploidial hematopoietic stem cell transplantation as compared to either the antibody or the further therapeutic agent as a monotherapy.

[0486] In one embodiment, the method is a method of preventing an OX40L-mediated disease or condition.

[0487] In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is a rapamycin (sirolimus). In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is tacrolimus. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is cyclophosphamide. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is a combination of cyclosporine and methotrexate. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD, and the further therapeutic agent is mycophenolate mofetil.

[0488] The Rhesus macaque model of haploidial hematopoietic stem cell transplantation may be as described in aspect 99 herein.

[0489] Concept 123. A method according to any one of concepts 106, 109, 110, 117, 119, or 122, wherein the survival is increased by at least 7 days, or by at least 14 days, or by at least 21 days, or by at least 28 days, or by at least 40 days, or by at least 50 days, or by at least 60 days, or by at least 70 days as compared to either the antibody or the further therapeutic agent as a monotherapy.

[0490] Concept 124. A method according to any one of concepts 106, 109, 110, 117, 119, or 122, wherein survival is at least doubled, e.g. tripled, as compared to either the antibody or the further therapeutic agent as a monotherapy.

[0491] Concept 125. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody specifically binds to human OX40L (hOX40L).

[0492] The hOX40L may be as described in aspect 20 or aspect 30 described herein.

[0493] In any of the concepts provided herein, the anti-OX40L antibody may be as described elsewhere herein. In one embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is as described in any of aspects 1 to 11, 13 to 27, 29, 31 to 43 or 45 described herein. In another embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is as described in aspects 73 to 89, or as in any of aspects 95 to 102 described herein. In another embodiment, the anti-OX40L antibody is as described in any of concepts 53 to 64 hereinabove. Other properties of anti-OX40L antibodies are described on pages 86 to 89, in the section entitled "Bioprecise" beginning on page 90 herein, in the section entitled "Antibodies" beginning on page 108 herein and in the section entitled "Methods of Administration and Dosing" beginning on page 130 herein.

[0494] Concept 126. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 125, which competes for binding to said hOX40L with an antibody selected from the group consisting of O2010, 10A07, 09H04 and 19H01.

[0495] Competition between antibodies may be determined as described in aspect 13 or aspect 73, for example as determined by SPR, ELISA, HTTRF or FACS. Methods related to the measurement methods are disclosed herein, including in the Examples.

[0496] Concept 127. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 126, which competes for binding to said hOX40L with the antibody O2D10, wherein the antibody or fragment comprises a VH domain which comprises a HCDR3 comprising the motif VRGKX γ Y, wherein X is any amino acid.

[0497] Concept 128. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody antagonizes specific binding of OX40 to OX40L, e.g. as determined using SPR or ELISA.

[0498] Antagonism and inhibition may be carried out as defined on page 94 to 95.

[0499] Concept 129. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody is a humanized, human or fully human antibody.

[0500] Concept 130. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody is a fragment of an antibody selected from the list of multispecific antibodies (e.g. bi-specific antibodies), intrabodies, single-chain Fv antibodies (scFv), camelized antibodies, Fab fragments, disulfide-linked Fv's (sdFv), anti-oligocys (anti-Id) antibodies, and epitope-binding fragments thereof.

[0501] Concept 131. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment enables greater than 80% stem cell donor chimerism by day 12 in a Rhesus macaque model of haploidial hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

[0502] Concept 132. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment expresses as a stably transfected pool in Lonza GS-XcellTM at level greater than 1.5g/L in a fed batch overgrow culture using Lonza version B feed system with an overgrow period of 14 days.

[0503] Concept 133. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a HCDR3 of from 16 to 27 amino acids and derived from the recombination of a human VH gene segment, a human D gene segment and a human JH gene segment, wherein the human JH gene segment is IGHJ6 (e.g. IGHJ6 α).

[0504] Concept 134. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a CDR selected from:

1. a. the CDRs of antibody 2D10 (Seq ID No 40 or Seq ID No 46);
2. b. the CDR3 of antibody 10A7 (Seq ID No 8 or Seq ID No 14);
3. c. the CDR3 of antibody 09H04 (Seq ID No 72 or Seq ID No 78);
4. d. the CDR3 of antibody 19H01 (Seq ID No 100 or Seq ID No 106);
5. e. a CDR3 of any of the antibodies having the variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 177 to 213;
6. f. an HCDR3 of any of the antibodies having the variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 216, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229 or 230; or
7. g. an HCDR3 of any of the antibodies having the variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 232 or 234.

[0505] Concept 135. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises:

1. a. the CDRs of antibody 2D10 (Seq ID No 40 or Seq ID No 46 for VH and/or Seq ID No 42 for VL);
2. b. the CDRs of antibody 10A7 (Seq ID No 8 or Seq ID No 14 for VH and/or Seq ID No 10 for VL);
3. c. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 09H04 (Seq ID No 65 for VH and/or Seq ID No 80 for VL);
4. d. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 19H01 (Seq ID No 94 for VH and/or Seq ID No 108 for VL);
5. e. a VH domain of any of the antibodies having the variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 177 to 213;
6. f. a VH domain of any of the antibodies having the heavy chain variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 216, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229 or 230, and a VL domain of any of the antibodies having the light chain variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 177 to 213;
7. g. the heavy chain CDRs of any of the antibodies having the heavy chain variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 232 or 234, and the light chain CDRs of any of the antibodies having the light chain variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 231 or 233.

[0506] Concept 136. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises the VH and/or VL domains selected from the following:

1. a. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 2D10 (Seq ID No 40 or Seq ID No 42 for VH and/or Seq ID No 46 for VL);
2. b. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 10A7 (Seq ID No 8 or Seq ID No 14 for VH and/or Seq ID No 10 for VL);
3. c. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 09H04 (Seq ID No 65 for VH and/or Seq ID No 80 for VL);
4. d. the VH and/or VL domains of antibody 19H01 (Seq ID No 94 for VH and/or Seq ID No 108 for VL);
5. e. a VH domain of any of the antibodies having the variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 177 to 213;
6. f. a VH domain of any of the antibodies having the heavy chain variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 216, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229 or 230, and a VL domain of any of the antibodies having the light chain variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 177 to 213;
7. g. a VH domain of any of the antibodies having the heavy chain variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 232 or 234, and a VL domain of any of the antibodies having the light chain variable region amino acid sequence of Seq ID Nos. 231 or 233.

[0507] Concept 137. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the antibody is oxatumab.

[0508] Concept 138. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the subject is a primate.

[0509] The term "subject" may be other subjects as described herein, for example as described on page 104. In one embodiment, the primate is a rhesus macaque monkey.

[0510] Concept 139. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the subject is a human.

[0511] In one embodiment, the subject is a human patient.

[0512] Concept 140. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the subject is at risk of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition.

[0513] In one embodiment, a subject may be identified as being "at risk of an OX40L-mediated disease or condition" if the subject has been previously identified as having an increased risk, e.g. by genotyping and/or phenotyping, but the subject has not yet presented symptoms or would not be diagnosed as having such a disease or condition by any conventional method. Thus, the methods and uses disclosed herein may aid in the early identification of patients who will develop such diseases or conditions. In one embodiment, the disease or condition is prevented (i.e. the treatment is prophylactic).

[0514] In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD. In a particular embodiment, the subject is at risk of GvHD or transplant rejection when they are pre-operative for a transplant. In particular, a subject is at risk of GvHD or transplant rejection when they have commenced a pre-transplant conditioning regimen (e.g. myeloablation by irradiation, preparative chemotherapy), and when degree of donor-recipient tissue matching (HLA matching, and/or relationship of donor-recipient) is not 100%. Potential transplant therapies are envisaged in concept 78 hereinabove.

[0515] Concept 141. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 40, wherein the method, antibody or fragment for the use, the use or the composition is for the prevention of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition.

[0516] Concept 142. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any one of concepts 101 to 139, wherein the subject has an OX40L-mediated disease or condition.

[0517] A subject has an OX40L-mediated disease or condition if the subject is presenting symptoms which would conventionally be associated with said disease or condition or if the subject would be diagnosed as having such a disease or condition by any conventional method. In one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, particularly GvHD, and a subject may be determined to have the disease by any of the methods mentioned in concepts 101 to 105 and 119 hereinabove.

[0518] Concept 143. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 142, wherein the method, antibody or fragment for the use, the composition for the use, or the use is for the treatment of the OX40L-mediated disease or condition.

[0519] in one embodiment, treatment is commenced when the OX40L-mediated disease or condition has been diagnosed as a confirmed disease or condition.

[0520] in one embodiment, the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection, in particular GvHD. GvHD grading may be determined as described herein (see concepts 101 to 105 and 119 hereinabove). In one embodiment, the subject is a human having Grade II clinical symptoms of GvHD.

[0521] Concept 144. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any preceding concept, wherein the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection.

[0522] Concept 145. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 144, wherein the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is selected from inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GvHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and atherosclerosis.

[0523] Concept 146. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 145, wherein the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD or transplant rejection.

[0524] Concept 147. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 146, wherein the OX40L-mediated disease or condition is GvHD.

[0525] Concept 148. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 146, wherein the transplant is a cell, tissue or organ transplant (e.g. liver, lung, heart, kidney or bone), or a blood transplant (e.g. autologous or allogeneic), for example where the blood is bone marrow-derived, cord-blood derived (umbilical), or peripheral blood derived.

[0526] Concept 149. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any one of concepts 146 to 148, wherein the anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof is administered before transplant.

[0527] Concept 150. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to any one of concepts 146 to 148, wherein the anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof is administered after transplant.

[0528] Concept 151. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 149 or concept 150, wherein the further therapeutic agent is administered after transplant.

[0529] in one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is rapamycin (sirolimus). In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is tacrolimus. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is cyclophosphamide. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is cyclosporine. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is a combination of cyclosporine and methotrexate. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is methyl prednisolone.

[0530] Concept 152. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use according to concept 149 or concept 150, wherein the further therapeutic agent is administered before transplant.

[0531] in one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is rapamycin (sirolimus). In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is tacrolimus. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is a combination of tacrolimus and methotrexate. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is cyclophosphamide. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is cyclosporine. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is a combination of cyclosporine and methotrexate. In one embodiment, the further therapeutic agent is mycophenolate mofetil.

[0532] Concept 153. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an anti-OX40L antibody or fragment thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier and further comprising a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporine, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD20 antibodies, anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD40 antibodies, anti-CD44 antibodies (e.g. naturalizumab), anti-LFA1 antibodies, fludarabine, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement C5 antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-CD47 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. tocilizumab), anti-IL2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. daclizumab), anti-TNF α /TNF β Fc molecules (e.g. etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol) and Vorinostat.

[0533] in one embodiment, there is provided a composition or kit for treating and/or preventing a OX40L-mediated condition or disease, the composition or kit comprising an antibody or fragment of the invention in combination with a further therapeutic agent optionally in combination with a label or instructions for use to treat and/or prevent said disease or condition in a human; optionally wherein the label or instructions comprise a marketing authorisation number (e.g., an FDA or EMA authorisation number); optionally wherein the kit comprises an IV or injection device that comprises the antibody or fragment.

[0534] The composition may be described in aspect 105, 106 or 107 herein. Exipients for use in pharmaceutical formulations are well-known to the skilled person and may be as defined on page 97 herein, or in the section entitled "Pharmaceutical Compositions" beginning on page 118 herein, or in the section entitled "Methods of Administration and Dosing" beginning on page 130 herein.

[0535] Concept 154. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, or the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the further therapeutic agent is independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporine, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD20 antibodies, CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-CD40 antibodies, anti-CD44 antibodies (e.g. naturalizumab), cyclophosphamide and anti-thymocyte globulins.

[0536] Other combinations may be with the anti-inflammatory drugs described in aspect 45 herein, or as described in aspect 103. Other combinations are as described in concepts 81 to 83 hereinabove, or in any of concepts 101 to 153 hereinabove.

[0537] Concept 155. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin, tacrolimus, cyclosporine, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate or mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD20 antibodies, CTLA4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept) and anti-thymocyte globulins.

[0538] Concept 156. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of rapamycin, tacrolimus, cyclosporine, cyclophosphamide, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate and mycophenolate mofetil.

[0539] Concept 157. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of an immunosuppressant that modulates IL-2 signalling (e.g. tacrolimus, cyclosporine, rapamycin (sirolimus), and anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. basiliximab, daclizumab)).

[0540] Concept 158. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of calcineurin inhibitors (e.g. tacrolimus, cyclosporine), mTOR inhibitors (e.g. rapamycin (sirolimus)), and antiproliferative agents (e.g. mycophenolate mofetil, cyclophosphamide).

[0541] Concept 159. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of rapamycin.

[0542] Concept 160. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of tacrolimus.

[0543] Concept 161. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of tacrolimus and methotrexate.

[0544] Concept 162. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of cyclosporine.

[0545] Concept 163. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of cyclophosphamide.

[0546] Concept 164. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of cyclosporine.

[0547] Concept 165. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of mycophenolate mofetil.

[0548] Concept 166. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, further comprising administering to the human a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount of a corticosteroid (e.g. methyl prednisolone).

[0549] Concept 167. A method, an antibody or fragment for the use, a composition for the use, the use or the composition according to any preceding concept, wherein the further therapeutic agent is administered sequentially or simultaneously with the anti-hOX40L antibody or fragment.

[0550] As explained in the examples, the inventors devised a set of criteria that is particularly useful for identifying antibodies and fragments of the invention, these criteria being:

- (a) The ability of the antibody or fragment to bind surface hOX40L on CHO-S cells (optionally transfected with full length human OX40L) and/or bind recombinant OX40L in a HTRF assay;
- (b) The ability of the antibody or fragment to neutralise human OX40L binding to human OX40 receptor in a receptor neutralisation HTRF assay and/or a flow cytometry receptor neutralisation assay; and
- (c) The ability of the antibody or fragment to specifically bind both human and rhesus monkey OX40L (useful so that the PK, PD, efficacy and other parameters of the antibody or fragment can be assessed in the rhesus model as a surrogate for humans).

[0551] Thus, in an example of the invention the antibody or fragment meets criteria (a), (b) and (c).

[0552] In an example, criterion (a) is set so that the antibody or fragment shows >70% receptor binding by FACS to hOX40L expressed by CHO-S cells.

[0553] In an example, criterion (a) is set so that the antibody or fragment shows >90% of receptor binding to hOX40L in the HTRF assay.

[0554] In an example, criterion (a) is set so that the antibody or fragment shows at least a 20% effect in the HTRF assay.

[0555] In an example, OX40 is used in criterion (b).

[0556] In an embodiment, assaying or testing of an antibody or fragment of the invention is carried out at or substantially at pH7 (e.g., for *in vitro* tests and assays) and at or substantially at pH5.

[0557] Optionally, the antibody or fragment specifically binds hOX40L with an affinity (apparent affinity, K_d) of less than 1 nM, 1000 nM to 10 nM, 10 nM to 1 nM, 1000 pM to 500 pM, 500 pM to 200 pM, less than 200 pM, 200 pM to 150 pM, 200 pM to 100 pM, 100 pM to 10 pM, 10 pM to 1 pM, e.g., in the range of 1nM to 1pM (e.g., 1nM to 100pM, 10nM to 10pM, or 100pM to 1pM) as determined by SPR, e.g., under SPR conditions disclosed herein. Additionally or alternatively, the antibody or fragment specifically binds rhesus monkey OX40L with an affinity (apparent affinity, K_d) of less than 1 nM, 1000 nM to 100 nM, 10 nM to 1 nM, 1000 pM to 500 pM, 500 pM to 200 pM, less than 200 pM, 200 pM to 150 pM, 200 pM to 100 pM, 100 pM to 10 pM, e.g., in the range of 1nM to 1pM (e.g., 1nM to 100pM, 10nM to 10pM, or 100pM to 1pM) as determined by SPR, e.g., under SPR conditions disclosed herein. Such binding measurements can be made using a variety of binding assays known in the art, e.g., using surface plasmon resonance (SPR), such as by Biacore™ or using the ProteOn XPR36™ (Bio-Rad), using KinExa® (Sapidyne Instruments, Inc), or using ForteBio Octet (ForteBio Corp.).

[0558] OX40L binding ability, specificity and affinity (K_d , K_{dH} and/or K_{dR}) can be determined by any routine method in the art, e.g., by surface plasmon resonance (SPR). The term "K_d", as used herein, is intended to refer to the equilibrium dissociation constant of a particular antibody-antigen interaction.

[0559] In one embodiment, the surface plasmon resonance (SPR) is carried out at 25°C. In another embodiment, the SPR is carried out at 37°C.

[0560] In one embodiment, the SPR is carried out at physiological pH, such as about pH7 or at pH7.6 (e.g., using Hepes buffered saline at pH7.6 (also referred to as HBS-EP)).

[0561] In one embodiment, the SPR is carried out at a physiological salt level, e.g., 150mM NaCl.

[0562] In one embodiment, the SPR is carried out at a detergent level of no greater than 0.05% by volume, e.g., in the presence of P20 (polysorbate 20, e.g., Tween-20™) at 0.05% and EDTA at 3mM.

[0563] In one example, the SPR is carried out at 25°C or 37°C in a buffer at pH7.6, 150mM NaCl, 0.05% detergent (e.g., P20) and 3mM EDTA. The buffer can contain 10mM Hepes. In one example, the SPR is carried out at 25°C or 37°C in HBS-EP. HBS-EP is available from Teknova Inc (California; catalogue number H0022).

[0564] In an example, the affinity of the antibody or fragment is determined using SPR by:

1. Coupling antibody (or other relevant human, rat or non-human vertebrate antibody constant region species-matched) IgG (e.g., Biacore™ BR-1005-38) to a biosensor chip (e.g., GLM chip) such as by primary amine coupling;
2. Exposing the anti-mouse IgG (or other matched species antibody) to a test IgG antibody to capture test antibody on the chip;
3. Passing the test antigen over the chip's capture surface at 1024M, 256M, 64M, 16M, 4M with a 0.1nM (i.e. buffer alone), and
4. 4. And determining the affinity of binding of test antibody to test antigen using surface plasmon resonance, e.g., under an SPR condition discussed above (e.g., at 25°C in physiological buffer). SPR can be carried out using any standard SPR apparatus, such as by Biacore™ or using the ProteOn XPR36™ (Bio-Rad).

[0565] Regeneration of the capture surface can be carried out with 10mM glycine at pH7. This removes the captured antibody and allows the surface to be used for another interaction. The binding data can be fitted to 1:1 model inherent using standard techniques, e.g., using a model inherent to the ProteOn XPR36™ analysis software.

[0566] In an example, the antibody or fragment of the invention is contained in a medical container, e.g., a vial, syringe, IV container or an injection device (e.g., an intraocular or intravitreal injection device). In an example, the antibody or fragment is *in vivo*, e.g., in a sterile container. In an example, the invention provides a kit comprising the antibody or fragment of the invention, packaging and instructions for use in treating or preventing or diagnosing in a human a disease or condition mediated by the OX40L. In an example, the instructions indicate that the human should be genotyped for an OX40L variant sequence of the invention before administering the antibody or fragment to the human. In an example, the instructions indicate that the human is of Chinese (e.g., Han or CHS) ethnicity and the instructions are in Chinese (e.g., Mandarin).

[0567] In an example the binding site(s) of the antibody or fragment are selected from a plurality (e.g., library) of binding sites. For example, the plurality of binding sites comprises or consists of a plurality of 4-chain antibodies or fragments thereof, e.g., dAbs, Fabs or scFvs. Suitable methods for producing pluralities of binding sites for screening include phage display (producing a phage display library of antibody binding sites), biosensor display (producing a biosensor display library of antibody binding sites), yeast display (producing a yeast display library of antibody binding sites), or immunisation of a non-human vertebrate (e.g., a rodent, e.g., a mouse or rat, e.g., a *Velomyscus*™, *Kymouse*™, *Xenomouse*™, *Aka Mouse*™, *Human Mouse*™, *Omnimouse*™, *Omnirat*™ or *MeMo Mouse*™) with hOX40L or a hOX40L epitope and isolation of a repertoire of antibody-producing cells (e.g., a B-cell, plasma cell or plasmablast repertoire) and/or a repertoire of isolated antibodies, fragments or binding sites.

[0568] The term "epitope" is a region of an antigen that is bound by an antibody or fragment. Epitopes may be defined as structural or functional. Functional epitopes are generally a subset of the structural epitopes and have those residues that directly contribute to the affinity of the interaction. Epitopes may also be conformational, that is, composed of non-linear amino acids. In certain embodiments, epitopes may include determinants that are chemically active surface groupings of molecules such as amino acids, sugar side chains, phosphoryl groups, or sulfonyl groups, and, in certain embodiments, may have specific three-dimensional structural characteristics, and/or specific charge characteristics.

[0569] The term "isolated" with reference to any aspect of the invention, e.g., an antibody or fragment, means that a subject antibody or fragment etc. (1) is free of at least some other proteins with which it would normally be found, (2) is essentially free of other proteins from the same source, e.g., from the same

species, (3) is expressed by a cell from a different species, (4) has been separated from at least about 50 percent of poly nucleotides, lipids, carbohydrates, or other materials with which it is associated in nature, (5) is operably associated (by covalent or noncovalent interaction) with a polypeptide with which it is not associated in nature, or (6) does not occur in nature. Typically, an "isolated" antibody, fragment, etc. constitutes at least about 5%, at least about 10%, at least about 25%, or at least about 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 97%, 98%, 99% or >99% of a given sample. Genomic DNA, cDNA, mRNA or other RNA, of synthetic origin, or any combination thereof can encode such an isolated antibody, fragment, etc. Preferably, the isolated antibody, fragment, etc. is substantially free from proteins or polypeptides or other contaminants that are found in its natural environment that would interfere with its therapeutic, diagnostic, prophylactic, research or other use.

[0570] For example, an "isolated" antibody is one that has been identified, separated and/or recovered from a component of its production environment (e.g., naturally or recombinantly). Preferably, the isolated polypeptide is free of association with all other components from its production environment, e.g., so that the antibody has been isolated to an FDA-approvable or approved standard. Contaminant components of its production environment, such as that resulting from recombinant transfected cells, are materials that would typically interfere with research, diagnostic or therapeutic uses for the antibody, and may include enzymes, hormones, and other proteinaceous or non-proteinaceous solutes. In preferred embodiments, the polypeptide will be purified (1) to greater than 95% by weight of antibody as determined by, for example, the Lowry method, and in some embodiments, to greater than 99% by weight, (2) to a degree sufficient to obtain at least 15 residues of internal or internal amino acid sequence by use of a spinning cup sequencer, or (3) by homogeneity by SDS-PAGE under non-reducing or reducing conditions using Coomassie blue or, preferably, silver stain. Isolated antibody includes the antibody in situ within recombinant cells since at least one component of the antibody's natural environment will not be present. Ordinarily, however, an isolated polypeptide or antibody will be prepared by at least one purification step.

Immunoconjugates

[0571] The invention encompasses the antibody or fragment conjugated to a therapeutic moiety ("immuneconjugate"), such as a cytotoxin, a chemotherapeutic drug, an immunosuppressant or a radioisotope. Cytotoxin agents include any agent that is detrimental to cells. Examples of suitable cytotoxin agents and chemotherapeutic agents for forming immunoconjugates are known in the art, see for example, WO 05/103081.

Specificities

[0572] The antibodies and fragments of the present invention may be monospecific, bispecific, or multispecific. Multispecific mabs may be specific for different epitopes of one target polypeptide or may contain antigen-binding domains specific for more than one target polypeptide. See, e.g., Tutt et al., (1991) J. Immunol. 147:60-62. The human anti-hOX40L antibodies or fragments can be linked to or co-expressed another functional molecule, e.g., another peptide or protein. For example, an antibody or fragment thereof can be functionally linked (e.g., by chemical coupling, genetic fusion, noncovalent association or otherwise) to one or more other molecular entities, such as another antibody or antibody fragment, to produce a bispecific or a multispecific antibody with a second binding specificity.

[0573] An exemplary bi-specific antibody format that can be used in the context of the present invention involves the use of a first immunoglobulin (Ig) CH3 domain and a second Ig CH3 domain, wherein the first and second Ig CH3 domains differ from one another by at least one amino acid, and wherein at least one amino acid difference reduces binding of the bispecific antibody to Protein A compared to a bi-specific antibody lacking the amino acid difference. In one embodiment, the first Ig CH3 domain binds Protein A and the second Ig CH3 domain contains a mutation that reduces or abolishes Protein A binding such as an H95R modification (by IMGT exon number), H95R by EU numbering). The second Ig CH3 may further comprise a Y107F modification (by IMGT, 143SF by EU). Further modifications that may be found within the second Ig CH3 include D16E, L16M, N4S, K52N, V57M, and V62I (by IMGT, D95E, L95M, N94S, K92N, V97M, and V122I by EU) in the case of IgG1 antibodies, N4S, K52N, and V422I (by IMGT, N94S, K92N, V97M, and V422I by EU) in the case of IgG2 antibodies, and D95R, N94S, K63N, R69K, E70A, and V62I (by IMGT, D95R, N94S, K63N, V97M, and E419Q, and V422I by EU) in the case of IgG4 antibodies. Variations on the bi-specific antibody format described above are contemplated within the scope of the present invention.

[0574] In certain embodiments, the antibody or OX40L binding fragment thereof comprises less than six CDRs. In some embodiments, the antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof comprises or consists of one, two, three, four, or five CDRs selected from the group consisting of HCDR1, HCDR2, HCDR3, LCDR1, LCDR2, and LCDR3 sequences in the sequence listing (i.e., Seq ID No.4, Seq ID No.10, Seq ID No.36, Seq ID No.2, Seq ID No.68, Seq ID No.74, Seq ID No.96 or Seq ID No.102, in particular, Seq ID No.36 or Seq ID No.42 for HCDR1, Seq ID No.5, Seq ID No.12, Seq ID No.38, Seq ID No.44, Seq ID No.70, Seq ID No.98 or Seq ID No.104, in particular Seq ID No.38 or Seq ID No.44 for HCDR2, Seq ID No.8, Seq ID No.14, Seq ID No.45, Seq ID No.72, Seq ID No.78, Seq ID No.100 or Seq ID No.106, in particular Seq ID No.40 or Seq ID No.46 for HCDR3, Seq ID No.18, Seq ID No.24, Seq ID No.50, Seq ID No.56, Seq ID No.92, Seq ID No.98, Seq ID No.110 or Seq ID No.116, in particular Seq ID No.50 or Seq ID No.56 for LCDR1, Seq ID No.20, Seq ID No.26, Seq ID No.52, Seq ID No.58, Seq ID No.84, Seq ID No.90, Seq ID No.112 or Seq ID No.118, in particular Seq ID No.52 or Seq ID No.58 for LCDR2, and Seq ID No.22, Seq ID No.28, Seq ID No.54, Seq ID No.60, Seq ID No.86, Seq ID No.92, Seq ID No.114 or Seq ID No.120, in particular Seq ID No.54 or Seq ID No.60 for LCDR3).

[0575] In specific embodiments, an antibody of the invention is a fully human antibody, a monoclonal antibody, a recombinant antibody, an antagonist antibody, a hOX40L neutralising antibody or any combination thereof or the invention provides a hOX40L binding fragment thereof. In an example, the antibody is a chimaeric antibody comprising human variable domains and non-human (e.g., mouse or rat or rabbit) constant domains. In particular embodiments, the antibody is a fully human antibody, such as a fully human monoclonal antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to hOX40L. In preferred embodiments, the antibody is an antagonist antibody. In preferred embodiments, the antibody is a neutralising antibody.

[0576] In an example, the antibody or fragment is a lambda-type antibody or fragment (i.e., whose variable domains are lambda variable domains). Optionally, the antibody or fragment also comprises lambda constant domains.

[0577] In certain embodiments, the antibody competes (e.g., in a dose dependent manner) with OX40 or a fusion protein thereof (e.g., FcOX40), for binding to hOX40L, such as a cell surface-expressed hOX40L or soluble hOX40L. Exemplary competitive blocking tests are provided in the Examples herein.

[0578] In another aspect, provided herein are isolated nucleic acids encoding antibodies that specifically bind to a hOX40L polypeptide (e.g., a cell surface-expressed or soluble hOX40L, a hOX40L polypeptide fragment or a hOX40L epitope). In certain embodiments, the nucleic acid encodes a VH chain, VL chain, VH domain, VL domain, CDR1, CDR2, CDR3, LCDR1, LCDR2, and LCDR3 as disclosed in the Examples herein. 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Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). Exemplary methods of producing fully human antibodies are provided, e.g., in the Examples herein, but any method known in the art may be used.

[0600] The phrase "recombinant human antibody" includes human antibodies that are prepared, expressed, created or isolated by recombinant means, such as antibodies expressed using a recombinant expression vector transfected into a host cell, antibodies isolated from a recombinant, combinatorial human antibody library, antibodies isolated from an animal (e.g., a mouse or cow) that is transgenic and/or transchromosomal for human immunoglobulin genes (see e.g., Taylor, L. D. et al. (1993) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 20:629-6295) or antibodies prepared, expressed, created or isolated by any other means that involves splicing of human immunoglobulin gene sequences to other DNA sequences. Such recombinant human antibodies can have variable and constant regions derived from human germline immunoglobulin sequences (See Kabat, E. A. et al. (1991) *Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest*, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). In certain embodiments, however, such recombinant human antibodies are subjected to *in vitro* mutagenesis (or, when an animal transgenic for human Ig sequences is used, *in vivo* somatic mutagenesis) and thus the amino acid sequences of the VH and VL regions of the recombinant antibodies are sequences that, while derived from and related to human germline VH and VL sequences, may not naturally exist within the human antibody germline repertoire *in vivo*.

[0601] The term "fusion protein" as used herein refers to a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence of an antibody and an amino acid sequence of a heterologous polypeptide or protein (i.e., a polypeptide or protein not normally a part of the antibody (e.g., a non-an-hOX40L antigen antibody)). The term "fusion" when used in relation to an hOX40L antibody refers to the joining of a peptide or polypeptide, or fragment, variant and/or derivative thereof, with a heterologous peptide or polypeptide. Preferably, the fusion protein retains the biological activity of the hOX40L or anti-hOX40L antibody. In certain embodiments, the fusion protein comprises a hOX40L antibody VH domain, VL domain, VH CDR (one, two or three VH CDRs), and/or VL CDR (one, two or three VL CDRs), wherein the fusion protein specifically binds to a hOX40L epitope.

[0602] The term "heavy chain" when used in reference to an antibody refers to five distinct types, called alpha (α), delta (δ), epsilon (ε), gamma (γ) and mu (μ), based on the amino acid sequence of the heavy chain constant domain. These distinct types of heavy chains are well known and give rise to five classes of antibodies, IgA (α), IgE (ε) and IgM, respectively, including four subclasses of IgG, namely IgG1, IgG1, IgG3 and IgG4. Preferably the heavy chain is a human heavy chain. In one example, the heavy chain is a disabled IgG isotype, e.g. a disabled IgG4. In certain embodiments, the antibodies of the invention comprise a human gamma 4 constant region. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region does not bind Fc-γ receptors, and e.g., comprises a Leu226Glu mutation. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region comprises a Ser228Pro mutation to increase stability. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region is IgG4-PE.

[0603] The term "host" as used herein refers to an animal, preferably a mammal, and most preferably a human.

[0604] The term "host cell" as used herein refers to the particular subject cell transfected with a nucleic acid molecule and the progeny or potential progeny of such a cell. Progeny of such a cell may not be identical to the parent cell transfected with the nucleic acid molecule due to mutations or environmental influences that may occur in succeeding generations or integration of the nucleic acid molecule into the host cell genome.

[0605] The term "immunomodulatory agent" and variations thereof, but not limited to, immunomodulatory agents, as used herein refer to an agent that modulates a host's immune system. In certain embodiments, an immunomodulatory agent is an immunosuppressant agent. In certain other embodiments, an immunomodulatory agent is an immunomodulatory agent. In accordance with the invention, an immunomodulatory agent used in the combination therapies of the invention does not include an anti-hOX40L antibody or antigen-binding fragment. Immunomodulatory agents include, but are not limited to, small molecules, peptides, polypeptides, proteins, fusion proteins, antibodies, inorganic molecules, mimetic agents, and organic molecules.

[0606] As used herein, the term "in combination" in the context of the administration of other therapies refers to the use of more than one therapy. The use of the term "in combination" does not restrict the order in which therapies are administered to a subject with a disease. A first therapy can be administered before (e.g., 1 minute, 45 minutes, 30 minutes, 45 minutes, 1 hour, 2 hours, 4 hours, 6 hours, 12 hours, 24 hours, 48 hours, 72 hours, 96 hours, 1 week, 2 weeks, 3 weeks, 4 weeks, 5 weeks, 6 weeks, 8 weeks, 12 weeks), concurrently, or after (e.g., 1 minute, 45 minutes, 30 minutes, 45 minutes, 1 hour, 2 hours, 4 hours, 6 hours, 12 hours, 24 hours, 48 hours, 72 hours, 96 hours, 1 week, 2 weeks, 3 weeks, 4 weeks, 5 weeks, 6 weeks, 8 weeks, or 12 weeks) the administration of a second therapy to a subject which has, has, or is susceptible to a hOX40L-mediated disease. Any additional therapy can be administered in any order with one or other additional therapies. In certain embodiments, the antibodies of the invention can be administered in combination with one or more therapies (e.g., therapies that are not the antibodies of the invention that are currently administered to prevent, treat, manage, and/or ameliorate a hOX40L-mediated disease). Non-limiting examples of therapies that can be administered in combination with an antibody of the invention include analgesic agents, anesthetic agents, antibiotics, or immunomodulatory agents or any other agent listed in the U.S. Pharmacopeia and/or Physician's Desk Reference.

[0607] An "isolated" or "purified" antibody is for example substantially free of cellular material or other contaminating proteins from the cell or tissue source from which the antibody is derived, or substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals when chemically synthesized. The language "substantially free of cellular material" includes preparations of an antibody in which the antibody is separated from cells from which it is isolated or recombinantly produced. Thus, an antibody that is substantially free of cellular material includes preparations of antibody having less than about 30%, 20%, 10%, or 5% (by dry weight) of heterologous protein (also referred to herein as a "contaminating protein"). When the antibody is recombinantly produced, it is also preferably substantially free of culture medium, i.e., culture medium represents less than about 20%, 10%, or 5% of the volume of the protein preparation. When the antibody is produced by chemical synthesis, it is preferably substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals, i.e., it is separated from chemical precursors or other chemicals which are involved in the synthesis of the protein. Accordingly such preparations of the antibody have less than about 30%, 20%, 10%, 5% (by dry weight) of chemical precursors or compounds other than the antibody of interest. In a preferred embodiment, antibodies of the invention are isolated or purified.

[0608] An "isolated" nucleic acid molecule is one which is separated from other nucleic acid molecules which are present in the natural source of the nucleic acid molecule. Moreover, an "isolated" nucleic acid molecule, such as a DNA molecule, can be substantially free of other cellular material, or culture medium when produced by recombinant techniques, substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals when chemically synthesized. In a specific embodiment, a nucleic acid molecule (s) encoding an antibody of the invention is isolated or purified.

[0609] The term "human hOX40L," "hOX40L," or "hOX40L polypeptide" and similar terms refer to the polypeptides ("peptides," "peptidomimetics," and "proteins" are used interchangeably herein) comprising the amino acid sequence in the sequence listing and related polypeptides, including SNP variants thereof. Related polypeptides include: splice variants, SNP variants, frame variants, derivatives, substitution, deletion, and insertion variants; fusion polypeptides, and intercage homologs, preferably, which retain hOX40L activity and/or are sufficient to generate an anti-hOX40L immune response. Also encompassed are soluble forms of hOX40L which are sufficient to generate an anti-hOX40L immunological response. As those skilled in the art will appreciate, an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention can bind to a hOX40L polypeptide, polypeptide fragment, antigen, and/or epitope, as an epitope is part of the larger polypeptide fragment, which, in turn, can be in a trimeric (native) or monomeric (denatured) form.

[0610] The term "Kabat numbering" and like terms are recognized in the art and refer to a system of numbering amino acid residues which are more variable (i.e., hypervariable) than other amino acid residues in the heavy chain variable regions of an antibody, or an antigen binding portion thereof (Kabat et al. (1971) *Ann. NY Acad. Sci.* 190:392-391, and Kabat et al. (1991) *Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest*, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242). For the heavy chain variable region, the hypervariable region typically ranges from amino acid positions 31 to 35 for CDR1, amino acid positions 50 to 65 for CDR2, and amino acid positions 95 to 102 for CDR3.

[0611] The term "monoclonal antibody" refers to an antibody obtained from a population of homogenous or substantially homogeneous antibodies, and each monoclonal antibody will typically recognize a single epitope on the antigen. In preferred embodiments, a "monoclonal antibody," as used herein, is an antibody produced by a single hybridoma or other cell, wherein the antibody specifically binds to only a hOX40L epitope as determined, e.g., by ELISA or other antigen-binding or competitive binding assay known in the art or in the Examples provided herein. The term "monoclonal" is not limited to any particular method of making the antibody. For example, monoclonal antibodies of the invention may be made by the hybridoma method as described in Kohler et al., *Nature*, 256:495 (1975) or may be isolated from phage libraries using the techniques as described herein, for example. Other methods for the preparation of orbital cellines and of monoclonal antibodies expressed thereby are well known in the art (see, for example, Chapter 11 in: *Short Protocols in Molecular Biology*, (2002) 5th Ed., Ausbel et al., eds., John Wiley and Sons, New York). Other exemplary methods of producing other monoclonal antibodies are provided in the Examples herein.

[0612] The term "naturally occurring" or "native" when used in connection with biological materials such as nucleic acid molecules, polypeptides, host cells, and the like, refers to those which are found in nature and not manipulated by a human being.

[0613] The term "pharmaceutically acceptable" as used herein means being approved by a regulatory agency of the Federal or a state government, or listed in the U.S. Pharmacopeia, European Pharmacopeia or other generally recognized Pharmacopeia for use in animals, and more particularly in humans.

[0614] "Polyclonal antibodies" as used herein refers to an antibody population generated in an immunogenic response to a protein having many epitopes and thus includes a variety of different antibodies directed to the same and to different epitopes within the protein. Methods for producing polyclonal antibodies are known in the art (see, e.g., see, for example, Chapter 11 in: *Short Protocols in Molecular Biology*, (2002) 5th Ed., Ausbel et al., eds., John Wiley and Sons, New York).

[0615] As used herein, the term "polynucleotide," "nucleotide," "nucleic acid" "nucleic acid molecule" and other similar terms are used interchangeably and include DNA, RNA, mRNA and the like.

[0616] As used herein, the terms "prevent," "preventing," and "prevention" refer to the total or partial inhibition of the development, recurrence, onset or spread of a hOX40L-mediated disease and/or symptom related thereto, resulting from the administration of a therapy or combination of therapies provided herein (e.g., a combination of prophylactic or therapeutic agents, such as an antibody of the invention).

[0617] As used herein, the term "prophylactic agent" refers to any agent that can totally or partially inhibit the development, recurrence, onset or spread of a hOX40L-mediated disease and/or symptom related thereto in a subject. In certain embodiments, the term "prophylactic agent" refers to an antibody of the invention. In certain other embodiments, the term "prophylactic agent" refers to an agent other than an antibody of the invention. Preferably, a prophylactic agent is an agent which is known to be useful for, or has been or is currently being used to prevent a hOX40L-mediated disease and/or a symptom related thereto or impede the onset, development, progression and/or severity of a hOX40L-mediated disease and/or a symptom related thereto. In specific embodiments, the prophylactic agent is a fully human anti-hOX40L antibody, such as a fully human anti-hOX40L monoclonal antibody.

[0618] In an embodiment, the prophylaxis prevents the onset of the disease or condition or of the symptoms of the disease or condition. In one embodiment, the prophylactic treatment prevents the worsening, or onset, of the disease or condition. In one embodiment, the prophylactic treatment prevents the worsening of the disease or condition.

[0619] In another embodiment, an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention is administered intravenously (e.g. before or concomitantly with a transplant, e.g. blood or organ transplant). In another embodiment, said antibody is administered at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. at about 8 mg/kg). In another embodiment, said antibody is administered at a dose selected from about 0.1 mg/kg, about 0.5 mg/kg, about 1 mg/kg, 3 mg/kg, 5 mg/kg, about 10 mg/kg, about 15 mg/kg, about 20 mg/kg, about 30 mg/kg, about 40 mg/kg, about 50 mg/kg, about 60 mg/kg, about 70 mg/kg, about 80 mg/kg about 90 mg/kg or about 100 mg/kg, in particular about 1 mg/kg, or about 3 mg/kg.

[0620] In another embodiment, said antibody is administered 1-4 days before transplant (e.g. of blood or organs), e.g. 1-3 days before transplant or 1-2 days before transplant. In another embodiment, said antibody is administered weekly, bi-weekly or monthly following transplant, e.g. bi-weekly. In a further embodiment, said antibody is administered intravenously prophylactically 1-3 days before transplant at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. about 8 mg/kg) and then intravenously, bi-weekly at a dose of about 5-10 mg/kg (e.g. about 8 mg/kg).

[0621] In another embodiment, the patient is monitored periodically post-transplant, for the presence of a biomarker predictive for the development of transplant rejection or of GVHD (e.g. acute GVHD), and the anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention is administered once the biomarker levels are such that the patient is determined to be at risk of developing transplant rejection or of GVHD (e.g. acute GVHD). The anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention should avoid unnecessary dosing of drug and unnecessary suppression of the immune system. Examples of biomarkers which may be useful as predictive biomarkers of acute GVHD may be those identified in Levine et al., "A prognostic score for acute graft-versus-host disease based on biomarkers: a multicenter study," *Lancet* 2010; 375:218-221. These biomarkers include, but are not limited to TNFR1, IL-2, elafin and IL2R α and Reg3 α .

[0622] A region of a hOX40L contributing to an epitope may be contiguous amino acids of the polypeptide or the epitope may come together from two or more non-contiguous regions of the polypeptide. The epitope may or may not be a three-dimensional surface feature of the antigen. A localized region on the surface of a hOX40L antigen that is capable of eliciting an immune response is a hOX40L epitope. The epitope may or may not be a three-dimensional surface feature of the antigen.

[0623] A "hOX40L-mediated disease" and "hOX40L-mediated condition" are used interchangeably and refer to any disease or condition that is completely or partially caused by or is the result of hOX40L. In certain embodiments, hOX40L is aberrantly (e.g., highly) expressed on the surface of a cell. In some embodiments, hOX40L may be aberrantly upregulated on a particular cell type. In other embodiments, normal, aberrant or excessive cell signaling is caused by binding of hOX40L to a hOX40L ligand. In certain embodiments, the hOX40L ligand is OX40, for example, that is expressed on the surface of a cell, such as a colonic epithelial cell. In certain embodiments, the hOX40L-mediated disease is an inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), such as Crohn's disease (CD) or ulcerative colitis (UC). In other embodiments, the hOX40L-mediated disease is graft-versus-host disease (GVHD). In other embodiments, the hOX40L-mediated disease or condition is selected from a group consisting of a non-infectious and/or autoimmune and/or systemic disease. In other embodiments, a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection, for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and atherosclerosis, in particular GvHD.

[0624] The terms "hOX40L receptor" or "hOX40L binding receptor" are used interchangeably herein and refer to a receptor polypeptide that binds to hOX40L. In specific embodiments, the hOX40L receptor is hOX40. In some embodiments, the hOX40L receptor is expressed on the surface of a cell, such as a colonic epithelial cell, or on graft or transplant tissue or on host tissue.

[0625] As used herein, the terms "subacute" and "latent" are used interchangeably. As used herein, a subject is preferably a mammal such as a non-primate (e.g., cows, pigs, horses, cats, dogs, rats, etc.) or a primate (e.g., monkey and human), most preferably a human. In one embodiment, the subject is a mammal, preferably a human, having a hOX40L-mediated disease. In another embodiment, the subject is a mammal, preferably a human, at risk of developing a hOX40L-mediated disease.

[0626] As used herein, "substantially" refers to at least about 60%, at least about 70%, at least about 75%, at least about 80%, at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 98%, at least about 99%, or at least 100%.

[0627] The term "substantially free of surfactant" as used herein refers to a formulation of an antibody that specifically binds to a hOX40L antigen, said formulation containing less than 0.0005%, less than 0.0003%, or less than 0.0001% of surfactants and/or less than 0.0001% of surfactants.

[0628] The term "substantially free of salt" as used herein refers to a formulation of an antibody that specifically binds to a hOX40L antigen, said formulation containing less than 0.0005%, less than 0.0003%, or less than 0.0001% of inorganic salts.

[0629] The term "surfactant" as used herein refers to organic substances having amphiphilic structures; namely, they are composed of groups of opposing solubility tendencies, typically an oil-soluble hydrocarbon chain and a water-soluble ionic group. Surfactants can be classified, depending on the charge of the surface-active moiety, into anionic, cationic, and nonionic surfactants. Surfactants are often used as wetting, emulsifying, solubilizing, and dispersing agents for various pharmaceutical compositions and preparations of biological materials.

[0630] As used herein, the term "tag" refers to any type of moiety that is attached to, e.g., a polypeptide and/or a polynucleotide that encodes a hOX40L or hOX40L antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof can contain one or more additional tag-encoding nucleotide sequences that encode a, e.g., a detectable moiety or a moiety that aids in affinity purification. When translated, the tag and the antibody can be in the form of a fusion protein. The term "detectable" or "detection" with reference to a tag refers to that is capable of being visualized or wherein the presence of the tag is otherwise able to be determined and/or measured (e.g., by quantitation). A non-limiting example of a detectable tag is a fluorescent tag.

[0631] As used herein, the term "therapeutic agent" refers to any agent that can be used in the treatment, management or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease and/or a symptom related thereto. In certain embodiments, the term "therapeutic agent" refers to an antibody of the invention. In certain other embodiments, the term "therapeutic agent" refers to an antibody other than an antibody of the invention. Preferably, a therapeutic agent is an agent which is known to be useful for, or has been or is currently being used for the treatment, management or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease or one or more symptoms related thereto. In specific embodiments, the therapeutic agent is a fully human anti-hOX40L antibody, such as a fully human anti-hOX40L monoclonal antibody.

[0632] The combination of therapies (e.g., use of prophylactic or therapeutic agents) which is more effective than the additive effects of any two or more single therapy. For example, a synergistic effect of a combination of prophylactic and/or therapeutic agents permits the use of lower dosages of one or more of the agents and/or less frequent administration of said agents to a subject with a hOX40L-mediated disease. The ability to utilize lower doses of prophylactic and/or therapeutic agents and/or to administer said therapies less frequently reduces the toxicity associated with the administration of said therapies to a subject without reducing the efficacy of said therapies in the prevention, management, treatment or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease. In addition, a synergistic effect can result in improved efficacy of therapies in the prevention, or in the management, treatment or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease. Finally, a synergistic effect of a combination of therapies (e.g., prophylactic or therapeutic agents) may avoid or reduce adverse or unwanted side effects associated with the use of any single therapy.

[0633] In one embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention and a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of: etanercept (etanercept), ixekizumab, certolizumab, canakinumab, methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-CD23 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD20 antibodies (e.g. rituximab), CTLA-4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), CD25 receptor antagonists (e.g. mepolizumab), anti-IL4R antibodies, anti-LFA-1 antibodies, fludarabine, anti-CD5 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), anti-CD45 antibodies, cyclophosphamide, anti-thymocyte globulins, anti-complement 5S antibodies (e.g. eculizumab), anti-α4/β7 integrin antibodies (e.g. vedolizumab), anti-IL5 antibodies (e.g. tozilizumab), anti-L2R antibodies (e.g. basiliximab), infliximab, golimumab or certolizumab pegol and Véritat. In another embodiment the combination comprises an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention and a further therapeutic agent independently selected from the group consisting of: rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, cyclosporin, corticosteroids (e.g. methylprednisolone), methotrexate, mycophenolate mofetil, anti-CD28 antibodies, CTLA-4-Fc molecules (e.g. abatacept), anti-CD40L antibodies, anti-LFA1 antibodies, anti-CD52 antibodies (e.g. alemtuzumab), cyclophosphamide and anti-thymocyte globulins.

[0634] In some embodiments the combination comprises an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention and further therapeutic agents independently selected from the group consisting of calcineurin inhibitors (e.g. tacrolimus, cyclosporin), mTOR inhibitors (e.g. rapamycin (sirolimus)), and anti-proliferative agents (e.g. mycophenolate mofetil, cyclophosphamide).

[0635] In further embodiments the combination comprises an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention and further therapeutic agents independently selected from the group consisting of immunosuppressants that modulate IL-2 signaling (e.g. tacrolimus, cyclosporin, rapamycin (sirolimus)), and anti-CD25 antibodies (e.g. basiliximab, daclizumab).

[0636] Without being bound by theory, it is thought that the mechanism of action of an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention is complementary to further therapeutic agents which modulate immune function. In particular, agents that modulate IL-2 signaling or that inhibit IL-2/IL-2R-mediated T cell proliferation may synergistically combine with an anti-hOX40L antibody resulting in greater immune modulation than would be observed with either agent alone. As shown in Examples 7 and 9 hereinbelow, both tacrolimus and rapamycin display immune modulating activity. Tacrolimus and rapamycin are both agents which are known to modulate IL-2 signaling. In particular, rapamycin is known to act as an mTOR inhibitor, which reduces IL-2 and IL2R transcription, and inhibits cell cycle progression evoked by IL2R activation, but there may be other mechanisms on proliferation of T cells by which mTOR inhibitors may function (Thomson et al., *Nat. Rev. Immunol.*, 2009, 9(6), 324-337; Scheftel & Raza, *J. Thorac. Dis.*, 2014, 6(6), 1035-1045). Figure 6 herein shows that the mechanism of an anti-hOX40L antibody is different with regards to Tscm population to both these agents, and Figure 7 shows a synergistic effect on survival of an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention in combination with rapamycin. It is therefore thought that other agents having a similar mechanism of action to rapamycin and/or tacrolimus will also result in a synergistic effect when used in combination with the anti-hOX40L antibodies of the invention.

[0637] In one embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-hOX40L antibody of the invention and rapamycin (sirolimus).

[0038] In another embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-CD40L antibody, the invention and tacrolimus. In another embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-CD40L antibody, the invention and cyclophosphamide. In another embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-CD40L antibody, the invention and cyclosporine and methotrexate. In another embodiment, the combination comprises an anti-CD40L antibody, the invention and cyclophosphamide and methotrexate.

[06-29] As used herein, the term "therapy" refers to any protocol, method and/or agent that can be used in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a NOX401-mediated disease (e.g., IBD or GVHD). In certain embodiments, the terms "therapies" and "therapy" refer to a biological therapy, supportive therapy, and/or other therapeutic used in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a NOX401-mediated disease known to be of skill in the art as used by medical personnel.

[0016] as used herein, the terms "test", "testament" and "testing" refer to the reduction or amelioration of the progression, severity, and/or duration of a hOX40L-mediated disease (e.g., an IgM or GmHd response resulting from the administration of one or more therapeutic agents, including, but not limited to, the administration of one or more prophylactic or therapeutic agents, such as an antibody to the invention). In specific embodiments, such terms refer to the reduction or inhibition of the binding of hOX40L to CX40, the reduction or inhibition of the production or secretion of CLC20 from a cell expressing hOX40 or hOX40L, the reduction or inhibition of the production or secretion of IL-9 from a cell expressing hOX40 or hOX40L, the reduction or inhibition of the production or secretion of RANTES from a cell expressing hOX40 or hOX40L, and/or the reduction or inhibition of one or more symptoms associated with a hOX40L-mediated disease, such as an IgM or GmHd. In specific embodiments, such terms refer to the reduction or inhibition of the binding of hOX40L to CX40, the reduction or inhibition of the production or secretion of hOX40 or hOX40L, and/or the reduction or inhibition of one or more symptoms associated with a hOX40L-mediated disease, such as an IgM or GmHd (in particular GmHd). In an example, the cell is a human cell. In specific embodiments, a prophylactic agent is a fully human anti-hOX40L monoclonal antibody.

[0641] The term "variable region" or "variable domain" refers to a portion of the OX40L and heavy chains, respectively, of each particular antigen. The variability in sequence is concentrated in those regions that complementarily determine regions (CDRs) while the more highly conserved regions in the variable domain are called framework regions (FR). The CDRs of the OX40L and heavy chains are primarily responsible for the interaction of the antibody with antigen. Numbering of amino acid positions used herein is according to the EU Index, as in Kabat et al. (1991) Sequences of proteins of immunological interest. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.) 5th ed. (Kabat et al.). In preferred embodiments, the variable region is a human variable region.

Antibodies

[6642] Antibodies of the invention include, but are not limited to, synthetic antibodies, monoclonal antibodies, recombinantly produced antibodies, multispecific antibodies, human antibodies, humanized antibodies, chimeric antibodies, intrabodies, single-chain Fvs (scFv) (e.g., including monospecific, bispecific, etc.), camelized antibodies, Fab fragments, Fab_{frag} fragments, disulfonated Fvs (dsFv), anti-idiotypic (anti-idi) antibodies, and antibody-binding fragments of any of the above.

[0643] In another embodiment, antibodies provided herein include immunoglobulin molecules and immunologically active portions of immunoglobulin molecules, i.e., molecules that contain an antigen binding site that specifically binds to a H404L antigen. The immunoglobulin molecules provided herein can be of any type (e.g., IgG, IgM, IgE, IgD, IgP, IgA and IgY), class (e.g., IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgA1 and IgA2) or subclass of immunoglobulin molecule. In a specific embodiment, an antibody provided herein is an IgG antibody, preferably an IgG1 or IgG4. In certain embodiments, the antibodies of the invention comprise a human gamma 4 constant region. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region does not bind Fc γ receptors, and e.g. comprises a Leu235Glu mutation. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region comprises a Ser228Pro mutation to increase stability. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region is Ig4-PE.

[0645] The antibodies of the invention may be from any animal origin including birds and mammals (e.g., human, murine, donkey, sheep, rabbit, goat, guinea pig, camel, horse, or chicken). In certain embodiments, the antibodies of the invention are human or humanized monoclonal antibodies. As used herein, "human" antibodies include antibodies having the amino acid sequence of a human immunoglobulin (e.g., isolated from human immunoglobulin libraries or from mice that express antibodies from human genes).

46-6 In human seropositives, the antibodies of **46** are fully human antibodies, such as fully human antibodies that specifically bind a NOX40L polypeptide, a NOX40L peptide fragment, or a NOX40L aptope. Such fully human antibodies would be advantages over fully human antibodies that are directed to human epitopes (such as human antibodies to minimize the development of unwanted or undesired side effects, such as immune responses directed toward non-human fully human antibodies, e.g., anti-NOX40L antibodies derived from other species).

[0647] The antibodies of the present invention may be monoclonal, bispecific, or of greater multiplicity. In preferred embodiments, the antibodies or of greater multiplicity. For a specific embodiment, the antibodies are monospecific for a given epitope of a HOXA40L polypeptide and do not specifically bind to other epitopes.

[0648] Also provided herein is a B-cell (e.g., an immortalised B-cell) or a hybridoma that produces an anti-hOX40L antibody or fragment described herein.

[0694] In certain embodiments, an isolated antibody is provided wherein that antibody specifically binds to a $\text{HOXA}10\text{L}$ epitope wherein the binding to the $\text{HOXA}10\text{L}$ epitope is competitively blocked (e.g., in a dose-dependent manner) by an antibody fragment of the invention. The antibody may or may not be a fully human antibody. In preferred embodiments, the antibody is a fully human monoclonal anti- $\text{HOXA}10\text{L}$ antibody, and even more preferably a fully human, monoclonal, antigen-specific antibody. Exemplary competitive blocking tests that can be used are provided in the Examples herein.

[0659] In some embodiments, the antibody or fragment of the invention competes (e.g., in a dose-dependent manner) with CX40 Receptor (or a fusion protein thereof) for binding to soluble CX40. Exemplary competitive binding assays that can be used are provided in the Examples herein. In one embodiment, the antibody or fragment of the invention competes (e.g., in a dose-dependent manner) with CX40 Receptor (or a fusion protein thereof) for binding to soluble CX40. Exemplary competitive binding assays that can be used are provided in the Examples herein. In one embodiment, the antibody or fragment partially or completely inhibits binding of CX40 to soluble CX40, such as CX40. In another embodiment, the antibody partially or completely inhibits binding of CX40 to soluble CX40. In some embodiments, the antibody or fragment partially or completely inhibits the secretion of CCL20, IL-8, and/or RANTES, or INF- γ , TNF- α or IL-2, n particular INF- γ from a cell having cell surface-expressed CX40. In certain embodiments, the cell expressing the CX40 is a colon epithelial cell.

[0651] Preferably, the antibodies of the invention are fully human, monoclonal antibodies, such as fully human, monoclonal antagonist antibodies, that specifically bind to HOX40.

[0652] In some embodiments, the antibody or fragment provided herein binds to a hOX40L epitope that is a three-dimensional surface feature of a hOX40L polypeptide (e.g., in a trimeric form of a hOX40L polypeptide). A region of a hOX40L polypeptide contributing to an epitope may be contiguous amino acids of the polypeptide or the epitope may come together from two or more non-contiguous regions of the polypeptide. A hOX40L epitope may be present in (a) the trimeric form ("a trimeric hOX40L epitope") of hOX40L, (b) the monomeric form ("a monomeric hOX40L epitope") of hOX40L, (c) both the trimeric and monomeric form of hOX40L, or (d) the trimeric form, but not the monomeric form, but not the trimeric form of hOX40L.

[0653] For example, in some embodiments, the epitope is only present or available for binding in the trimeric (native) form, but is not present or available for binding in the monomeric (denatured) form. In other embodiments, the hOX40L epitope is linear feature of the hOX40L polypeptide (e.g., in a trimeric or monomeric form of the hOX40L polypeptide). Antibodies provided herein may specifically bind to (a) an epitope of the monomeric form of hOX40L, (b) an epitope of the monomeric but not the trimeric form of hOX40L, (c) an epitope of the trimeric but not the monomeric form of hOX40L, (d) both the monomeric form and the trimeric form of hOX40L, or (e) both the monomeric form and the trimeric form of hOX40L. In preferred embodiments, the antibodies provided herein specifically bind to an epitope of the trimeric form of hOX40L but do not specifically bind to an epitope of the monomeric form of hOX40L.

[05645] The present invention also provides antibodies that specifically bind to a H04/40L epitope, the antibodies comprising derivatives of the Y15 domains, Y16 domains, and Y17 domains described herein that specifically bind to a H04/40L epitope. The present invention also provides antibodies comprising derivatives of antibodies disclosed in the Examples, wherein said antibodies specifically bind to a H04/40L epitope. Standard techniques known to those of skill in the art can be used to introduce mutations in the nucleotide sequence encoding a molecule of the invention, including, for example, site-directed mutagenesis and PCR-mediated mutagenesis, which result in amino acid substitutions. Preferably, the derivatives include less than 20 amino acid substitutions, less than 20 amino acid substitutions, less than 15 amino acid substitutions, less than 10 amino acid substitutions, less than 5 amino acid substitutions, or less than 4 amino acid substitutions, or less than 2 amino acid substitutions relative to the original molecule. In another embodiment, the derivatives have conservative amino acid substitutions. In a preferred embodiment, the derivatives have conservative amino acid substitutions made at one, or more predicted non-conservative amino acid residue. Alternatively, mutations can be introduced randomly along all or part of the coding sequence, such as by saturation mutagenesis, and the resultant mutants can be screened for biological activity to identify mutants that retain activity. Following mutagenesis, the encoded protein can be expressed and the activity of the protein can be determined.

[0655] is any one embodiment, an antibody that specifically binds to a (DX-40) epitope comprises a variable domain amino acid sequence that is at least 35%, at least 40%, at least 45%, at least 50%, at least 55%, at least 60%, at least 65%, at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, or at least 99% identical to a variable domain amino acid sequence of the sequence listing.

[0656] In specific embodiments, the antibody is a fully human anti-human antibody, such as a fully human monoclonal antibody. Fully human antibodies may be produced by any method known in the art. Exemplary methods include immunization with a hOX40L antigen (any hOX40L polypeptide capable of eliciting an immune response, and optionally conjugated to a carrier) of transgenic animals (e.g., mice) that are capable of producing a repertoire of human antibodies in the absence of endogenous immunoglobulin production, see, e.g., Jakobovits et al., (1993) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 90:2551, Jakobovits et al., (1993) *Nature*, 362:255-258 (1993); Bruggeman et al., (1995) *Immunity*, 3:73. Other methods of producing fully human anti-OX40L antibodies can be found in the Examples provided herein.

[B657] Alternatively, fully human antibodies may be generated through the *in vitro* screening of phage display antibody libraries, see, e.g., Hoogenboom et al., *J. Mol. Biol.*, 227:381 (1991); Marks et al., *J. Mol. Biol.*, 222:581 (1991). Various antibody-containing phage display libraries have been described and may be readily prepared by one skilled in the art. Libraries may contain a diversity of human antibody sequences, such as human Fab, Fv, and scFv fragments, that may be screened against an appropriate target.

[bold] The antibodies and fragments of the invention include antibodies and fragments that are chemically modified, i.e., by the covalent attachment of any type of molecule to the antibody. For example, but not by way of limitation, the antibody derivatives include antibodies that have been chemically modified, e.g., by glycation, acetylation, pegylation, phosphorylation, amidation, derivatization by known protecting/blocking groups, proteolytic cleavage, linkage to a cellular ligand or other protein, etc. Any of numerous chemical modifications may be carried out by known techniques, including, but not limited to specific chemical cleavage, acetylation, formulation, metabolic synthesis of tunicamycin, etc. Additionally, the antibody may contain one or more non-classical amino acids.

[0659] The present invention also provides antibodies that specifically bind to a HOx4OL antigen which comprise a framework region known to those of skill in the art (e.g., a human or non-human framework). The framework region may, for example, be naturally occurring or consensus framework regions. Most preferably, a framework region of an antibody of the invention is human (see, e.g., Chothia et al., 1998, *J. Mol. Biol.* 278:457-479 for a listing of human framework regions). See also Kabat et al. (1991) *Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest* (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.) 5th Ed.

[0661] The present invention encompasses antibodies that specifically bind to a hOX40L antigen, said antibodies comprising the amino acid sequence of the VH domain and/or VL domain in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No 2, Seq ID No 34, Seq ID No 66 or Seq ID No 94, in particular Seq ID No 34 for VH domains, Seq ID No 16, Seq ID No 48, Seq ID No 68, or Seq ID No 108, in particular Seq ID No 48 for VL domains) but having mutations (e.g., one or more amino acid substitutions) in the framework regions. In certain embodiments, antibodies that specifically bind to a hOX40L antigen comprise the amino acid sequence of the VH domain and/or VL domain in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No 2, Seq ID No 34, Seq ID No 66 or Seq ID No 94, in particular Seq ID No 34 for VH domains, Seq ID No 16, Seq ID No 48, Seq ID No 68, or Seq ID No 108, in particular Seq ID No 48 for VL domains) but having mutations (e.g., one or more amino acid substitutions) in the framework regions.

surface-expressed hOX40L.

[P0651] The use of antibodies, antibodies of the fusion or conjugated or recombinantly fused to a diagnostic, measurable or therapeutic agent or to any other molecule. The conjugated or recombinantly fused antibodies can be useful, e.g., for monitoring or prognosis of the onset, development, progression and/or regression of a disease.

[0666] Such diagnosis and detection can be accomplished, for example, by coupling the antibody to detectable substances including, but not limited to, various enzymes, such as, but not limited to, horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, beta-galactosidase, or acetylcholinesterase; prosthetic groups, such as, but not limited to, streptavidin and avidin/biotin; fluorescent materials, such as, but not limited to, umbelliferone, fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate, rhodamine, dansyl chloride, diethylaminocoumarin, fluorescamine, luminol materials, such as, but not limited to, luminol (2-bis[4-methyl-5-phenyl-2-methoxy-2-oxazolyl]benzimidazole), luciferase, luciferin, and aequorin; radioactive materials, such as, but not limited to, iodine (^{131}I), ^{123}I , ^{125}I , ^{131}I , ^{132}I , and ^{133}I), carbon (^{14}C), sulfur (^{35}S), tritium (^{3}H), indium (^{115}In), ^{113}In , ^{111}In), technetium (^{99}Tc), thallium (^{203}Tl), gallium (^{67}Ga), gadolinium (^{153}Gd), molybdenum (^{99}Mo), zircon (^{88}Zr), fluorine (^{18}F), ^{153}Sm , ^{177}Lu , ^{193}Au , ^{149}Pm , ^{140}La , ^{175}Tb , ^{166}Ho , ^{90}Y , ^{47}Sc , ^{198}Ru , ^{142}Pr , ^{191}Re , ^{97}Ru , ^{68}Ge , ^{75}Se , ^{67}Zn , ^{85}Sr , ^{203}Po , ^{153}Gd , ^{169}Yb , ^{51}Cr , ^{54}Mn , ^{75}Se , ^{113}Sn , and ^{117}Sn , and positron emitting metals using various positron emission tomographies, and non-radioactive chelating metal ions.

on alumina hydrate. Sweetening agents include sucrose, lactose, maltitol and artificial sweetening agents such as saccharin, and any number of spray dried flavours. Flavouring agents include natural flavours extracted from plants such as fruits and synthetic blends of compounds which produce a pleasant sensation, such as, but not limited to peppermint and methyl salicylate. Wetting agents include propylene glycol monostearate, sorbitan monolaurate, diethylene glycol monolaurate and polyoxyethylene lauryl ether. Enteric-coatings include fatty acids, fats, waxes, shellac, ammoniated shellac and cellulose acetate phthalate. Film coatings include hydroxyethylcellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, polyethylene glycol 4000 and cellulose acetate phthalate.

[0707] The antibodies of the invention can be provided in a composition that protects them from the acidic environment of the stomach. For example, the composition can be formulated in an enteric coating that maintains its integrity in the stomach and releases the active compound in the intestine. The composition can also be formulated in combination with an antacid or other such ingredient.

[0708] When the dosage unit form is a capsule, it can contain, in addition to material of the above type, a liquid carrier such as a fatty oil. In addition, dosage unit forms can contain various other materials which modify the physical form of the dosage unit, for example, coatings of sugar and other enteric agents. The compounds can also be administered as a component of an elixir, suspension, syrup, wafer, sprinkle, chewing gum or the like. A syrup may contain, in addition to the active compounds, sucrose as a sweetening agent and certain preservatives, dyes and colourants and flavours.

[0709] The antibody can also be mixed with other active materials which do not impair the desired action, or with materials that supplement the desired action, such as antacids, H2 blockers, and diuretics. The active ingredient is an antibody or pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof as described herein. Higher concentrations, up to about 90% by weight of the active ingredient may be included.

[0710] In all embodiments, tablets and capsules formulations can be coated as known by those of skill in the art in order to modify or sustain dissolution of the active ingredient. Thus, for example, they may be coated with a conventional enterically digestible coating, such as phenylalicylate, waxes and cellulose acetate phthalate.

[0711] In preferred embodiments, the formulations are liquid dosage forms. Liquid oral dosage forms include aqueous solutions, emulsions, suspensions, solutions and/or suspensions reconstituted from non-effervescent granules and effervescent preparations reconstituted from effervescent granules. Aqueous solutions include, for example, elixirs and syrups. Emulsions are either oil-in-water or water-in-oil.

[0712] Elixirs are clear, sweetened, hydroalcoholic preparations. Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers used in elixirs include solvents. Syrups are concentrated aqueous solutions of a sugar, for example, sucrose, and may contain a preservative. An emulsion is a two-phase system in which one liquid is dispersed in the form of small globules throughout another liquid. Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers used in emulsions are non-aqueous liquids, emulsifying agents and preservatives. Suspensions use pharmaceutically acceptable suspending agents and preservatives.

[0713] Pharmaceutically acceptable substances used in non-effervescent granules, to be reconstituted into a liquid oral dosage form, include diluents, sweeteners and wetting agents. Pharmaceutically acceptable substances used in effervescent granules, to be reconstituted into a liquid oral dosage form, include organic acids and a source of carbon dioxide. Colouring and flavouring agents are used in all of the above dosage forms.

[0714] Solvents include glycerin, sorbitol, ethyl alcohol and syrup. Examples of preservatives include glycerin, methyl and propylparaben, benzoic acid, sodium benzoate and alcohol. Examples of non-aqueous liquids utilized in emulsions include mineral oil and cottonseed oil. Examples of emulsifying agents include gelatin, acacia, tragacanth, bentonite, and surfactants such as polyoxyethylene sorbitan monolaurate. Suspending agents include sodium carboxymethylcellulose, pectin, tragacanth, gum and acacia. Sweetening agents include sucrose, syrup, glycerin and artificial sweetening agents such as saccharin. Wetting agents include propylene glycol monostearate, sorbitan monolaurate, diethylene glycol monolaurate and polyoxyethylene lauryl ether. Organic acids include citric and tartaric acid. Sources of carbon dioxide include sodium bicarbonate and sodium carbonate. Colouring agents include any of the approved certified water soluble FD and C dyes, and inclusions thereof. Flavouring agents include natural flavours extracted from plants such fruits, and synthetic blends of compounds which produce a pleasant taste sensation.

[0715] For a solid dosage form, the solution or suspension, for example propylene carbonate, vegetable oils or triglycerides, is, in one embodiment, encapsulated in a gelatin capsule. Such solutions, and the preparation and encapsulation thereof, are disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,328,245, 4,409,239, and 4,410,545. For a liquid dosage form, the solution, e.g., in a polyethylene glycol, can be diluted with a sufficient quantity of a pharmaceutically acceptable liquid carrier, e.g., water, to be easily measured for administration.

[0716] Alternatively, liquid or semi-solid oral formulations can be prepared by dissolving or dispersing the active compound or salt in vegetable oils, glycols, triglycerides, propylene glycol esters (e.g., propylene carbonate) and other such carriers, and encapsulating these solutions or suspensions in hard or soft gelatin capsule shells. Other useful formulations include those set forth in U.S. Pat. Nos. RE26,819 and 4,369,603. Briefly, such formulations include, but are not limited to, those containing a compound provided herein, a dialkylated mono- or poly-alkylene glycol, including, but not limited to, 1,2-dimethoxyethane, dglyme, triglyme, tetraglyme, polyethylene glycol-350-dimethyl ether, polyethylene glycol-750-dimethyl ether, polyethylene glycol-750-dimethyl ether where 350, 550 and 750 refer to the approximate average molecular weight of the polyethylene glycol, and one or more antioxidants, such as butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT), butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA), propyl gallate, vitamin E, hydroquinone, hydroxycoumarins, ethanolamine, lecithin, cephalin, ascorbic acid, malic acid, sorbitol, phosphoric acid and its esters, and dithiocarbamates.

[0717] Other formulations include, but are not limited to, aqueous alcohol solutions including a pharmaceutically acceptable acetal. Alcohols used in these formulations are any pharmaceutically acceptable water-miscible solvents having one or more hydroxyl groups, including, but not limited to, propylene glycol and ethanol. Acetals include, but are not limited to, dihydroxy aldehydes such as acetaldehyde, diethyl acetal.

[0718] Parenteral administration, in one embodiment, is characterized by injection, either subcutaneously, intramuscularly or intravenously or is also contemplated herein. Injectables can be prepared in conventional forms, either as liquid solutions or suspensions, solid forms suitable for solution or suspension in liquid prior to injection, or as emulsions. The injectables, solutions and emulsions also contain one or more excipients. Suitable excipients are, for example, water, saline, dextrose, glycerol or ethanol. In addition, if desired, the pharmaceutical compositions to be administered can also contain minor amounts of non-toxic auxiliary substances such as wetting or emulsifying agents, pH-buffering agents, stabilizers, solubility enhancers, and other such agents, such as, for example, sodium acetate, sorbitan monolaurate, triethanolamine oleate and cyclodextrins.

[0719] Implantation of a slow-release or sustained-release system, such that a constant level of dosage is maintained (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 3,710,795) is also contemplated herein. Briefly, a compound provided herein is dispersed in a solid inner matrix, e.g., polymethylmethacrylate, polybutylmethacrylate, plasticized or unplasticized polyvinylchloride, plasticized vinyl, plasticized polyethylene terephthalate, natural rubber, polysoprene, polybutylene, polybutylene, ethylene-vinylacetate copolymers, silicone rubbers, polydimethylsiloxanes, silicone carbamate copolymers, hydrophilic polymers such as hydrogels of esters of acrylic and methacrylic acid, collagen, cross-linked polyvinylchloride and cross-linked partially hydrolyzed polyvinyl acetate, that is surrounded by an outer polymeric membrane, e.g., polyethylene, polypropylene, ethylene/propylene copolymers, ethylene/ethyl acrylate copolymers, ethylene/vinylacetate copolymers, silicone rubbers, polydimethylsiloxanes, neoprene rubber, chlorinated polyethylene, polyvinylchloride, vinylchloride copolymers with vinyl acetate, vinylchloride, chloroethylene, chloroethylene, ethylene and propylene, ionomer polyethylene terephthalate, butyl rubber epichlorohydrin rubbers, ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymer, ethylene/vinyl alcohol terpolymer, and ethylene/vinylchloride copolymer, that is insoluble in body fluids. The antibody diffuses through the outer polymeric membrane in a release rate controlling step. The amount of antibody contained in such parenteral compositions is highly dependent on the specific nature thereof, as well as the activity of the compound and the needs of the subject.

[0720] Preparations for parenteral administration include sterile solutions ready for injection, sterile dry soluble products, such as lyophilized powders, ready to be combined with a solvent just prior to use, including hypodermic tablets, sterile suspensions ready for injection, sterile dry insoluble products ready to be combined with a vehicle just prior to use and sterile emulsions. The solutions may be either aqueous or nonaqueous.

[0721] Administered intravenously, suitable carriers include physiologic saline or phosphate buffered saline (PBS), and solutions containing thickening and solubilizing agents, such as glucose, polyethylene glycol, and polypropylene glycol and mixtures thereof.

[0722] Pharmaceutically acceptable carriers used in parenteral preparations include aqueous vehicles, nonaqueous vehicles, antimicrobial agents, isotonic agents, buffers, antioxidants, local anaesthetics, suspending and dispersing agents, emulsifying agents, sequestering or chelating agents and other pharmaceutically acceptable substances.

[0723] Examples of aqueous vehicles include Sodium Chloride Injection, Ringers Injection, Isotonic Dextrose Injection, Sterile Water Injection, Dextrose and Lactated Ringers Injection. Nonaqueous parenteral vehicles include fixed oils of vegetable origin, cottonseed oil, corn oil, sesame oil and peanut oil. Antimicrobial agents in bacteriostatic or fungistatic concentrations can be added to parenteral preparations packaged in multiple-dose containers which include phenols or cresols, mercurials, benzyl alcohol, chlorbutanol, methyl and propyl hydroxybenzoic acid esters, thimerosal, benzalkonium chloride and benzethonium chloride. Isotonic agents include sodium chloride and dextrose. Buffers include phosphate and citrate. Antioxidants include sodium ascorbate. Local anaesthetics include procaine hydrochloride. Sustaining and dispersing agents include sodium carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxycrospolyl methylcellulose and polyvinylpyrrolidone. Emulsifying agents include Polysoy 80 (TMEN®/80). A sequestering or chelating agent of metal ions includes EDTA. Pharmaceutical carriers also include ethyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol for water miscible vehicles; and sodium hydroxide, hydrochloric acid, citric acid and lactic acid for pH adjustment.

[0724] The concentration of the pharmaceutically active compound is adjusted so that an injection provides an effective amount to produce the desired pharmacological effect. The exact dose depends on the age, weight and condition of the patient or animal as is known in the art.

[0725] The unit-dose parenteral preparations can be packaged in an ampoule, a vial or a syringe with a needle. All preparations for parenteral administration can be sterile, as is known and practiced in the art.

[0726] Illustratively, intravenous or intrarterial infusion of a sterile aqueous solution containing an active compound is an effective mode of administration. Another embodiment is a sterile aqueous or oily solution or suspension containing an active material injected as necessary to produce the desired pharmacological effect.

[0727] Injectables are designed for local and systemic administration. In one embodiment, a therapeutically effective dosage is formulated to contain a concentration of at least about 0.1% w/v up to about 90% w/v or more, in certain embodiments more than 1% w/v of the active compound to the treated tissue(s).

[0728] The antibody can be suspended in micronized or other suitable form. The form of the resulting mixture depends upon a number of factors, including the intended mode of administration and the solubility of the compound in the selected carrier or vehicle. The effective concentration is sufficient for ameliorating the symptoms of the condition and may be empirically determined.

[0729] In other embodiments, the pharmaceutical formulations are lyophilized powders, which can be reconstituted for administration as solutions, emulsions and other mixtures. They may also be reconstituted and formulated as solids or gels.

[0730] The lyophilized powder is prepared by dissolving an antibody provided herein, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in a suitable solvent. In some embodiments, the lyophilized powder is sterile. The solvent may contain an excipient which improves the stability or other pharmacological component of the powder or reconstituted solution, prepared from the powder. Excipients that may be used include, but are not limited to, dextrose, sorbitol, fructose, corn syrup, xylitol, glycerin, glucose, sucrose or other suitable agent. The solvent may also contain a buffer, such as citrate, sodium or potassium phosphate or other such buffer known to those of skill in the art, in one embodiment, about a neutral pH. Subsequent sterilization of the solution followed by lyophilization under standard conditions known to those of skill in the art provides the desired formulation. In one embodiment, the resulting solution will be apportioned into vials for lyophilization. Each vial will contain a single dosage or multiple dosages of the compound. The lyophilized powder can be stored under appropriate conditions, such as at about 4°C. to room temperature.

[0731] Reconstitution of this lyophilized powder with water for injection provides a formulation for use in parenteral administration. For reconstitution, the lyophilized powder is added to sterile water or other suitable carrier. The precise amount depends upon the selected compound. Such amount can be empirically determined.

[0732] Topical mixtures are prepared as described for the local and systemic administration. The resulting mixture can be a solution, suspension, emulsions or the like and can be formulated as creams, gels, ointments, emulsions, solutions, elixirs, lotions, suspensions, intures, pastes, foams, aerosols, irrigations, sprays, suppositories, bandages, dermal patches or any other formulations suitable for topical administration.

[0733] The antibodies of the invention can be formulated as aerosols for topical application, such as by inhalation (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,044,126, 4,414,209, and 4,364,923, which describe aerosols for delivery of a steroid useful for treatment of inflammatory diseases, particularly asthma). These formulations for administration to the respiratory tract can be in the form of an aerosol or solution for a nebulizer, or as a microfine powder for insufflations, alone or in combination with an inert carrier such as lactose. In such a case, the particles of the formulation will, in one embodiment, have diameters of less than 50 microns, in one embodiment less than 10 microns.

[0734] The compounds can be formulated for local or topical application, such as for topical application to the skin and mucous membranes, such as in the eye, in the form of gels, creams, and lotions and for application to the eye or for intracardial or intraspinal application. Topical administration is contemplated for transdermal delivery and also for administration to the eyes or mucosa, or for inhalation therapies. Nasal solutions of the active compound alone or in combination with other pharmaceutically acceptable excipients can also be administered.

[0735] These solutions, particularly those intended for ophthalmic use, may be formulated as 0.01%–10% isotonic solutions, pH about 5–7, with appropriate salts.

[0736] Other routes of administration, such as transdermal patches, including iontophoretic and electrophoretic devices, and rectal administration, are also contemplated herein.

[0737] Transdermal patches, including iontophoretic and electrophoretic devices, are well known to those of skill in the art. For example, such patches are disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,267,983, 6,261,595, 6,256,533, 6,167,301, 6,024,975, 6,010,715, 5,985,317, 5,983,134, 5,948,433, and 5,860,957.

[0738] For example, pharmaceutical dosage forms for rectal administration are rectal suppositories, capsules and tablets for systemic effect. Rectal suppositories are used herein to mean solid bodies for insertion into the rectum which melt or soften at body temperature releasing one or more pharmacologically or therapeutically active ingredients. Pharmaceutically acceptable substances utilized in rectal suppositories are bases or vehicles and agents to raise the melting point. Examples of bases include cocoa butter (theobroma oil), glycerin-gelatin, carbowax (polyoxyethylene glycol) and appropriate mixtures of mono-, di- and triglycerides of fatty acids. Combinations of the various bases may be used. Agents to raise the melting point of suppositories include spermaceti and wax. Rectal suppositories may be prepared either by the compressed method or by moulding. The weight of a rectal suppository, in one embodiment, is about 2 to 3 gm.

[0739] Tablets and capsules for rectal administration can be manufactured using the same pharmaceutically acceptable substance and by the same methods as for formulations for oral administration.

[0740] The antibodies and other compositions provided herein may also be formulated to be targeted to a particular tissue, receptor, or other area of the body to be treated. Many such targeting methods are well known to those of skill in the art. All such targeting methods are contemplated herein for use in the instant compositions. For non-liming examples of targeting methods, see, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,316,652, 6,274,552, 6,271,359, 6,253,872, 6,139,865, 6,131,570, 6,120,751, 6,071,495, 6,060,082, 6,048,736, 6,039,975, 6,004,534, 5,985,307, 5,972,386, 5,900,252, 5,840,674, 5,759,542 and 5,709,874. In some embodiments, the anti-HOX40L antibodies of the invention are targeted to the colon, such as in a patient having or at risk of having an IBD. In some embodiments, the anti-HOX40L antibodies of the invention are targeted (or otherwise administered) to the eye, such as in a patient having or at risk of having eye disease.

[0741] In one embodiment, liposomal suspensions, including tissue-targeted liposomes, may also be suitable as pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. These can be prepared according to methods known to those skilled in the art. For example, liposome formulations can be prepared as described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,522,811. Briefly, liposomes such as multilamellar vesicles (MLVs) may be formed by drying down egg phosphatidyl choline and brain phosphatidyl serine (7:3 molar ratio) on the inside of a flask. A solution of a compound provided herein in phosphate buffered saline lacking divalent cations (PBS) is added and the flask shaken until the lipid film is dispersed. The resulting vesicles are washed to remove unencapsulated compound, pelleted by centrifugation, and then resuspended in PBS.

Methods of Administration and Dosing

[0742] The present invention further provides for compositions comprising one or more antibodies or fragments of the invention for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a HOX40L-mediated disease (or symptom thereof). Discussion in respect of antibodies also applies mutatis mutandis to fragments of the invention. In an alternative, the present invention further provides for compositions comprising one or more antibodies or fragments of the invention for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of an HOX40L-mediated disease (or symptom thereof) in a subject, wherein the HOX40L is non-human (e.g., canine, feline, equine, bovine, ovine or porcine) and the subject is respectively a dog, cat, horse, cow, sheep or pig.

[0743] In certain embodiments, provided herein are compositions comprising one or more antibodies of the invention for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a HOX40L-mediated disease, such as IBD (e.g., ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease), or a symptom thereof. IBD symptoms may range from mild to severe and generally depend upon the part of the intestinal tract involved. Exemplary symptoms of IBD include abdominal cramps and pain, bloody diarrhoea, severe urgency to have a bowel movement, fever, loss of appetite, weight loss, anaemia, fatigue, and/or sores on lower legs, ankles, calves, thighs, and arms. Exemplary intestinal complications of IBD include profuse bleeding from the ulcers, perforation or rupture of the bowel, strictures and obstruction, fistulae (abnormal passage) and perianal disease (e.g., acute nonobstructive dilation of the colon), and/or malignancy (e.g., cancer of the colon or small intestine). Exemplary extraintestinal complications of IBD include arthritis, skin conditions, inflammation of the eye, liver and kidney disorders, and/or bone loss. Any combination of these symptoms may be prevented, managed, treated, and/or ameliorated using the compositions and methods provided herein.

[0744] In certain embodiments, provided herein are compositions comprising one or more antibodies of the invention for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of an HOX40L-mediated disease, such as GVHD. GVHD generally occurs following allogeneic or matched unrelated bone marrow transplants (BMT).

[0745] In some embodiments, the GVHD is acute GVHD. The symptoms of acute GVHD can happen quickly and can be mild or severe. In certain instances, acute GVHD develops within about three months after transplant, such as when blood counts recover after transplant. In certain instances, the acute GVHD affects the skin, gastrointestinal (GI) tract and/or liver. For example, in some patients, acute skin GVHD begins with a rash, for example, on the palms of the patient's hands, soles of the feet, or shoulder. However, the rash can become widespread, and may be itchy and painful and/or might blister and peel. Acute liver GVHD may affect normal functions of the liver, such as liver enzymes, and may in turn, cause jaundice. Acute liver GVHD may also cause the patient's abdomen to become swollen and painful if the liver becomes enlarged. Finally, symptoms of acute gut GVHD (or GVHD of the digestive system) can include diarrhoea, mucus or blood in the stool, cramping or abdominal pain, indigestion, nausea and/or loss of appetite. Other general symptoms of acute GVHD can include anaemia, low grade fever, and/or being more prone to infections. Any combination of these symptoms of acute GVHD may be prevented, managed, treated, and/or ameliorated using the compositions and methods provided herein.

[0746] In other embodiments, the GVHD is chronic GVHD. Chronic GVHD can occur from about three months to about a year or longer after transplant. Chronic GVHD can be mild or severe, and generally includes symptoms similar to those of acute GVHD. Chronic GVHD can affect the skin and digestive system, including the liver but can also involve other organs and the immune system (e.g., making the patient more prone to infections) and/or connective tissues. Symptoms of chronic skin GVHD include a rash, dry skin, itchy skin, darkening of the color of the skin, thickening of the skin, and/or affect hair (e.g., hair loss, turning grey) or nails (e.g., hard or brittle nails). Chronic gut GVHD can affect the digestive system, mouth, oesophagus, lining of the stomach, and/or lining of the bowel, and symptoms can include diarrhoea, dry or sore mouth, painful swallowing, low nutrient absorption by the stomach, bloating, stomach cramps. Chronic liver GVHD can cause damage and scarring of the liver (cirrhosis). Chronic GVHD of the eyes can affect the glands that make tears, causing eyes to become dry, burning and painful or difficult to tolerate bright light. Chronic lung GVHD can cause shortness of breath, wheezing, persistent

cough, and/or being more prone to chest infections. Chronic GVHD affects tendons (e.g., inflammation) that connect muscle to bone causing difficulty straightening or bending your arms and legs. Any combination of these symptoms of chronic GVHD may be prevented, managed, treated, and/or ameliorated using the compositions and methods provided herein.

[0747] In certain embodiments provided herein are compositions comprising one or more antibodies of the invention for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease, such as uveitis, or a symptom thereof.

[0748] In certain embodiments provided herein are compositions comprising one or more antibodies of the invention for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease, such as pyoderma gangrenosum, giant cell arteritis, Schnitzler syndrome or non-infectious scleritis.

[0749] In certain embodiments provided herein are compositions comprising one or more antibodies of the invention for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease or condition selected from an autoimmune disease or condition, a systemic inflammatory disease or condition, or transplant rejection; for example inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), Crohn's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, transplant rejection, allogeneic transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), ulcerative colitis, systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankylosing spondylitis, contact hypersensitivity, multiple sclerosis and atherosclerosis, in particular GVHD.

[0750] In a specific embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises the OX40L binding sites of an antibody of the invention, e.g., an antibody disclosed in the Examples.

[0751] In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VH domains having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VH domains in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 15, Seq ID No. 34, Seq ID No. 65 or Seq ID No. 94, in particular Seq ID No. 34). In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VH CDR1s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VH CDR1s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 10, Seq ID No. 36, Seq ID No. 42, Seq ID No. 69, Seq ID No. 74, Seq ID No. 95 or Seq ID No. 102, in particular, Seq ID No. 36 or Seq ID No. 42). In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more VH CDR2s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VH CDR2s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 6, Seq ID No. 12, Seq ID No. 38, Seq ID No. 44, Seq ID No. 70, Seq ID No. 75, Seq ID No. 93 or Seq ID No. 104, in particular Seq ID No. 38 or Seq ID No. 44). In a preferred embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VH CDR3s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VH CDR3s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 8, Seq ID No. 14, Seq ID No. 40, Seq ID No. 46, Seq ID No. 72, Seq ID No. 78, Seq ID No. 100 or Seq ID No. 106, in particular Seq ID No. 40 or Seq ID No. 46).

[0752] In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VL domains having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL domains in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 16, Seq ID No. 48, Seq ID No. 72, Seq ID No. 108, in particular Seq ID No. 48) (optionally comprising also the cognate VH domain as described above) (i.e. Seq ID No. 2/16, Seq ID No. 34/48, Seq ID No. 65/69 or Seq ID No. 94/108, in particular Seq ID No. 34/48). In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VL CDR1s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL CDR1s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 18, Seq ID No. 24, Seq ID No. 50, Seq ID No. 56, Seq ID No. 82, Seq ID No. 88, Seq ID No. 110 or Seq ID No. 116, in particular Seq ID No. 50 or Seq ID No. 56). In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VL CDR2s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL CDR2s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 20, Seq ID No. 26, Seq ID No. 52, Seq ID No. 64, Seq ID No. 84, Seq ID No. 90, Seq ID No. 112 or Seq ID No. 118, in particular Seq ID No. 52 or Seq ID No. 56). In a preferred embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VL CDR3s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL CDR3s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 22, Seq ID No. 28, Seq ID No. 54, Seq ID No. 60, Seq ID No. 85, Seq ID No. 92, Seq ID No. 114 or Seq ID No. 120, in particular Seq ID No. 54 or Seq ID No. 60).

[0753] In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VH domains having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VH domains in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 2/2, Seq ID No. 34, Seq ID No. 66 or Seq ID No. 94, in particular Seq ID No. 34), and one or more VL domains having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL domains in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 16, Seq ID No. 48, Seq ID No. 60 or Seq ID No. 108, in particular Seq ID No. 48).

[0754] In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VH CDR1s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL CDR1s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 18, Seq ID No. 24, Seq ID No. 50, Seq ID No. 56, Seq ID No. 82, Seq ID No. 88, Seq ID No. 110 or Seq ID No. 116, in particular Seq ID No. 50 or Seq ID No. 56). In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VL CDR1s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL CDR1s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 4, Seq ID No. 10, Seq ID No. 36, Seq ID No. 42, Seq ID No. 68, Seq ID No. 74, Seq ID No. 96 or Seq ID No. 102, in particular, Seq ID No. 36 or Seq ID No. 42), and one or more VL CDR2s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL CDR2s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 20, Seq ID No. 26, Seq ID No. 52, Seq ID No. 64, Seq ID No. 84, Seq ID No. 90, Seq ID No. 112 or Seq ID No. 118, in particular Seq ID No. 52 or Seq ID No. 58). In another embodiment, a composition for use in the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease comprises one or more antibodies comprising one or more VL CDR3s having an amino acid sequence of any one of the VL CDR3s in the sequence listing (i.e. Seq ID No. 22, Seq ID No. 28, Seq ID No. 54, Seq ID No. 60, Seq ID No. 86, Seq ID No. 92, Seq ID No. 114 or Seq ID No. 120, in particular Seq ID No. 54 or Seq ID No. 60).

[0755] As discussed in more detail elsewhere herein, the composition of the invention may be used either alone or in combination with other compounds or compositions. Moreover, the antibodies may further be recombinantly fused to a heterologous polypeptide at the N- or C-terminus or chemically conjugated (including covalently and non-covalently conjugated) to polyesters or other compounds. For example, antibodies of the present invention may be recombinantly fused or conjugated to molecules useful as labels in detection assays and effector molecules such as heterologous polypeptides, drugs, radionuclides, or toxins. See, e.g., PCT publications WO 9208495, WO 91/14438, WO 89/12624, U.S. Pat. No. 5,314,995, and EP 306,387.

[0756] In some embodiments, provided herein are methods for decreasing or inhibiting binding of hOX40L to an OX40L receptor or cognate ligand (e.g., OX40) in a subject (e.g., a human subject), comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of an antibody that specifically binds to a hOX40L polypeptide (e.g., a cell surface-expressed or soluble hOX40L). In some embodiments, a hOX40L biological activity, such as secretion of CCL20, IL8 and/or RANTES, or INF- γ , TNF- α or IL-2, in particular INF- γ and/or another cytokine disclosed herein, is also decreased in the subject, for example decreased by at least 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60% or 70%, or 80%, or 90% or 95% or 99%.

[0757] In certain embodiments, provided herein are methods for decreasing or inhibiting binding of hOX40L to an OX40L receptor or cognate ligand (e.g., OX40) in a subject (e.g., a human subject), comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of an antibody that specifically binds to a hOX40L polypeptide (e.g., a cell surface-expressed hOX40L), where hOX40L biological activity is decreased by the antibody.

[0758] In other embodiments, provided herein are methods for decreasing or inhibiting binding of hOX40L to an OX40L receptor or cognate ligand (e.g., OX40) in a cell having a cell surface-expressed hOX40L, contacting the cell with an effective amount of an antibody that specifically binds to a hOX40L polypeptide (e.g., a cell surface-expressed or soluble hOX40L), such as a hOX40L polypeptide, a hOX40L polypeptide fragment, or a hOX40L epitope. In some embodiments, a hOX40L biological activity, such as secretion of interferon gamma, IL2, CCL20, IL8 and/or RANTES, or INF- γ , TNF- α or IL-2, in particular INF- γ or another cytokine disclosed herein, is also decreased in the cell.

[0759] In certain embodiments, provided herein are methods for decreasing or inhibiting a hOX40L biological activity, such as secretion of interferon gamma, IL2, CCL20, IL8 and/or RANTES or other cytokine disclosed herein, in a cell having a cell surface-expressed hOX40L receptor (such as OX40), contacting the cell with an effective amount of an antibody that specifically binds to a hOX40L polypeptide (such as OX40), where hOX40L biological activity is decreased by the antibody.

[0760] Antibodies of the present invention may be used, for example, to purify, detect, and target hOX40L antigens, in both *in vitro* and *in vivo* diagnostic and therapeutic methods. For example, the modified antibodies have use in immunoassays for qualitatively and quantitatively measuring levels of hOX40L in biological samples. See, e.g., Harlow et al., *Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual*, (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2nd ed. 1989).

[0761] The invention also provides methods of preventing, managing, treating and/or ameliorating a hOX40L-mediated disease by administering to a subject of an effective amount of an antibody, or pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody of the invention. In one aspect, an antibody is substantially purified (i.e., substantially free from substances that limit its effect or produce undesired side-effects). In preferred embodiments, the antibody is a fully human monoclonal antibody, such as a fully human monoclonal antagonist antibody. The subject administered a therapy is preferably a mammal such as a non-primate (e.g., cows, pigs, horses, rats, dogs, rabbits, mice or rats) or a primate (e.g., a monkey, such as a rhesus or cynomolgus monkey, or a human). In a preferred embodiment, the subject is a human. In another preferred embodiment, the subject is a human infant or a human infant born prematurely. In another embodiment, the subject is a human with a hOX40L-mediated disease.

[0762] Various delivery systems are known and can be used to administer a prophylactic or therapeutic agent (e.g., an antibody of the invention), including, but not limited to, encapsulation in liposomes, microparticles, microcapsules, recombinant cells capable of expressing the antibody, receptor-mediated endocytosis (see, e.g., Wu and Wu, *J. Biol. Chem.* 262:4429-4432 (1987)), construction of a nucleic acid as part of a retrovirus or other vector, etc. Methods of administering a prophylactic or therapeutic agent (e.g., an antibody of the invention), or pharmaceutical composition include, but are not limited to, parenteral administration (e.g., intradermal, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intravenous and subcutaneous), epidural, and mucosal (e.g., intranasal and oral routes). In a specific embodiment, a prophylactic or therapeutic agent (e.g., an antibody of the present invention), or a pharmaceutical composition is administered intranasally, intramuscularly, intravenously, or subcutaneously. The prophylactic or therapeutic agents or compositions may be administered by any convenient route, for example by infusion or bolus injection, by absorption through epithelial or mucocutaneous linings (e.g., oral mucosa, intranasal mucosa, rectal and intestinal mucosa, etc.) and may be administered together with other biologically active agents. Administration can be systemic or local. In addition, pulmonary administration can also be employed, e.g., by use of an inhaler or nebulizer, and formulation with an aerosolizing agent. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,019,968, 5,985,320, 5,985,309, 5,934,272, 5,974,664, 5,955,913, 5,290,540, and 4,880,950, and PCT Publication Nos. WO 92/19244, WO 97/32922, WO 97/44013, WO 96/31345, and WO 95/66903.

[0763] In a specific embodiment, it may be desirable to administer a prophylactic or therapeutic agent, or a pharmaceutical composition of the invention locally to the area in need of treatment. This may be achieved by, for example, and not by way of limitation, local infusion, by topical administration (e.g., by intranasal spray), by injection, or by means of an implant, said implant being of a porous, non-porous, or gelatinous material, including membranes, such as saffatic membranes, or fibers. Preferably, when administering an antibody of the invention, care must be taken to use materials to which the antibody does not absorb.

[0764] In another embodiment, a prophylactic or therapeutic agent, or a composition of the invention can be delivered in a vesicle, in particular a liposome (see Langer, 1990, *Science* 249:1527-1533; Treat et al., in *Liposomes in the Therapy of Infectious Disease and Cancer*, Lopez-Beresten and Fidler (eds), Liss, New York, pp. 353-365 (1989); Lopez-Beresten, *ibid.*, pp. 317-327, see generally *ibid.*).

[0765] In another embodiment, a prophylactic or therapeutic agent, or a composition of the invention can be delivered in a controlled or sustained release system. In one embodiment, a pump may be used to achieve controlled or sustained release (see Langer, *supra*; Sefton, 1987, *CRC Crit. Ref. Biomed.* 14:20, Dushoff et al., 1989, *Opin. Opin. 99:207*; Gould et al., 1992, *Eng. J. Med.* 323:1724). In another embodiment, polymers can be used to achieve controlled or sustained release of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent (e.g., an antibody of the invention) via the use of a polymer system (see, e.g., Levy et al., 1981, *Science* 219:190, Dusing et al., 1989, *J. Neurosci.* 7:1105; Howard et al., 1989, *J. Neurosci.* 9:1533; U.S. Pat. No. 5,679,377; U.S. Pat. No. 5,699,463; U.S. Pat. No. 5,128,326; PCT Publication No. WO 99/15154, and PCT Publication No. WO 99/20253). Examples of polymers used in sustained release formulations include, but are not limited to, poly(ω -hydroxy ethyl methacrylate), poly(Protein Design and Performance), Sustenol and Prolene (see, e.g., Ringer and Peppas, 1983, *J. Macromol. Sci. Chem.* 23:61, see also *Medical Applications of Controlled Release*, Langer and Peppas, 1989, *J. Macromol. Sci. Chem.* 23:61, see also *Controlled and Targeted Drug Delivery*, Ringer and Peppas, 1990, *J. Macromol. Sci. Chem.* 24:1-42). In another embodiment, a polymer used in sustained release formulation is inert, free of leachable impurities, stable on storage, sterile, and biodegradable. In yet another embodiment, a controlled or sustained release system can be placed in proximity of the therapeutic target, i.e., the nasal passages or lungs, thus requiring only a fraction of the systemic dose (see, e.g., Goodman, in *Medical Applications of Controlled Release*, supra, vol. 2, pp. 115-138 (1984)). Controlled release systems are discussed in the review by Langer (1990, *Science* 249:1527-1533). Any technique used to achieve controlled or sustained release system may be used to produce sustained release formulations comprising one or more antibodies of the invention. See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 4,524,938, PCT publication WO 91/05548, PCT publication WO 96/20989, Ning et al., 1995, *Intramural Radioimmunotherapy of a Human Colon Cancer Xenograft Using a Sustained-Release Gel*; *Radiotherapy & Oncology* 39:179-189; Song et al., 1995, *“Antibody Mediated Lung Targeting of Long-Circulating Emulsions”*, *PDA Journal of Pharmaceutical Science & Technology* 39:372-397; Cleek et al., 1997, *“Biodegradable Polymeric Carriers for a Biotinylated Antibody for Cardiovascular Application”*, *Proc. Int. Symp. Control. Rel. Biomed. Mater.* 24:893-894, and Lam et al., 1997, *“Microencapsulated Lungs of Recombinant Humanized Monoclonal Antibody for Local Delivery”*, *Proc. Int. Symp. Control. Rel. Biomed. Mater.* 24:759-760.

[0766] In a specific embodiment, a prophylactic or therapeutic agent, or a composition of the invention can be delivered in a controlled or sustained release system. In one embodiment, a pump may be used to achieve controlled or sustained release of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent (e.g., an antibody of the invention), the nucleic acid can be administered *in vivo* to promote expression of its encoded prophylactic or therapeutic agent, by constructing it as part of an appropriate nucleic acid expression vector and administering it so that it becomes intracellular, e.g., by use of a retroviral vector (see U.S. Pat. No. 4,980,286), or by direct injection, or by use of microparticle bombardment (e.g., a gene gun; Biolistic; Dupont), or coating with lipids or cell surface receptors or transferring agents, or by administering it in linkage to a homeobox-like peptide which is known to enter the nucleus (see, e.g., Jolet et al., 1991, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 88:1984-1989), etc. Alternatively, a nucleic acid can be introduced intracellularly and incorporated within host cell DNA for expression by homologous recombination.

[0767] In a specific embodiment, a composition of the invention comprises one, two, or more antibodies or fragments of the invention. In another embodiment, a composition of the invention comprises one, two, or more antibodies or fragments of the invention and a prophylactic or therapeutic agent other than an antibody of the invention. Preferably, the agents are known to be useful for or have been or are currently used for the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease. In addition to prophylactic or therapeutic agents, the compositions of the invention may also comprise a carrier.

[0768] The compositions of the invention include bulk drug compositions useful in the manufacture of pharmaceutical compositions (e.g., compositions that are suitable for administration to a subject or patient) that can be used in the preparation of unit dosage forms. In a preferred embodiment, a composition of the invention is a pharmaceutical composition. Such compositions comprise a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of one or more prophylactic or therapeutic agents (e.g., an antibody of the invention or other prophylactic or therapeutic agent), and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Preferably, the pharmaceutical compositions are formulated to be suitable for the route of administration to a subject.

[0769] In a specific embodiment, the term "carrier" refers to a diluent, adjuvant (e.g., Freund's adjuvant (complete and incomplete)), excipient, or vehicle with which the therapeutic is administered. Such pharmaceutical carriers can be sterile liquids, such as water and oils, including those of petroleum, animal, vegetable or synthetic origin, such as peanut oil, soybean oil, mineral oil, sesame oil and the like. Water is a preferred carrier when the pharmaceutical composition is administered intravenously. Saline solutions and aqueous dextrose and glycerol solutions can also be employed as liquid carriers, particularly for injectable solutions. Suitable pharmaceutical excipients include starch, glucose, lactose, sucrose, gelatin, malt, rice, flour, chalk, silica gel, sodium stearate, talc, sodium chloride, dried skim milk, glycerol, propylene, glycol, water, ethanol and the like. The composition, if desired, can also contain minor amounts of wetting or emulsifying agents, or pH buffering agents. These compositions can take the form of solutions, suspensions, emulsion, tablets, pills, capsules, powders, sustained-release formulations and the like. Oral formulation can include standard carriers such as pharmaceutical grades of mannitol, lactose, starch, magnesium stearate, sodium saccharin, cellulose, magnesium carbonate, etc. Examples of suitable pharmaceutical carriers can be found in Remington's *Pharmaceutical Sciences* (1990) Mack Publishing Co., Easton, Pa. Such compositions will contain a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of the antibody, preferably in purified form, together with a suitable amount of carrier so as to provide the form for proper administration to the patient. The formulation should suit the mode of administration.

[0770] In a preferred embodiment, the composition is formulated in accordance with routine procedures as a pharmaceutical composition adapted for intravenous administration to human beings. Typically, compositions for intravenous administration are solutions in sterile isotonic aqueous buffer. Where necessary, the composition may also include a solubilizing agent and a local anesthetic such as lignocaine to ease pain at the site of the injection. Such compositions, however, may be administered by a route other than intravenous.

[0771] Generally, the ingredients of compositions of the invention are supplied either separately or mixed together in unit dosage form, for example, as a dry lyophilized powder or water free concentrate in a hermetically sealed container such as an ampoule or sachette indicating the quantity of active agent. Where the composition is to be administered by infusion, it can be dispensed with sterile pharmaceutical grade water or saline. Where the composition is administered by injection, an ampoule of sterile water for injection or saline can be provided so that the ingredients may be mixed prior to administration.

[0772] The invention also provides that an antibody of the invention is packaged in a hermetically sealed container such as an ampoule or sachette indicating the quantity of antibody. In one embodiment, the antibody is supplied as a dry sterilized lyophilized powder or water free concentrate in a hermetically sealed container and can be reconstituted, e.g., with water or saline to the appropriate concentration for administration to a subject. Preferably, the antibody is supplied as a dry sterile (lyophilized) powder in a hermetically sealed container at a unit dosage of at least 0.1 mg, at least 0.5 mg, at least 1 mg, at least 2 mg, or at least 3 mg, and more preferably at least 5 mg, at least 10 mg, at least 20 mg, at least 30 mg, at least 40 mg, at least 50 mg, at least 60 mg, at least 70 mg, at least 80 mg, at least 90 mg, at least 95 mg, or at least 100 mg. The lyophilized antibody can be stored at between 2 and 8°C in its original container and the antibody can be administered within 12 hours, preferably within 6 hours, within 5 hours, or within 1 hour after being reconstituted. In an alternative embodiment, an antibody is supplied in liquid form in a hermetically sealed container indicating the quantity and concentration of the antibody. Preferably, the liquid form of the antibody is supplied in a hermetically sealed container at least 0.1 mg/ml, at least 0.5 mg/ml, or at least 1 mg/ml, and more preferably at least 5 mg/ml, at least 10 mg/ml, at least 25 mg/ml, at least 50 mg/ml, or at least 100 mg/ml, at least 200 mg/ml, at least 250 mg/ml, at least 300 mg/ml, at least 350 mg/ml, at least 400 mg/ml, or at least 450 mg/ml. The antibody can be administered to a human for the prevention, management, treatment and/or amelioration of a hOX40L-mediated disease. In addition, an assay may optionally be employed to help identify optimal dosage ranges. The precise dose to be employed in the formulation will also depend on the route of administration, and the seriousness of a hOX40L-mediated disease, and should be decided according to the judgment of the practitioner and each patient's circumstances.

[0773] Effective doses may be extrapolated from dose-response curves derived from *in vitro* and *animal model* test systems.

[0774] For the antibodies of the invention, the dosage administered to a patient is typically 0.1 mg/kg to 100 mg/kg of the patient's body weight. In some embodiments, the dosage administered to the patient is about 1 mg/kg to about 75 mg/kg of the patient's body weight. Preferably, the dosage administered to a patient between 1 mg/kg and 20 mg/kg of the patient's body weight, more preferably 1 mg/kg to 5 mg/kg of the patient's body weight. Generally, human antibodies have a longer half-life within the human body than antibodies from other species due to the immune response to the foreign polypeptides. Thus, lower dosages of human antibodies and less frequent administration are often possible. Further, the dosage and frequency of administration of the antibodies of the invention may be reduced by enhancing uptake and tissue penetration of the antibodies by modifications such as, for example, lipidation.

[0775] In one embodiment, approximately 100 mg/kg or less, approximately 75 mg/kg or less, approximately 50 mg/kg or less, approximately 25 mg/kg or less, approximately 10 mg/kg or less, approximately 5 mg/kg or less, approximately 1 mg/kg or less, approximately 0.5 mg/kg or less, or approximately 0.1 mg/kg or less of an antibody or fragment of the invention is administered 5 times, 4 times, 3 times, 2 times, or preferably, 1 time to manage a hOX40L-mediated disease. In some embodiments, an antibody of the invention is administered about 1-12 times, wherein the doses may be administered as necessary, e.g., weekly, biweekly, monthly, bimonthly, trimonthly, etc., as determined by a physician. In some embodiments, a lower dose (e.g., 1-5 times) in other embodiments, a higher dose (e.g., 25-100 mg/kg) can be administered more frequently (e.g., 1-3 times).

constant domain is a complement fixing constant domain where it is desired that the humanized antibody exhibit cytotropic activity, and the class is typically IgG1. Where such cytotropic activity is not desirable, the constant domain may be of the IgG2 class. In certain embodiments, the antibodies of the invention comprise a human gamma 4 constant region. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region does not bind Fc_γ receptors, and e.g. comprise a Leu235Glu mutation. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region comprises a Ser220Pro mutation to increase stability. In another embodiment, the heavy chain constant region is IgG4-PE. Examples of VL and VH constant domains that can be used in certain embodiments of the invention include, but are not limited to, C-kappa and C-gamma1 (nG1m) described in Johnson et al. (1997), *J. Infect. Dis.* 176, 1216-1224 and those described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,824,307. The humanized antibody may comprise sequences from more than one class or isotype, and selecting particular constant domains to optimize desired effector functions is within the ordinary skill in the art. The framework and CDR regions of a humanized antibody need not correspond precisely to the parental sequences, e.g., the donor CDR or the consensus framework may be mutagenized by substitution, insertion or deletion of at least one residue so that the CDR or framework residue at that site does not correspond to either the consensus or the import antibody. Such mutations, however, will not be extensive. Usually, at least 75% of the humanized antibody residues will correspond to those of the parental FR and CDR sequences; more often 90%, and most preferably greater than 95%. Humanized antibodies can be produced using a variety of techniques known in the art, including but not limited to, CDR-grafting (European Patent No. EP 239,400; International publication No. WO 91/09967, and U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,225,539, 5,530,101, and 5,585,089), veneering or resurfacing (European Patent No. EP 692,106 and EP 191,696; Padlan, 1991, *Molecular Immunology* 28(4/5):489-494; Studivnik et al., 1994, *Protein Engineering* 7(6):805-814; and Roguska et al., 1994, *PHAS* 91:969-973), chain shuffling (U.S. Pat. No. 5,695,323), and techniques disclosed in, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 6,407,213, U.S. Pat. No. 5,766,896, WO 93/105,105; Tan et al., *J. Immunol.* 169:119-125 (2002); Caldas et al., *Protein Eng.* 13(5):353-360 (2000); Morea et al., *Meth. Enz.* 239:359-369 (1995); and P. S. P. et al., *U.S. Pat. No. US 2005/042664 A1* (Feb. 24, 2005). Often, framework residues in the framework regions will be substituted with a corresponding residue from the CDR donor antibody to later, preferably improve, antigen binding. These framework substitutions are identified by methods well known in the art, e.g., by modeling of the interactions of the CDR and framework residues to identify framework residues important for antigen binding and sequence comparison to identify unusual framework residues at particular positions. (See, e.g., Queen et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,585,089, and Reichmann et al., 1988, *Nature* 332:323).

[0012] Single domain antibodies, for example, antibodies lacking the light chains, can be produced by methods well-known in the art. See Reichmann et al., 1999, *J. Immunol.* 231:25-38; Nuttal et al., 2000, *Curr. Pharm. Biotechnol.* 1(3):253-263; Muyldermaier, 2001, *J. Biotechnol.* 74(4):277-302; U.S. Pat. No. 6,005,079, and International Publication Nos. WO 94/04678, WO 94/25591, and WO 01/44301.

[0013] Further, the antibodies that specifically bind to a hOX40L antigen can, in turn, be utilized to generate anti-idiotype antibodies that "mimic" an antigen using techniques well known to those skilled in the art. (See, e.g., Greenspan & Bona, 1989, *FASEB J.* 7(5):437-444; and Nissenhoff, 1991, *J. Immunol.* 147(6):2429-2430).

Kits

[0014] The invention also provides a pharmaceutical or diagnostic pack or kit comprising one or more containers filled with one or more of the ingredients of the pharmaceutical compositions of the invention, such as one or more antibodies or fragments provided herein. Optionally associated with such container(s) can be a notice in the form prescribed by a governmental agency regulating the manufacture, use or sale of pharmaceuticals or biological products, which notice reflects approval by the agency of manufacture, use or sale for human administration, e.g., an authorization number.

[0015] The present invention provides kits that can be used in the above methods. In one embodiment, a kit comprises an antibody of the invention, preferably a purified antibody, in one or more containers. In a specific embodiment, the kits of the present invention contain a substantially isolated hOX40L antigen as a control. Preferably, the kits of the present invention further comprise a control antibody which does not react with the hOX40L antigen. In another specific embodiment, the kits of the present invention contain a means for detecting the binding of a modified antibody to a hOX40L antigen (e.g., the antibody may be conjugated to a detectable substrate such as a fluorescent compound, an enzymatic substrate, a radioactive compound or a luminescent compound, or a second antibody which recognizes the first antibody may be conjugated to a detectable substrate). In specific embodiments, the kit may include a recombinantly produced or chemically synthesized hOX40L antigen. The hOX40L antigen provided in the kit may also be attached to a solid support. In a more specific embodiment the detecting means of the above described kit includes a solid support to which hOX40L antigen is attached. Such a kit may also include a non-analytical reporter-labelled hOX40L antibody. This embodiment, binding the antibody to the hOX40L antigen can be detected by binding of the said reporter-labelled antibody.

[0016] "Conservative amino acid substitutions" result from replacing one amino acid with another having similar structural and/or chemical properties, such as the replacement of a leucine with an isoleucine or valine, an asparagine with a glutamine, or a threonine with a serine. Thus, a "conservative substitution" of a particular amino acid sequence refers to substitution of those amino acids that are not critical for polypeptide stability or substitution of amino acids with similar properties (e.g., acidic, basic, polar or nonpolar, etc.) such that the substitution of even radical amino acids does not reduce the activity of the peptide. It is the ability of the peptide to penetrate the blood brain barrier (BBB). Conservative substitution tables providing functionally similar amino acids are well known in the art. For example, the following groups each contain amino acids that are conservatively substituted for one another: 1) Alanine (A), Serine (S), Threonine (T), 2) Asparic acid (D), Aspartic acid (E), 3) Asparagine (N), Glutamine (Q), 4) Arginine (R), Lysine (K), 5) Isoleucine (I), Leucine (L), Methionine (M), Valine (V) and 6) Phenylalanine (F), Tyrosine (Y), Tryptophan (W). (See also Creighton, Proteins, W. H. Freeman and Company (1984).) In some embodiments, individual substitutions, deletions or additions that alter, add or delete a single amino acid or a small percentage of amino acids can also be considered "conservative substitutions" if the change does not reduce the activity of the peptide. Insertions or deletions are typically in the range of about 1 to 5 amino acids. The choice of conservative amino acids may be selected based on the location of the amino acid to be substituted in the peptide, for example if the amino acid is on the exterior of the peptide and exposed to solvents, or on the interior and not exposed to solvents.

[0017] In alternative embodiments, one can select the amino acid which will substitute an existing amino acid based on the location of the existing amino acid, i.e. its exposure to solvents or is present on the outer surface of the peptide or polypeptide as compared to internally localized amino acids not exposed to solvents. Selection of such conservative amino acid substitutions are well known in the art, for example as disclosed in Dendo et al., *J. Mol. Biol.*, 1999, 217, 721-739 and Taylor et al., *J. Theor. Biol.* 119(1986):205-216 and S. French and B. Rebsin, *J. Mol. Evol.*, 19(1983):171. Accordingly, one can select conservative amino acid substitutions suitable for amino acids on the exterior of a protein or peptide (i.e. amino acids exposed to a solvent), for example, but not limited to, the following substitutions can be used: substitution of Y with F, with S or K, P with A, E with D or Q, N with D or G, R with K, C with N or E, T with Y, S with W or T, A with R, W with N, L with I or V, F with Y, S with A, T with S, D with N, I with L or V, F with Y, L with S, W with A or T and A with S, G, T or V. In some embodiments, non-conservative amino acid substitutions are also encompassed within the term of variants.

[0018] As used herein, an "antibody" refers to IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD or IgE molecules or antigen-specific antibody fragments thereof (including, but not limited to, a Fab, F(ab)₂, Fv, disulphide linked Fv, scFv, single domain antibody, closed conformation multi-specific antibody, disulphide-linked scFv, diabody), whether derived from any species that naturally produces an antibody, or created by recombinant DNA technology, whether isolated from serum, B-cells, hybridomas, transfecomas, yeast or bacteria. Antibodies can be humanized using routine technology.

[0019] As determined herein, an "antigen" is a molecule that is bound by a binding site on an antibody agent. Typically, antigens are bound by antibody ligands and are capable of raising an antibody response *in vivo*. An antigen can be a polypeptide, protein, nucleic acid or other molecule or portion thereof. The term "antigenic determinant" refers to an epitope on the antigen recognized by an antigen-binding molecule, and more particularly, by the antigen-binding site of said molecule.

[0020] As used herein, the term "antibody fragment" refers to a polypeptide that includes at least one immunoglobulin variable domain or immunoglobulin variable domain sequence and which specifically binds a given antigen. An antibody fragment can comprise an antibody or a polypeptide comprising an antigen-binding domain. An antibody fragment may be a single antibody molecule or a portion of an antibody molecule. The term "antibody fragment" can include a heavy (H) chain variable region (abbreviated herein as VH), and an OX40L (L) chain variable region (abbreviated herein as VL). In another example, an antibody includes two heavy (H) chain variable regions and two OX40L (L) chain variable regions. The term "antibody fragment" encompasses antigen-binding fragments of antibodies (e.g., single chain antibodies, Fab and Fab fragments, F(ab)2, Fd fragments, Fv fragments, scFv, and domain antibodies (dAb) fragments (see, e.g. de Wildt et al., *Eur. J. Immunol.*, 1996, 26(3):629-39) as well as complete antibodies. An antibody can have the structural features of IgA, IgG, IgE, IgM (as well as subtypes and combinations thereof). Antibodies can be from any source, including mouse, rabbit, pig, rat, and primate (human and non-human primate) and primized antibodies. Antibodies also include mAbodies, chimeric antibodies, and the like.

[0021] As used herein, "antibody variable domain" refers to the portions of the OX40L and heavy chains of antibody molecules that include amino acid sequences of Complementarily Determining Regions (CDRs, i.e., CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3), and Framework Regions (FRs). VH refers to the variable domain of the heavy chain. VL refers to the variable domain of the light chain. According to the methods used in this invention, the amino acid positions assigned to CDRs and FRs may be defined according to Kabat (Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest (National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Md., 1987 and 1991) or according to IMGT nomenclature.

[0022] As used herein, the term "antibody binding site" refers to a polypeptide or domain that comprises one or more CDRs of an antibody and is capable of binding an antigen. For example, the polypeptide comprises a CDR3 (e.g., HCDR3). For example the polypeptide comprises CDRs 1 and 2 (e.g., HCDR1 and 2) or CDRs 1-3 of a variable domain of an antibody (e.g., HCDRs 1-3). In an example, the antibody binding site is provided by a single variable domain (e.g., a VH or VL domain). In another example, the binding site comprises a VHVL pair or two or more of such parts.

[0023] As used herein, "genotyping" refers to a process of determining the specific allelic composition of a cell and/or subject at one or more position within the genome, e.g. by determining the nucleic acid sequence at that position. Genotyping refers to a nucleic acid analysis and/or analysis at the nucleic acid level. As used herein, "phenotyping" refers to a process of determining the identity and/or composition of an expression product of a cell and/or subject, e.g. by determining the polypeptide sequence of an expression product. Phenotyping refers to a protein analysis and/or analysis at the protein level.

[0024] As used herein, the term "treat", "treatment", "Treating," or "amelioration" refer to therapeutic treatments, wherein the object is to reverse, alleviate, ameliorate, inhibit, slow down or stop the progression or severity of a condition associated with a disease or disorder. The term "treating" includes reducing or alleviating at least one adverse effect or symptom of a condition, disease or disorder. Treatment is generally "effective" if one or more symptoms or clinical markers are reduced. Alternatively, treatment is "effective" if the progression of a disease is reduced or halted. That is, "treatment" includes not just the improvement of symptoms or markers, but also a cessation of, or at least slowing of, progress or worsening of symptoms compared to what would be expected in the absence of treatment. Beneficial or desired clinical results include, but are not limited to, alleviation of one or more symptom(s), diminishment of extent of disease, stabilized (i.e., not worsening) state of disease, delay or slowing of disease progression, amelioration or palliation of the disease state, remission (whether partial or total), and/or decreased mortality, whether detectable or undetectable. The term "treatment" of a disease also includes providing relief from the symptoms or side-effects of the disease (including palliative treatment). For treatment to be effective a complete cure is not contemplated. The method in certain aspects include cure as well.

[0025] As used herein, the term "pharmaceutical composition" refers to the active agent in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier e.g., a carrier commonly used in the pharmaceutical industry. The phrase "pharmaceutically acceptable" is employed herein to refer to those compounds, materials, compositions, and/or dosage forms which are, within the scope of sound medical judgment, suitable for use in contact with the tissues of human beings and animals without excessive toxicity, irritation, allergic response, or other problem or complication, commensurate with a reasonable benefit/risk ratio.

[0026] As used herein, the term "administering" refers to the placement of a compound as disclosed herein into a subject by a method or route which results in at least partial delivery of the agent at a desired site. Pharmaceutical compositions comprising the compounds disclosed herein can be administered by any appropriate route which results in an effective treatment in the subject.

[0027] Multiple compositions can be administered separately or simultaneously. Separate administration refers to the two compositions being administered at different times, e.g. at least 10, 20, 30, or 10-60 minutes apart, or 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 hours apart. One can also administer compositions at 24 hours apart, or even longer apart. Alternatively, two or more compositions can be administered simultaneously, e.g. less than 10 or less than 5 minutes apart. Compositions administered simultaneously can, in some cases, be administered as a mixture, with or without similar or different time release mechanism for each of the components.

[0028] As used herein, "authorization number" or "marketing authorization number" refers to a number issued by a regulatory agency upon that agency determining that a particular medical product and/or composition may be marketed and/or offered for sale in the area under the agency's jurisdiction. As used herein "regulatory agency" refers to one of the agencies responsible for evaluating, e.g., the safety and efficacy of a medical product and/or composition and controlling the sale/marketing of such products and/or compositions in a given area. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the US and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) in Europe are two examples of such regulatory agencies. Other non-limiting examples can include SDA, MPR, MHRA, IMA, ANMAT, Hong Kong Department of Health-Disease, CDSO, Medsafe, and KFDA.

[0029] As used herein, "injection device" refers to a device that is designed for carrying out injections, an injection including the steps of temporarily fluidly coupling the injection device to a person's tissue, typically the subcutaneous tissue. An injection further includes administering an amount of liquid drug into the tissue and decoupling or removing the injection device from the tissue. In some embodiments, an injection device can be an intravenous device or IV device, which is a type of injection device used when the target tissue is the blood within the circulatory system, e.g., the blood in a vein. A common, but non-limiting example of an injection device is a needle and syringe.

[0030] As used herein, "a buffer" refers to a chemical agent that is able to absorb a certain quantity of acid or base without undergoing a strong variation in pH.

[0031] As used herein, "packaging" refers to how the components are organized and/or restrained into a unit fit for distribution and/or use. Packaging can include, e.g., boxes, bags, syringes, ampoules, vials, tubes, clamshell packaging, barriers and/or containers to maintain sterility, labeling, etc.

[0032] As used herein, "instructions" refers to a display of written, printed or graphic matter on the immediate container of an article, for example the written material displayed on a vial containing a pharmaceutically active agent, or details on the composition and use of a product of interest included in a kit containing a composition of interest. Instructions set forth the method of the treatment as contemplated to be administered or performed.

[0033] As used herein, the term "comprising" or "comprise" is used in reference to antibodies, fragments, uses, compositions, methods, and respective component(s) thereof, that are essential to the method or composition, yet open to the inclusion of unspecified elements, whether essential or not.

[0034] The term "consisting of" refers to antibodies, fragments, uses, compositions, methods, and respective components thereof as described herein, which are exclusive of any element not recited in that description of the embodiment.

[0035] As used herein, the term "consisting essentially of" refers to those elements required for a given embodiment. The term permits the presence of elements that do not materially affect the basic and novel or functional characteristic(s) of that embodiment.

[0036] The singular terms "a," "an," and "the" include plural referents unless context clearly indicates otherwise. Similarly, the word "or" is intended to include "and" unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Although methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used in the practice or testing of this disclosure, suitable methods and materials are described below. This abbreviation, "e.g." is derived from the Latin exempl grata, and is used herein to indicate a non-limiting example. Thus, the abbreviation "e.g." is synonymous with the term "for example."

[0037] Definitions of common terms in cell biology and molecular biology can be found in "The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy", 19th Edition, published by Merck Research Laboratories, 2006 (ISBN 0-911910-19-0); Robert S. Porter et al. (eds.), *The Encyclopedia of Molecular Biology*, published by Blackwell Science Ltd., 1994 (ISBN 0-632-02182-9); Benjamin Levin, *Genes X*, published by Jones & Bartlett Publishing, 2009 (ISBN 10: 0763765321); Kendrew et al. (eds.), *Molecular Biology and Biotechnology: A Comprehensive Desk Reference*, published by VCH Publishers, Inc., 1995 (ISBN 1-56091-569-8) and Current Protocols in Protein Sciences 2009, Wiley Interscience, Coligan et al., eds.

[0038] Unless otherwise stated, the present invention was performed using standard procedures, as described, for example in Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual* (4 ed.), Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., USA (2012); Davis et al., *Basic Methods in Molecular Biology*, Elsevier Science Publishing, Inc., New York, USA (1995), or *Methods in Enzymology: Guide to Molecular Cloning Techniques* Vol152, S. L. Berger and A. R. Kimmel Eds., Academic Press Inc., San Diego, USA (1987); *Current Protocols in Protein Science (CPS)* (John E. Coligan, et al., eds., John Wiley and Sons, Inc.), *Current Protocols in Cell Biology* (Juan S. Bonifacino et al., eds., John Wiley and Sons, Inc.), and *Culture of Animal Cells: A Manual of Basic Technique* by R. Ian Freshney, Publisher: Wiley-Liss, 5th edition (2005). *Animal Cell Culture Methods (Methods in Cell Biology)*, Vol. 57, Jennie P. Mather and David M. Barnes editors, Academic Press, 1st edition, 1998.

[0039] The use of the word "a" or "an" when used in conjunction with the term "comprising" in the claims and/or the specification may mean "one," but it is also consistent with the meaning of "one or more," "at least one," and "one or more than one." The use of the term "x" in the claims is used to mean "and/or" unless explicitly indicated to refer to alternatives only or the alternatives are mutually exclusive, although the disclosure supports a definition that refers to only alternatives and "and/or." Throughout this application, the term "about" is used to indicate that a value includes the inherent variation of error for the device, the method being employed to determine the value, or the variation that exists among the study subjects.

[0040] As used in this specification and claim(s), the words "comprising" (and any form of comprising, such as "comprise" and "comprises"), "having" (and any form of having, such as "have" and "has"), "including" (and any form of including, such as "includes" and "include") or "containing" (and any form of containing, such as "contains" and "contain") are inclusive or open-ended and do not exclude additional, unrecited elements or method steps.

[0041] Any part of this disclosure may be read in combination with any other part of the disclosure, unless otherwise apparent from the context.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Antigen Preparation, Immunization Procedures, and Hybridoma Generation

[0042] The following example provides a detailed description of the generation and identification of a panel of anti-human OX40L monoclonal antibodies using the Kymouse™ system (see, e.g., WO2011/04192). To this end, genetically engineered mice containing a large number of human immunoglobulin genes were immunized with soluble recombinant human OX40L (commercial or in-house produced) or surface expressed human OX40L displayed on mouse embryonic fibroblast (MEF) cells. Various immunization regimes, including conventional intraperitoneal injections as well as a rapid immunization at multiple sites regime were set up, boosting animals over several weeks. At the end of each regime, secondary lymphoid tissue such as the spleen, and in some cases, the lymph nodes were removed. Tissues were prepared into a single cell suspension and fused with SP2/0 cells to generate a stable hybridoma cell line.

Materials and Methods

Cloning, expression and purification of recombinant Rhesus and human OX40L

[0844] cDNA encoding the extracellular domain of human OX40L was cloned into a pREP4 expression plasmid (Invitrogen) using standard molecular biology techniques. The constructs also contained a FLAG peptide motif to aid purification and an isoleucine zipper motif to aid trimerisation. Constructs were sequenced to ensure their correct sequence composition.

[0845] Rhesus (*Macaca mulatta*) OX40L was created using the human OX40L plasmid created above as a template and using site directed mutagenesis to introduce the amino acid changes.

[0846] Human OX40L as well as Rhesus monkey OX40L were expressed transiently to produce recombinant protein using Invitrogen's Freestyle™ CHO-S suspension adapted cell line. Plasmids were transfected into the cells using PEI (polyethylenimine MW 40000) and left to overgrow for a period of 13 days before harvesting the supernatant for purification. Cells were fed during the overgrow process with ActiCHO™ Feeds A and B from GE Healthcare to help boost productivity and promote longevity of the cells. During the overgrow process samples were taken regularly to monitor cell growth and viability.

[0847] FLAG-tagged OX40L proteins were purified in a two-step process; firstly the clarified tissue culture supernatants from the CHO-S expression were purified using M2 anti-FLAG affinity chromatography. The eluted fractions containing the OX40L protein were then subjected to size exclusion chromatography and assessed for purity by SDS-PAGE analysis and quantified by spectrophotometer reading at 0280nm.

Cloning, expression and purification of recombinant human OX40L receptor

[0848] cDNA encoding the extracellular domain of human OX40 Receptor was cloned into a pREP4 expression plasmid (Invitrogen) using standard restriction enzyme digestion and ligation. The construct contained a human Fc portion to aid purification. Constructs were sequenced to ensure their correct sequence composition.

[0849] Human OX40 Receptor was expressed transiently to produce recombinant protein using Invitrogen's Freestyle™ CHO-S suspension adapted cell line. Plasmids were transfected into the cells using PEI (polyethylenimine MW 40000) and left to overgrow for a period of 13 days before harvesting the supernatant for purification. Cells were fed during the overgrow process with ActiCHO™ Feeds A and B from GE Healthcare to help boost productivity and promote longevity of the cells. During the overgrow process, samples were taken regularly to monitor cell growth and viability.

[0850] The Fc tagged OX40 Receptor protein was purified in a two-step process; firstly the clarified tissue culture supernatants from the CHO-S expression were purified using Protein G affinity chromatography. The eluted fractions containing the OX40 Receptor protein were then subjected to size exclusion chromatography and assessed for purity by SDS-PAGE analysis and quantified by spectrophotometer reading at 0280nm.

Generation of stably transfected MEF and CHO-S cells expressing human OX40L

[0851] The full human OX40L sequences were codon optimized (Seq ID No:173) for mammalian expression and cloned into an expression vector under the CMV promoter flanked by 3' and 5' piggyBac specific terminal repeat sequences facilitating stable integration into the cell genome (see "A hyperactive piggyBac transposase for mammalian applications", Yusa K, Zhou L, Li MA, Bradley A, Craig NL. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 2011 Jan 25). Furthermore, the expression vector contained either a puromycin or neomycin selection cassette to facilitate stable cell line generation. The hOX40L expression plasmid was co-transfected with a plasmid encoding piggyBac transposase into an in-house derived mouse embryonic fibroblast (MEF) cell line (embryos used to generate this line were obtained from a 129S5 crossed to C57BL/6 female mouse) and CHO-S cells using the FreeStyle Max Transfection reagent (Invitrogen) according to manufacturer instructions. 24 hours after transfection, the media was supplemented with G418 or neomycin and grown for at least 2 weeks to select a stable cell line, with media being exchanged every 3-4 days. The expression of hOX40L was assessed by flow cytometry using an anti-human OX40L PE conjugated antibody (R&D, clone 44331B). Following the generation of a stable cell line expressing the OX40L receptor, cells were transfected with the pNFκB-2-SEAP plasmid (Invitrogen) containing 5' repeated NFκB transcription factor binding sites followed by secreted alkaline phosphatase. Stable cells were selected with the addition to zeocin to the media with fresh media being added every 3-4 days. Complete HT1080 media was made up of CD-CHO media supplemented with 10% v/v fetal bovine serum (Gibco). Complete CHO-S media was made up of CD-CHO media supplemented with 10% v/v fetal bovine serum (Gibco).

Generation of HT1080 expressing OX40R and NF-κB reporter Gene

[0852] The full human OX40 receptor sequence was codon optimized (Seq ID No:175) for mammalian expression and cloned into an expression vector under the CMV promoter flanked by 3' and 5' piggyBac specific terminal repeat sequences facilitating stable integration into the cell genome (see "A hyperactive piggyBac transposase for mammalian applications", Yusa K, Zhou L, Li MA, Bradley A, Craig NL. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 2011 Jan 25). Furthermore, the expression vector contained either a puromycin or neomycin selection cassette to facilitate stable cell line generation. The hOX40 receptor expression plasmid was co-transfected with a plasmid encoding piggyBac transposase into HT1080 cells (ATCC® CCL-121) using the FreeStyle Max Transfection reagent (Invitrogen) according to manufacturer instructions. 24 hours after transfection, the media was supplemented with puromycin and grown for at least 2 weeks to select a stable cell line with media being exchanged every 3-4 days. The expression of OX40 receptor was assessed by flow cytometry using an anti-human OX40 receptor-PE conjugated antibody (R&D, clone 44331B). Following the generation of a stable cell line expressing the OX40 receptor, cells were transfected with the pNFκB-2-SEAP plasmid (Invitrogen) containing 5' repeated NFκB transcription factor binding sites followed by secreted alkaline phosphatase. Stable cells were selected with the addition to zeocin to the media with fresh media being added every 3-4 days. Complete HT1080 media was made up of MEM supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum.

Preparation of MEF cells for mouse + immunizations:

[0853] Cell culture medium was removed and cells washed once with 1xPBS. Cells were treated for 5 minutes with trypsin to loosen cells from tissue culture surface. Cells were collected and trypsin neutralized by the addition of complete media containing 10% v/v fetal bovine serum (FCS). Cells were then centrifuged at 300 x g for 10 minutes and washed with 25 mL of 1xPBS. Cells were counted and resuspended at the appropriate concentration in 1xPBS.

Immunization Procedure:

[0854] Transgenic Kymice were immunized with hOX40L in either soluble recombinant form, expressed by CHO-S cells, or membrane bound form, expressed by stably transfected MEF cells.

[0855] When immunizing wth cells, the adjuvant was mixed with cells at a 1:1 v/v ratio and gently mixed by pipetting before injecting intraperitoneally. When immunizing with protein, the adjuvant was mixed with protein at a 1:1 v/v ratio and vortexed repeatedly. All mice were bled before being primed and then boosted every three weeks. At least 3 serial bleeds spaced apart at least 2 weeks were collected and analysed for hOX40L specific IgG titers using an EUSA or flow cytometry based assay.

Determination of serum titers by FACS using CHO-S expressed hOX40L

[0856] CHO-S cells expressing hOX40L or untransfected CHO-S cells, diluted in FACS buffer (PBS + 1% v/v BSA + 0.1% v/v Na₃), were distributed to a 96 well V-bottom plate (Greiner) at a density of 1x10⁵ cells per well. Cells were washed with 150 μ L of PBS and centrifuged at 300 x g for 3 min. Supernatant was aspirated and 150 μ L of PBS added. This wash step was repeated. Atration of mouse serum was prepared, diluting samples in FACS buffer, 50 μ L/well of this titration was then added to the cell plate. To determine the change in activity level due to immunization, serum from each animal prior to immunization was diluted 1 in 100 in FACS buffer and 50 μ L/well added to the cells. A suitable reference antibody (anti-OX40L antibody MAD10541, R&D systems) or mouse IgG1 control antibody (Sigma) were diluted in FACS buffer (between 1-9 μ g/mL) and 50 μ L added to cells. Cells were incubated at 4 °C for 30 minutes. Cells were washed twice with 150 μ L of PBS, centrifuging after each wash step and aspirating supernatant (centrifuged at 300 x g for 3 minutes). To detect antibody binding, APC goat anti-mouse IgG (Jackson ImmunoResearch) was diluted 1 in 500 in FACS buffer and 50 μ L was added to the cells. Cells were incubated 30 minutes at 4 °C in dark. Cells were washed twice with 150 μ L of PBS centrifuging after each wash step and aspirating supernatant (centrifuged at 300 x g for 3 minutes). To fix cells 100 μ L 2% v/v paraformaldehyde was added and cells incubated for 30 minutes at 4 °C, cells were pelleted by centrifugation at 300 x g and the plates resuspended in 50 μ L of FACS buffer. APC signal intensity (geometric) was measured by flow cytometry using a BD FACS Array instrument.

Determination of serum titers by DELFIA immunoassay using recombinant hOX40L

[0857] Titers in mouse serum samples were determined using a reverse OX40 ELISA protocol. Anti-mouse IgG capture antibody (Southern Biotech) (4 μ g/mL, diluted in PBS, 50 μ L/well) was adsorbed to 96 well low auto-fluorescent, high protein binding plates (Costar) overnight at 4 °C. Excess IgG was removed by washing with PBS Tween (0.1% v/v) and the wells were blocked with 1% w/v bovine serum albumin (BSA, Sigma) in PBS for 1 hr at RT, after which plates were washed as described previously. Atration of mouse serum was prepared, diluting samples in reagent diluent (0.1% v/v BSA/TBS), 50 μ L/well of this dilution was then added to ELISA plates. To determine the change in activity level due to immunization, serum from each animal prior to immunization was diluted 1 in 100 in reagent diluent and 50 μ L/well added to the ELISA plate. As a positive control for biotinylated OX40L binding an anti-OX40L antibody (MAB10541, R&D system) diluted 1 μ g/mL was added to the ELISA plate. In some instances serum sample from a mouse immunized with a non-relevant antigen was diluted 1 in 1000 and 50 μ L/well added to the ELISA plate. The plates were incubated at room temperature for at least 1 hour. Following incubation, plates were washed as before to remove unbound proteins. Biotinylated OX40L (100 ng/mL in reagent diluent; 50 μ L/well) was then added to the plates and incubated at RT for 1 hour. Unbound biotinylated OX40L was removed by washing with PBS-Tween (0.1% v/v), while the remaining biotinylated OX40L was detected by streptavidin-Europium-conjugate (DELFIAT[®] detection, PerkinElmer) diluted in DELFIAT[®] assay buffer (Perkin Elmer) or streptavidin-IR[®] detection.

[0858] In the case of streptavidin-HRP, the plates were washed as described before and 50 μ L of TMB (Sigma) was added to the plate. Then the reaction was stopped by adding 50 μ L of 1M sulfuric acid (Fluka analytical). The OD at 450 nm was measured on an Envision plate reader (PerkinElmer).

[0859] In case of streptavidin-Europium³⁺, the plates were washed with TBS (Tris buffered saline)-Tween (0.1% v/v) and 200 μ L/well of DELFIA Enhancement solution (Perkin Elmer) was added to the plate. The time-resolved fluorescence was measured at 615 nm on an Envision plate reader (PerkinElmer). Fluorescence data was plotted as Europium counts.

Murine tissue isolation and preparation:

[0860] Spleens were excised from immunised mice and washed in 1xPBS and kept on ice until further processing. Tissues were prepared in buffer containing 1xPBS (Invitrogen) and 3% heat-inactivated FBS (Invitrogen). Splenocytes were dispersed by mashing the tissue through a 45 μ m strainer (BD Falcon) and rinsing with 30 mL 3% FBS/PBS buffer before centrifugation at 700 g for 10 minutes at 4 °C. To remove red blood cells, the pelleted splenocytes were resuspended in 4 mL of Red Blood Cell Lysis Buffer (Sigma). After 4 minutes of incubation, the lysis reaction was stopped by addition of 3% FBS/1xPBS buffer. Cell clumps were filtered out with a 45 μ m strainer. The remaining splenocytes were pelleted for further processes.

Hybridoma Fusion

[0861] For the KM055 experiment, pelleted splenocytes were prepared directly to fusion without any selection or overnight CpG stimulation. For the KM040 experiment, B-cells were subjected to a positive selection method using the MACS[®] Separation system. Cells were resuspended in 80 μ L 3% FBS/PBS buffer per 10⁶ cells, before adding the anti-mouse IgG1 plus anti-mouse IgG2a MicroBeads (Miltenyi Biotech) and incubated for 15 minutes at 4 °C. The cells/MicroBeads mixture was then applied to a pre-wetted LS column placed in a magnetic MACS Separator and washed with 3% FBS/PBS buffer. IgG positive cells were collected in the labelled, column-bound fraction and cultured for another 2-3 days prior to screening.

Example 2

Hybridoma Supernatant Screening

[0863] After generation of hybridoma clones, the hybridoma supernatant was assessed in a sequential primary and secondary screen and appropriate hybridoma clones selected based on criteria of antibody binding to CHO expressed hOX40L and receptor neutralization activity (see details in materials and methods (Table 1)).

[0864] For the primary screen, the inventors derived the following selection criteria: wells containing hybridoma clones were selected if antibodies present in the supernatant could bind to naïvely displayed hOX40L expressed on the cell surface. This assay was set up by plating CHO-S cells expressing hOX40L on the cell surface followed by incubation with hybridoma supernatant or positive control anti-human OX40L reference antibody (at a final concentration of 1 μ g/mL) or isotype IgG1 control antibody (referred to in some instances as C₀7, Sigma M269, at a final concentration of 1 μ g/mL) diluted in hybridoma maintenance media was made up of Advanced DMEM (Gibco) supplemented with 1% Glutamax (Gibco), 20% v/v FBS (Gibco), 0.05 mM β -Mercaptoethanol, 1,100 U/ml penicillin/streptomycin (Gibco), and 1 mg/ml l-tyrosine (Gibco). Plates were incubated for 1 hour at 4 °C. Culture media was aspirated and 50 μ L of goat anti-mouse Alexa Fluor 790 (Jackson ImmunoResearch, 115-065-071) at 1000 ng/mL, supplemented with 0.2 μ M DR405 (Biotest) diluted in FACS Buffer (PBS+1% v/v BSA+0.1% v/v Na₃) were added. Plates were again incubated for 1 hour at 4 °C. Supernatant was aspirated and 25 μ L of 4% v/v paraformaldehyde added and plates were incubated 15 minutes at room temperature. Plates were washed twice with 100 μ L PBS and then the wash buffer was completely removed. Fluorescence intensity was read by scanning plates using an Odyssey Infrared Imaging System (LI-COR). Anti-mouse binding (800 nm channel) was normalised to cell number (700 nm channel) according to LI-COR's recommended algorithm. Percent effect was calculated as detailed below (Equation 1). Total binding was defined using reference antibody at a final assay concentration of 1 μ g/mL. Non-specific binding was defined using mouse IgG1 isotype control (Sigma) at a final assay concentration of 1 μ g/mL. Wells were defined as hits where percent effect was greater than or equal to 5%.

Equation 1: Calculation of Percentage Effect from Primary Screen (LI-COR) and HTRE, (using 800% Resp values (LI-COR) or 665/620nm ratio (see Equation 2) (HTRF))
Percentage Effect = (100 * (1 - (Non-specific binding / Total binding))) / (1 - (Non-specific binding / Total binding))

Materials and Methods

Primary screen - Binding to cell expressed human OX40L

[0866] Supernatants collected from hybridoma cells were tested to assess the ability of secreted antibodies to bind to hOX40L expressed on the surface of CHO-S cells. To determine CHO-S hOX40L binding, cells were plated in clear bottom tissue culture treated 384-well plates (Costar or BRAND) at 2x10⁴ cells/well in F12 media (GIBCO) supplemented with 10% v/v FBS (GIBCO) and cultured overnight. Culture media was removed from 384-well assay plates. At least 40 μ L of hybridoma supernatant or positive control anti-human OX40L reference antibody (at a final concentration of 1 μ g/mL) or isotype IgG1 control antibody (referred to in some instances as C₀7, Sigma M269, at a final concentration of 1 μ g/mL) diluted in hybridoma maintenance media was made up of Advanced DMEM (Gibco) supplemented with 1% Glutamax (Gibco), 20% v/v FBS (Gibco), 0.05 mM β -Mercaptoethanol, 1,100 U/ml penicillin/streptomycin (Gibco), and 1 mg/ml l-tyrosine (Gibco). Plates were incubated for 1 hour at 4 °C. Culture media was aspirated and 50 μ L of goat anti-mouse Alexa Fluor 790 (Jackson ImmunoResearch, 115-065-071) at 1000 ng/mL, supplemented with 0.2 μ M DR405 (Biotest) diluted in FACS Buffer (PBS+1% v/v BSA+0.1% v/v Na₃) were added. Plates were again incubated for 1 hour at 4 °C. Supernatant was aspirated and 25 μ L of 4% v/v paraformaldehyde added and plates were incubated 15 minutes at room temperature. Plates were washed twice with 100 μ L PBS and then the wash buffer was completely removed. Fluorescence intensity was read by scanning plates using an Odyssey Infrared Imaging System (LI-COR). Anti-mouse binding (800 nm channel) was normalised to cell number (700 nm channel) according to LI-COR's recommended algorithm. Percent effect was calculated as detailed below (Equation 1). Total binding was defined using reference antibody at a final assay concentration of 1 μ g/mL. Non-specific binding was defined using mouse IgG1 isotype control (Sigma) at a final assay concentration of 1 μ g/mL. Wells were defined as hits where percent effect was greater than or equal to 5%.

Percent effect = $\frac{\text{total binding} - \text{non specific binding}}{\text{total binding}}$

[0867] Non-specific binding = values from wells containing isotype control mouse IgG1 or HMM or buffer

[0868] Total Binding (Binding HTRF and LICOR) = values from wells containing reference antibody Total binding (OX40L/OX40RFC assay) = OX40L and OX40RFC

Primary screen: Binding to recombinant human OX40L

[0869] In parallel to screening for binding to CHO-S expressed OX40L, supernatants collected from hybridoma wells were also tested to assess the ability of secreted antibodies to bind to hOX40L expressed as a recombinant protein (produced in-house, see details in Example 1). Binding of secreted antibodies to recombinant hOX40L were identified by HTRF® (Homogeneous Time-Resolved Fluorescence, Cisbio) assay format using biotinylated hOX40L, 5 μ L of hybridoma supernatant was transferred to a white 384 well low volume non-binding surface polystyrene plate (Greiner). Then 5 μ L of biotinylated hOX40L (working concentration 20 nM) diluted in HTRF buffer (PBS (Sigma) + 0.53 M KF (Sigma) + 0.1% w/v BSA (Sigma) was added. 5 μ L of combined detection reagents Streptavidin D2 (Cisbio) diluted 1:100 in HTRF assay buffer for final dilution 1:400 and goat anti-mouse IgG (Southern Biotech) labelled with europium cryptate (Cisbio) and anti-human Fc D2 (Cisbio) were added. The concentration of goat anti-mouse IgG (Southern Biotech) labelled with europium cryptate was batch dependent and in some cases a dilution of 1:1000 was performed to achieve a final assay concentration of 1:4000. To adjust the total assay volume to 20 μ L, 5 μ L of HTRF assay buffer was added to all wells. To define non-specific binding, addition of positive control antibody or hybridoma media was replaced with HTRF assay buffer or HMM. The plate was left to incubate in dark for 3 hours prior to reading time resolved fluorescence at 620 nm and 665 nm emission wavelengths using an EnVision plate reader (Perkin Elmer). More details of the HTRF® assay technology can be found in Mathis (1995) Clinical Chemistry 41(9), 1391-1397. Data were analysed by calculating 665/620 ratio and percent effect for each sample according to Equation 2 and Equation 1 respectively.

Equation 2: $\text{Calculation of } 665/620 \text{ ratio}$

$$665/620 \text{ ratio} = \frac{\text{(sample } 665/620 \text{ nm value)}}{\text{(sample } 665/620 \text{ nm value) } \times 1000}$$

[0870] For clones derived from KM40-1 and KM055-1 a selection criteria of greater than or equal to 20 percent effect was applied by the inventors to define a well as a hit from recombinant hOX40L binding as described in Table 1.

Primary screen: human OX40L/human OX40R Fc binding assay:

[0871] In order to determine whether supernatants collected from hybridoma wells inhibited the binding of OX40L to OX40RFC, secreted antibodies were tested in an OX40L/OX40RFC binding HTRF assay. 5 μ L of hybridoma supernatant was transferred to a white 384 well low volume non-binding surface polystyrene plate (Greiner). Biotinylated OX40L was diluted in HTRF assay buffer to a working concentration of 2.4 nM and 5 μ L added. OX40RFC was then diluted to working concentration of 4.8 nM and 5 μ L added. Non-specific binding was defined by replacing OX40RFC with assay buffer or HMM. Streptavidin cryptate (Cisbio) and anti-human Fc D2 (Cisbio) were diluted in HTRF assay buffer to working concentration of 1:100 and 5 nM respectively. Plates were covered, protected from light and incubated at room temperature for 3 hrs prior to reading time resolved fluorescence at 620 nm and 665 nm emission wavelengths using an EnVision plate reader (Perkin Elmer). Data were analysed by calculating 665/620 ratio and percent effect for each sample according to Equation 2 and Equation 5 respectively.

[0872] For clones derived from KM40-1 and KM055-1, a selection criteria of less than or equal to 90 percent of the assay signal of OX40 receptor Fc binding to OX40L was applied by the inventors to define a well as a hit as described in Table 1.

Secondary screen: Binding to cell expressed and recombinant human OX40L

[0873] To determine whether wells selected using the primary screen selection criteria had the required characteristics set by the inventors, a number of assays were performed. Hybridoma clones selected as hits from primary screening were cultured for 3 days and the supernatants collected from hybridoma cells were tested to assess whether the secreted antibodies that bind to CHO-S expressed hOX40L, in some case bind to untransfected CHO-S cells and whether they neutralise OX40R binding to CHO-S hOX40L and ability to neutralise OX40R binding to recombinant biotinylated hOX40L.

Binding to CHO-S expressed hOX40L and receptor neutralisation:

[0874] CHO-S cells expressing hOX40L or untransfected CHO-S cells, diluted in FACS buffer (PBS + 1% w/v BSA + 0.1% w/v Na₃VO₄) were distributed to a 96 well V-bottom plate (Greiner) at a density of 1 x 10⁵ cells per well. Cells were washed with 150 μ L of PBS and centrifuged at 300 xg for 3 min. Supernatant was aspirated and 150 μ L of PBS added. This wash step was repeated.

[0875] 25 μ L of hybridoma supernatant or purified antibody from hybridoma supernatant diluted in FACS buffer was added to the washed cells and incubated for 10-15 minutes. Reference Antibody or mouse IgG1 control antibody (Sigma) were diluted in FACS buffer to 20 μ g/mL and 25 μ L added to cells. 25 μ L of human OX40R Fc (in-house) diluted to 1000 ng/mL in FACS buffer were then added to wells. Cells were incubated at 4 °C for 30 minutes.

[0876] Cells were washed twice with 150 μ L of PBS centrifuging after each wash step and aspirating supernatant (centrifuged at 300 xg for 3 minutes).

[0877] To detect antibody and receptor binding, 50 μ L of Goat anti-human IgG-PE (Jackson ImmunoResearch) and APC anti-mouse IgG (Jackson ImmunoResearch) diluted 1 in 500 in FACS buffer was added to the cells. Cells were incubated 30 minutes at 4 °C in the dark.

[0878] Cells were washed twice with 150 μ L of PBS centrifuging after each wash step and aspirating supernatant (centrifuged at 300 xg for 3 minutes).

[0879] To fix cells 100 μ L 2% w/v paraformaldehyde was added and cells incubated for 30 minutes at 4 °C, cells were pelleted by centrifugation 300 xg and the plates and resuspended in 50 μ L of FACS buffer. PE and APC signal intensity (geometric) was measured by flow cytometry using a BD FACS Array instrument.

[0880] % of control binding was calculated using geometric fluorescence as described in equation 1 where total binding was defined as reference antibody at 10 μ g/mL and non-specific binding as mouse IgG1 antibody at 10 μ g/mL. % receptor binding was calculated using Equation 3.

Equation 3: Percentage of receptor binding (FACS)

[0881] Based on geometric fluorescence
 $\% \text{ of Receptor binding} = \frac{\text{sample value} - \text{non specific binding}}{\text{total binding} - \text{non specific binding}} \times 100$

[0882] Non-specific binding = No antibody, no receptor
 $\% \text{ of Receptor binding} = \frac{\text{total binding} - \text{receptor (OX40R) only binding (no inhibitor)} + \text{isotype control at } 10 \mu\text{g/mL}}{\text{total binding} - \text{non-specific control } 665/620 \text{ nm ratio}} \times 100$

Secondary Screen - HTRF Ligand/Receptor Neutralisation

[0883] To determine whether antibodies identified from primary screen neutralise OX40L binding to OX40RFC an human OX40L/human OX40R Fc binding assay was performed as described for primary screen.

[0884] Plates were left to incubate in dark for 3 hours prior to reading time resolved fluorescence at 620 nm and 665 nm emission wavelengths using an EnVision plate reader (Perkin Elmer). More details of the HTRF® assay technology can be found in Mathis (1995) Clinical Chemistry 41(9), 1391-1397. Data were analysed by calculating data F as described in Equation 4 and percentage of receptor for each sample according to Equation 5.

Equation 4: Calculation of % Data F

$$\% \text{ data F} = \frac{\text{sample } 665/620 \text{ nm value} - (\text{non-specific control } 665/620 \text{ nm ratio value})}{(\text{non-specific control } 665/620 \text{ nm ratio})} \times 100$$

Equation 5: Percentage of receptor binding (HTRF)

[0885] Based on calculation of % data F (Equation 4) or 665/620 ratio (Equation 2)

$\% \text{ of Receptor binding} = \frac{\text{sample value} - \text{non specific binding}}{\text{total binding} - \text{non specific binding}} \times 100$

Non specific binding = HMM or buffer + OX40L (no receptor)

Total binding = receptor (OX40R) and OX40L (no inhibitor)

Hit criteria selection from secondary screening:

[0886] A panel of hits were selected based on binding and neutralisation assays. Hits in CHO-S OX40L binding assay were defined by the inventors as significant binding to CHO-S OX40L cells and no binding to CHO-S cells by FACS. Hits were further defined as having the ability to significantly reduce OX40RFC binding to recombinant OX40L (HTRF) and significantly reduce OX40RFC binding to hOX40L expressed on CHO cells. Data is summarised in Table 1. Apparent affinity measurements by SPR were also considered.

Example 3

Antibody Lead Characterization

[0887] Based on the screening selected wells were expanded and murine/human chimeric antibodies purified using a standard Protein G based affinity chromatography purification (see method below). The antibodies were subjected to various assays to assess their ability to block hOX40L binding to its receptor OX40R, as well as the ability of each antibody to bind to human as well as Rhesus monkey OX40L with high apparent affinity. To decipher which antibodies were the best, selected clones were tested using OX40L/OX40R cHTRF assay and OX40L induced IL2 release from primary human T-cells.

Table 1: mAb Lead Summary

Antibody	FACS Binding	HTRF Receptor Neutralisation IC ₅₀ nM (±/ SEM)	Primary T-cell Assay IC ₅₀ nM (±/ SEM)	Apparent Affinity hOX40L (nM)	Apparent Affinity RhsOX40L (nM)
10A07 (hybridoma)	YES	+++	+++	CNROR	CNROR
10A07 (human)	YES	+++ (± 0.00)	+++ (± 0.00)	CNROR	CNROR
2D10 (hybridoma)	YES	+++ (± 0.04)	ND	CNROR	CNROR
2D10 (human)	NO	+++ 0.75nM (± 0.04)	+++ 0.81nM (± 0.06)	15.9	ND
6H04 (hybridoma)	YES	++	ND	12.2	ND
19H01 (hybridoma)	YES	++	ND	ND	ND

CNROR= Cannot resolve off-rate

IC₅₀ data represents arithmetic mean ± standard error of mean (SEM) for three independent experiments or donors

Materials and Methods:

Purification of antibodies from hybridoma supernatant:

[0888] Antibodies were purified using Protein G affinity chromatography. Antibodies were eluted from the Protein G media using IgG Elute reagent (Pierce) and the eluted antibodies were buffer swapped into PBS prior to use. Antibody purity was assessed by SDS-PAGE analysis and quantified by spectrophotometer reading at OD280 nm.

[0889] Binding of antibodies purified from hybridoma supernatant was carried out as described herein.

HTRF Ligand/Receptor Neutralisation:

[0890] The following methods were carried out with a titration of inhibitor in order to establish the clone potency as measured by IC₅₀ values in the assay. Antibody purified from hybridoma was titrated by diluting in HTRF assay buffer and 5 μ L of this titration transferred to a white 384 well low volume non-binding surface polystyrene plate (Greiner). Biotinylated OX40L was diluted in HTRF assay buffer to a working concentration of 2.4 nM and 5 μ L added. OX40RFC was then diluted to working concentration of 4.8 nM and 5 μ L added. Non-specific binding was defined by replacing OX40RFC with assay buffer or HMM. Streptavidin cryptate (Cisbio) and anti-human Fc D2 (Cisbio) were diluted in HTRF assay buffer to working concentration of 1:100 and 5 nM respectively. Plates were covered, protected from light and incubated at room temperature for 3 hrs prior to reading time resolved fluorescence at 620 nm and 665 nm emission wavelengths using an EnVision plate reader (Perkin Elmer). Data were analysed by calculating delta F as described in Equation 4 and percentage of receptor for each sample according to Equation 5 or in some cases Equation 6. IC₅₀ values were determined using GraphPad Prism software by curve fitting

using a four-parameter logistic equation (Equation 7).

Equation 6: Percentage of receptor binding (Hcgs)

Based on calculation of % Deltar (Equation 8)

$$\% \text{ of Receptor binding} = \frac{\text{sample value}}{\text{total binding}} \times 100$$

[0891] Total binding = receptor (OX40R) and OX40L (no inhibitor)

Equation 7: Four Parameter logistic calculation

$$Y = B_{bottom} + (Top-Bottom)(1+10^{(Log(C50\cdot X)+Hcgs)/4})$$

X = logarithm of concentration.

Y = specific binding (equation 6)

Top and Bottom = Plateau in same units as Y (specific binding)

Log(C50) in same units as X. Y starts at Bottom and goes to Top with a sigmoid shape. Specific binding decreases as X increases.

Profiling of fully human recombinant anti-OX40L antibodies in HTTR-L1 and Receptor Neutralisation assay

[0892] In order to determine whether recombinantly expressed fully human purified IgG inhibit human OX40L binding to OX40RFc the following method was carried out. Fully human purified IgG or other inhibitor were tested in order to establish the clone potency as measured by IgG values in the assay. Antibodies recombinantly expressed and purified were titrated by diluting in HTTR assay buffer and 5 μ L of this titration transferred to a white 384 well low volume non-binding surface polystyrene plate (Costar). Biotinylated OX40L was diluted in HTTR assay buffer to a working concentration of 2.4 nM and 5 μ L added. OX40RFc directly labelled with AF647 was then titrated to working concentration of 10 nM and 5 μ L added. Non-specific binding was defined by replacing OX40RFc-AF647 with assay buffer or HMM. Streptavidin biotinylate (CSBIO) was diluted in HTTR assay buffer to working concentration of 1:100 and 5 μ L added to all wells of the plate. Plates were covered, protected from light and incubated at room temperature for 3 hrs prior to reading time fluorescence at 620 nm and 665 nm emission wavelengths using an EnVision plate reader (Perkin Elmer). Data were analysed by calculating data F as described in Equation 4 and percentage of receptor for each sample according to Equation 5 or in some cases Equation 6. IgG values were determined using GraphPad Prism software by curve fitting using a four-parameter logistic equation (Equation 7) (Figure 1).

Determining effect of anti-OX40L antibodies on recombinant OX40L induced IL-2 release from primary isolated T cells

[0893] Recombinant human OX40L (in house) was diluted in culture media to a concentration of 400 ng/mL and 50 μ L added to a tissue culture treated 96 well plate (Costar). Anti-OX40L antibodies or appropriate species isotype control (Sigma or in house) were titrated in culture media in a 96 well plate (greiner) and then 50 μ L of titration transferred to the 96 well plate containing 50 μ L OX40L. The antibody titration was incubated for 30 minutes at room temperature with the recombinant OX40L before CD3 positive T-cells were added.

[0894] PBMCs were isolated from leukoreduction system chambers (NHSBT) using Ficoll-Paque plus (GE Healthcare) by density gradient centrifugation. CD3 positive cells (T-cells) were isolated from human PBMC by negative selection using magnetic microbeads (Miltenyi Biotec) according to manufacturer's recommendations. The isolated cells were centrifuged at 300 xg 5 min, resuspended in culture media (culture media was defined as either RPMI (Gibco) + 10% v/v FBS or RPMI + 5% v/v human AB serum) and 50 μ L of the cell suspension added to the 96 well plate containing the recombinant OX40L and antibody titration to achieve final concentration of 2 x 10⁵ cells/well.

[0895] Then 50 μ L of PHA at 5 μ g/mL was added to all wells to achieve a final assay concentration of 2 μ g/mL. The cells were incubated at 37 °C for 3 days before supernatant were harvested and analysed for IL-2 concentration. Maximal IL-2 release was defined by OX40L stimulation in the absence of inhibitor. Minimal IL-2 release was defined by culture media only (no OX40L).

[0896] IL-2 levels in supernatants were determined using human IL-2 Duet ELISA kit (R&D Systems) according to manufacturer's recommendations. IL-2 capture antibody (4 μ g/mL diluted in PBS, 50 μ L/well) was adsorbed to 96 well low auto-fluorescent, high protein binding plates (Costar) overnight at 4 °C. Excess IgG was removed by washing with PBS-Tween and the wells were blocked with 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) in PBS for 1 hour at room temperature, after which plates were washed as described previously. 50 μ L/well of conditioned culture media was then added IL-2 standards (from 200 pg/mL, 1:2 dilution) were also added to ELISA plates as an ELISA-control and the plates were incubated at room temperature for at least 1 h.

[0897] Following incubation, plates were washed as before to remove unbound proteins. Biotinylated IL-2 detection Ab (200 ng/mL in reagent diluent (0.1% BSA/PBS), 50 μ L/well) was then added to the plates and incubated at RT for 1 h. Unbound detection antibody was removed by washing with PBS-Tween (0.1% v/v), while the remaining biotinylated antibody was detected by streptavidin-Europium3-conjugate (DELFIATM detection, PerkinElmer). Time-resolved fluorescence was measured at 615 nm on an EnVision plate reader (PerkinElmer). Fluorescence data was plotted as Europium counts or concentration of IL-2 release calculated from standard curve by linear regression according to manufacturer's recommendations. IgG values were determined using GraphPad Prism software by curve fitting using a four-parameter logistic equation (Equation 7).

Surface Plasmon Resonance Analysis

[0898] SPR analysis was carried out using the ProteOn™ XPR36 Array System (BioRad). Anti-mouse IgG (GE Healthcare BR-1009-30) was immobilized on a GLM biosensor surface using amine coupling, the surface was then blocked using 1 M ethanolamine. Test antibodies were captured on this surface and recombinant hOX40L (human and rhesus) were used at a single concentration of 266 nM, binding sensorgrams were double referenced using a buffer injection (i.e. 0 nM) to remove baseline drift and injection artifacts. Apparent affinities for the OX40L antibody interaction were determined using the 1:1 model in the ProteOn XPR36 analysis software. The assay was run using HBS-EP (TetraMAX) as running buffer and carried out at 25 °C.

Example 4

Sequence Recovery of Lead Antibody Candidates

[0899] After the selection and characterization of lead candidates, their fully human variable domains were recovered using RT-PCR using a mixture of forward and reverse primers. Antibodies were reformatting into a human IgG4 backbone (IgG4-PE) and expressed using a transient expression system in CHO-S cells. A summary of all sequences is displayed in the Sequence Listing.

RNA isolation from hybridoma cells:

[0900] Total RNA was extracted from hybridoma cells using TRIzol™ Reagent (Invitrogen). The quantity and quality of the isolated RNA was analysed spectrophotometrically.

Antibody variable domain recovery by RT-PCR:

[0901] Selected clones were used for preparing total RNA, which was used in an RT-PCR reaction to recover the heavy chain V-regions. IgG specific reverse primers and Ig leader sequence specific forward primer sets or alternatively IgG specific reverse primers and Ig 5' untranslated region (UTR) sequence specific forward primer sets were used for the heavy chains. Kappa constant region specific reverse primers and kappa leader sequence specific forward primer sets or alternatively Kappa constant region specific reverse primers and kappa 5'UTR sequence specific forward primer sets were used for the kappa OX40L chains. The RT-PCR products were separated by agarose gel electrophoresis with the DNA of the predicted size being sequenced in the forward and reverse directions. Alternatively, the RT-PCR products were subcloned into a cloning vector and DNA of individual colonies submitted for sequencing.

Cloning of recombinant antibodies

[0902] DNA encoding the heavy chain variable region of mAb 1047 was cloned into a pREP4 expression plasmid (Invitrogen) in frame with the Human IgG1 constant region and DNA encoding the light chain variable region of mAb 1047 was cloned into a pREP4 expression plasmid in frame with the Human Kappa constant region using standard restriction enzyme digestion and ligation.

[0903] The heavy chain variable region coding sequences of mAbs 1047 and 2D10 in frame with the Human IgG4-PE constant region were codon optimized for mammalian expression and cloned into a pXC-18.4 expression plasmid (Lonza) and the light chain coding sequences of mAbs 1047 and 2D10 in frame with the Human Kappa constant region were codon optimized for mammalian expression and cloned into a pXC-17.4 expression plasmid (Lonza) using standard restriction enzyme digestion and ligation. For the simultaneous expression of the heavy and light chains the vectors a pXC-17.4 and a pXC-18.4 were fused into one single vector using standard restriction enzyme digestion and ligation.

[0904] All constructs were sequenced to ensure their correct sequence composition.

Transient Expression of OX40L Antibodies

[0905] Antibodies were expressed transiently to produce recombinant protein using Invitrogen's Freestyle™ CHO-S suspension adapted cell line. Plasmids were transfected into the cells using PEI (polyethylenimine MW 40000) and left to overgrow for a period of 13 days before harvesting the supernatant for purification. Cells were fed during the overgrow process with AdiCHO™ Feeds A and B from GE Healthcare to help boost productivity and promote longevity of the cells. During the overgrow process samples were taken regularly to monitor cell growth and viability.

Generation of Stable Lenza Pools

[0906] In order to produce the gram amounts required for toxicity studies, 10A7 and 2D10 OX40L antibodies were transferred to the Lenza Lx G Xcell system for stable expression. The HC and LC for each antibody was first codon optimised for expression in CHO cells by Genewiz. The HC cassette (containing the optimised IgG4-PE constant region) was then cloned into Lenza's pXC17.4 vector and LC cassette (containing the optimised kappa constant region) cloned into Lenza's pXC17.4 vector using standard restriction enzyme digestion and ligation. A double gene vector (DGV) encoding both the HC and LC sequences was then created by restriction enzyme digestion and ligation before expression.

[0907] Prior to stable pool creation, the single gene vectors encoding the HC and LC's separately as well as the DGV containing both, were expressed in the Lenza CHO1SvKO cell line transiently using PB (polyethylenimine MW 40000). Cells were left to overgrow for a period of 13 days before harvesting the supernatant for purification. During this period cells were fed with AdiCHO™ Feeds A and B from GE Healthcare to help boost productivity and promote longevity of the cells. During the overgrow process samples were taken regularly to monitor cell growth and viability. Once transient expression was confirmed and purified material analysed the antibodies were expressed as stable pools.

[0908] Stable pools were generated using Lenza's proprietary methods and media. 4 pools were created per antibody and left to recover over a period of 10-15 days. After the cells had recovered, pre-seed stocks (PSS) of cells were frozen down for later recovery and creation of MCB. Small scale (50 mL) shake flask fed batch overgrows were then set up using Lenza's proprietary media. Cells were left to overgrow for a period of 14 days. During this period cells were monitored for growth, viability and glucose levels. Cells were supplemented accordingly with Lenza's proprietary feed and 400 g/L glucose. Samples were also taken throughout the process for crude sample quantification. At the end of the overgrow process the supernatant was harvested for purification.

[0909] Stable pools were generated using Lenza's proprietary methods and media. 4 pools were created per antibody and left to recover over a period of 10-15 days. After the cells had recovered, pre-seed stocks (PSS) of cells were frozen down for later recovery and creation of MCB. Small scale (50 mL) shake flask fed batch overgrows were then set up using Lenza's proprietary media. Cells were left to overgrow for a period of 14 days. During this period cells were monitored for growth, viability and glucose levels. Cells were supplemented accordingly with Lenza's proprietary feed and 400 g/L glucose. Samples were also taken throughout the process for crude sample quantification. At the end of the overgrow process the supernatant was harvested for purification.

[0910] Whilst 2D10 and 1047 were similar in sequence, their expression profiles in the stable Lenza pools were different, 1047 expressed to very low titres, whereas 2D10 expressed at much greater titres (see Table 2) under optimal condition when using shake flasks in 4 separate generated stable pools.

Table 2 (Concentration in mg/L)								
Stable pool	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14
2D10	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122
2D10-2	245	461	665	963	1127	1485	2025	1995
2D10-3	317	528	731	1163	1367	1795	1905	1980
2D10-4	372	677	765	1286	1350	1935	1985	1900
Control Antibody 1	92	129	167	229	297	357	418	N/A
Control Antibody 1	66	95	127	161	208	238	266	N/A
Control Antibody 1	66	102	132	192	266	324	314	N/A
Control Antibody	66	129	166	245	325	410	385	N/A

[0911] After expression, the antibody to be used in the Rhesus Macaque G/Hd model was purified using a two-step purification process. The antibodies were first purified using MabSelect SuRe (GE Healthcare) affinity chromatography. Antibodies were eluted from the MabSelect SuRe media using IgG Biotin reagent (Pierce) and the eluted antibodies were dialysed in sodium acetate (pH 5.5) buffer prior to the second purification step. Antibodies were then purified by cation exchange and eluted with sodium chloride in sodium acetate buffer. Eluted antibodies were dialysed in PBS. Antibodies were quantified by spectrophotometer reading at OD280nm and adjusted to the desired concentration (10 mg/ml). Antibody purity was assessed by SDS-PAGE analysis and size exclusion chromatography. Endotoxin concentration was measured with Endosafe PTS and LAL Test Cartridges (Charles River Laboratories).

Example 5

Determining effect of anti-OX40L antibodies in allogeneic PRMC Mixed Lymphocyte Reaction

[0912] PBMCs are isolated from leukoreduction system chambers (NHSBT) using Ficoll-Paque plus (GE Healthcare) density gradient centrifugation. PBMC are pre-incubated with mitomycin C (Sigma) at 10 µg/mL in PBS for one hour at 37 °C. Cells are then washed 3 times in PBS centrifuging at 300 xg for 3 minutes, aspirating the supernatant after each wash. Allogeneic PBMC (not treated with mitomycin C) are added to a 96-well plate in RPMI supplemented with 10%v/v FBS at a concentration of 2-10x10⁴/well. 50 µL/well Anti-OX40L antibodies are diluted in culture media and added to 96-well plate containing PBMC (not mitomycin C treated) at 50 µL/well. Mitomycin C treated PBMC are then added to allogeneic PBMC (not treated with mitomycin C) in 96-well plate at a final cell ratio in range of 1.1 to 4.1 mitomycin C treated to non mitomycin C based on number of cells/well. The cells are incubated for five days at 37 °C/5% CO₂. After five days TNF- α , IFN- γ , and IL-2 are measured by duoset ELISA (R&D Systems) according to manufacturer's recommendations. Proliferation is measured by CFSE dilution according to manufacturer's recommendations.

[0913] PBMCs were isolated from leukoreduction system chambers (NHSBT) using Ficoll-Paque plus (GE Healthcare) density gradient centrifugation. PBMC were pre-incubated with mitomycin C (Sigma) at 10 µg/mL in PBS for one hour at 37 °C. Cells were then washed 3 times in PBS centrifuging at 300 xg for 3 minutes, aspirating the supernatant after each wash. T-lymphocytes (T-cells) in some cases CD3 positive and in other cases CD4 and CD8 positive were isolated from allogeneic PBMC by negative selection using magnetic microbeads (Miltenyi Biotec) according to manufacturer's recommendations. In some cases, non-mitomycin C treated PBMC were used instead of T-cells. The isolated cells were centrifuged at 300 xg/5 min, resuspended in culture media (culture media was defined as either RPM (Gibco) +10%v/v FBS or RPM +5%v/v human AB serum) and 50 µL of the cell suspension added to the 96-well plate containing the recombinant OX40L, and antibody titration to a achieve final concentration of 2x10⁵ cells/well. Anti-OX40L antibodies were diluted in culture media to a final assay concentration 100nM or in some cases a titration of antibody was used. The antibodies were added to 96-well plate containing T-cells or non-mitomycin C treated PBMC at 50 µL/well. Mitomycin C treated PBMC in 96-well plate at a final cell ratio in range of 1.1 to 4.1 mitomycin C treated PBMC to T-cells (or PBMC) based on number of cells/well. The cells were incubated for five days at 37 °C/5% CO₂. After five days, IFN- γ was measured by duoset ELISA (R&D Systems) according to manufacturer's recommendations.

[0914] Anti-OX40L antibodies were defined as inhibitors in allogeneic PBMC/T cell MLR or PBMC/PBMC MLR when >20% inhibition (see Equation 8) of factor release (IFN- γ) or were observed relative to control wells in the absence of antibody. From four experiments performed, one experiment was a technical failure, defined as no MLR response (IFN- γ release) detected between allogeneic donors. Of the three remaining experiments, all three showed inhibition (>20% inhibition of factor release (IFN- γ) observed relative to control wells in the absence of antibody) with 10A07, 10A07 and positive control 1, however in one of three experiments, significant inhibition was also observed with the isotype control antibody (Figure 2). For PBMC/PBMC MLR, three experiments were performed. Of three experiments, two were regarded as technical failure as there was no or low IFN- γ release. However, in another experiment 10A07 inhibited IFN- γ release when compared to the isotype control.

Equation 8: Percentage inhibition (MLR)

[0915] Based on values from IFN- γ or IL-2 release (pg/ml) determined as described
 % inhibition = 100 - $\frac{\text{sample value} - \text{no stimulus}}{\text{No IgG} - \text{no stimulus}} \times 100$

No Stimulus = wells where only T-cells or non-mitomycin C treated PBMC are added (no mitomycin C treated PBMC)

No IgG = wells where T-cells or in some cases non-mitomycin C treated PBMC along with mitomycin C treated PBMC are added but no IgG

Example 6

Determining effect of anti-OX40L antibodies on CD3 primed primary human T lymphocytes

[0916] In order to determine whether anti-OX40L had the ability to induce T-cell responses in the absence of OX40L, the assay below was performed using method adapted from Wang et al., Hybridoma (Larchmt), 2009 Aug; 28(4):269-76, in which an agonist anti-OX40L antibody was described.

[0917] A mouse anti-human CD3 antibody (Becton Dickinson) was diluted to 0.5 µg/mL in sterile PBS and 50 µL/well added to a 96 well high binding sterile plate and incubated overnight at 4 °C.

[0918] Following overnight incubation, the plate was washed three times with 100 µL of sterile PBS.

[0919] T-cells (CD3 positive) were isolated from PBMC derived from leukoreduction system chambers (NHSBT) as described in Example 3. Following isolation, the cells were added to wells in 100 µL to achieve a final concentration of 1x10⁵ cells/well.

[0920] Test antibodies were diluted in RPMI+10% FBS and 50 µL or 100 µL/well added to cell plate to achieve a final assay concentration of 10 µg/mL. In some cases, a mouse anti-human CD28 antibody (Becton Dickinson) was also added to wells at a final concentration of 1 µg/ml.

[0921] The assay was incubated for 5 days. After 5 days, harvest supernatants and IFN- γ levels in supernatant were determined as described in Example 5.

[0922] The assay was performed in four independent donors and no effect of adding 10A07 or 2D10 in IgG4PE format was observed (IFN- γ release) over that observed with human IgG4PE isotype control.

Example 7

Rhesus Macaque Graft versus Host Disease (GvHD) Model

[0923] The effectiveness of antibody 2D10 IgG4PE as a monotherapy prophylactic for the prevention of GvHD was examined in a Rhesus Macaque model of haploidentical hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT). It had been previously described that monkeys undergoing HSCT in this model had a survival time of 6-8 days (Miller, Weston P, et al. "GvHD after haploidentical transplantation: a novel, MHC-defined rhesus macaque model identifies CD28+ CD8+ T-cells as a reservoir of breakthrough T-cell proliferation during costimulation blockade and sirolimus-based immunosuppression." Blood, 115, 24(2010)5403-5418.)

[0924] All transplants were between half-sibling pairs that are mismatched at one MHC haplotype ("haploidentical HCTs"). Recipient animals had irradiation based pre-myeloablative pre-transplant conditioning using a linear accelerator. Dose rate: 7Gy/min. Dose 1020 cGy given in 4 fractions. The leukapheresis donor animal underwent GCSF mobilisation and underwent leukapheresis using a Spectra Optia apheresis machine. The table below gives the dose per kg of total nucleated cells (TNC) dose of CD3⁺ cells, and CD34⁺ cells for the four successful experiments.

Recipient ID#	Animal No.	Recipient Bodyweight (kg)	TNC (10 ⁹ /kg)	CD3 ⁺ T-cells 10 ⁶ /kg	CD34 ⁺ cells 10 ⁴ /kg
A14029	92	9.75	1.73	1149.76	10.51
A14081	94	7.02	2.89	389.08	17.79
A14082	95	7.6	2.24	312.95	27.69
A14087	96	5.75	3.44	395.66	19.98

[0925] 2D10 IgG4PE was dosed at 10 mg/kg iv, according to a planned dosing schedule to take place on Day-2, Day+5, Day+12, Day+19, Day+26, Day+33, Day+40, Day+47 post-transplant. No serious adverse side effects were seen with any of the animals as a result of administering 2D10 IgG4PE.

[0926] Samples were taken during the course of the study to monitor donor chimerism (Table 4) and white blood cell counts. The primary end point was based on survival, with a survival to 15 days deemed to be a sign of successful prophylactic therapy (and compared to the documented survival of 6-8 days with no prophylaxis; Miller et al. 2010, supra). Though full pathology and histology with GvHD grading scores, markers of T-cell proliferation and activation (such as Ki-67 and granzyme B) and gene array analysis are planned, they were not available for inclusion at the time of drafting.

[0927] Methods for these studies are essentially as described in Miller MP et al., (2010) "GvHD after haploidentical transplantation: a novel, MHC-defined rhesus macaque model identifies CD28+ CD8+ T cells as a reservoir of breakthrough T-cell proliferation during costimulation blockade and sirolimus-based immunosuppression." Blood 116:403-518.

Clinical staging of GvHD

[0928] Scoring of clinical symptoms was based on observational assessments and clinical chemistry, classified according to the criteria set out in Table 5.

Histopathology

[0929] Tissues, including lung, liver, skin and gastrointestinal tract were collected at necropsy and fixed in formalin and paraffin-embedded. Sections were cut, slide-mounted and stained with haematoxylin/eosin or with T cell markers for visualisation of tissue infiltration by lymphocytes. Prepared slides are read by a histopathologist with specific expertise in GvHD using a semi quantitative scoring system.

Flow cytometry

[0930] Longitudinal peripheral blood samples were collected before and after haematopoietic stem cell transplant and at necropsy for flow cytometric analysis of lymphocyte subsets. Lung, liver, colon, spleen and lymph node (axillary and inguinal) tissues were collected at necropsy and dissociated or enzymatically digested as appropriate for subsequent analysis of lymphocyte infiltrate by flow cytometry. Samples were analysed by multicolour flow cytometry using a LSRII Fortessa cell analyser (BD Biosciences) using the following T-lymphocyte marker probes: CD3 (APC-Cy7 label, clone SP23-2, BD Biosciences), CD4 (BV786 label, clone L200, BD Biosciences), CD8 (BV495 label, clone RPA-T8, BD Biosciences), CD28 (BV655 label, clone DX2, Biologen). Proliferating cell populations were identified using Ki-67 (PE-Cy7 label, Dako). CD4+ or CD8+ T-cell subcompartments were labelled as follows: naïve T-cells (CD28⁺CD95⁺), central memory T-cells (CD28⁺CD95⁺), effector memory T-cells (CD28⁺CD95⁺).

[0931] Blood was collected into tubes with Sodium EDTA, and then red blood cells were lysed with lysis buffer containing ammonium chloride. Remaining leukocytes were washed with FACS buffer (PBS with 2% FBS) and stained with antibody cocktail (Table 7) for 30 minutes at 4 °C. After staining, cells were washed and fixed in 1x BD Staining Fixative. Acquisition of flow data was performed on BD LSR Fortessa cytometer. Data were analyzed using FlowJo. T-cells were defined as CD3+CD14+CD20-lymphocytes.

Antibody	Fluorochrom e	Clone	Company
CD3	APC-CY7	SP34-2	BD Biosciences
	BV786	L200	BD Biosciences
CD4	BV786	RPA-T8	BD Biosciences
CD14	PE-CY7	M5E2	BD Biosciences
CD20	PE-CY7	2H7	eBioscience
CD28	PE-CY7	CD28-2	eBioscience
CD45RA	APC	2H4/1D11/1D8/9	BD Biosciences
CD95	BV655	DX2	Biologen
CCR7 (CD197)	BV421	G043H7	Biologen
OX40 (CD134)	PE	L108	BD Biosciences

Results:

1: Expansion of memory stem T-cells after transplantation

[0932] In a non-human primate model of acute Graft-versus-Host disease (GvHD), allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) results in early expansion of both CD4 and CD8 memory stem T-cells (Tscm: CD45RA⁺CCR7⁺CD95⁺) at the expense of reconstitution of bona fide naïve T-cells (Tn: CD45RA⁺CCR7⁺CD95⁻) (Fig 3). These Tscm cells circulate in the blood, and also reside in both lymphoid (lymph nodes, spleen) and non-lymphoid organs (lung, liver and colon).

2: 2D10 IgG4PE limits expansion of Tscm

[0933] Treatment with the blocking anti-OX40L antibody, 2D10 IgG4PE, results in prolonged survival of animals after allogeneic HCT and reduces clinical symptoms of acute GvHD. This delay in GvHD progression was associated with limited CD4+ Tscm expansion and preservation of CD4+ Tn cells (Fig 4).

3: CD4 Tscm cells express OX40 on their surface

[0934] As shown in Figure 5, CD4+ Tscm express OX40 on their surface, but naïve T-cells do not. Moreover, the level of OX40 expression was comparable between CD4+ Tscm and central memory cells (Tcm). Importantly, OX40 expression was detected on CD4+ Tscm cells broadly. They are detected in naïve monkeys before transplantation (both in blood and lymphoid organs), as well as in leukapheresis products. This expression is also seen in allogeneic HCT recipients longitudinally after transplantation.

4: Comparative Analysis of Tscm in 2D10 IgG4PE treated animals compared to standard GvHD therapies

[0935] The proportion of post-HCT Tscm cells evident in the peripheral blood of rhesus monkeys that received 2D10 IgG4PE were compared with Tscm from separate groups of animals administered either sirolimus (rapamycin) or a combination of tacrolimus plus methotrexate (Tac/MTX). The results for CD4+ Tscm cells are shown in Figure 6a, and the results for CD8+ Tscm cells are shown in Figure 6b. Data indicate that treatment with anti-OX40L antibody 2D10 IgG4PE results in a sustained inhibition of the proportion of Tscm cells compared with the sirolimus and Tac/MTX treatment.

Conclusions:

[0936] An OK40-expressing subset of Tscm might be sensitive to 2010 IgG4-mediated OK40L-blockade. This blockade may control Tscm expansion and therefore limit the progression of acute GVHD. The OK40 pathway is a potentially novel mechanism of Tscm regulation, which can be used in clinical practice to treat immune-mediated diseases or improve the outcome of adoptive immunotherapy.

Chimerism

[0937] Peripheral blood or T cell (CD4+CD25hi) chimerism was determined using divergent donor- and recipient-specific MHC-linked microsatellite markers, by comparing peak heights of the donor- and recipient-specific amplicons (Paredo MC et al. (2005) "Microsatellite typing of the rhesus macaque MHC in unengrafted blood" 57:198-209).

Stage	Skin	Liver (Bilirubin)	GI
0	No GVHD rash	< 4-fold increase over baseline	No diarrhea
1	Rash <25% of surface area	4- to 8-fold increase	"Mild" diarrhea
2	Rash 25-50% of surface area	8- to 16-fold increase	"Moderate" diarrhea
3	Rash >50% of surface area	20- to 50-fold increase	"Severe" diarrhea
4	Generalized erythroderma with bullous formation	> 50-fold increase	"Very severe" diarrhea

[0939] A total of six animals were selected to receive HCT. Of these 6 animals, two of the experiments were deemed a technical failure, one animal experienced viral reactivation which may have hampered engraftment and I was seen that donor chimerism initially climbed but then dropped, indicating that second reconstitution was a autologous repopulation. A single high cytomegalovirus (CMV) and *Rhesus macaque Lymphoprototype* (hLCLV) reading was seen at the same time as the drop in chimerism and autologous repopulation. The second technical failure was the result of failure of the apheresis machine to produce a suitable product for transplantation. Since the recipient animal had already been irradiated, it had to be sacrificed. The four other animals all survived to the primary endpoint of 15 days, exhibiting extended survival compared to both historical and contemporaneous no-preyphaxis controls. Table 6 below outlines the summary of each animal in this study.

Example 8

Pharmacokinetics

[0939] *Rhesus macaques were dosed with 10 mg/kg of 2010 or appropriate non-functional isotype control antibody on Day 0. Samples were taken, after +15 minutes, +1 hour, +8 hours, +24-36 hours, +72 hours, +96 hours, +Day 8, +Day 11, +Day 15, +Day 18, +Day 22, +Day 25. On Day 29, animals were dosed with 3 mg/kg of 2010 or appropriate non-functional isotype control antibody. Samples were taken on Day 29 after +15 minutes, +1 hour, +8 hours and then 24-36 hours after Day 29. Samples continued to be taken on +Day 32, +Day 33, +Day 36, +Day 39, +Day 43, +Day 46, +Day 50, +Day 53, +Day 57, +Day 60, +Day 64, +Day 67 and +Day 71.*

[0940] To determine the PK, anti-human IgG is diluted to 8 μ g/mL in PBS and is adsorbed to 96 well low auto-fluorescent, high protein binding plates (Costar) overnight at 4 °C. Excess IgG is removed by washing with PBS-Tween and wells are blocked with 5% w/v non-fat dried milk (blocking buffer) for 1 hour at room temperature. Following incubation period, plates are washed. Plasma samples are plated in duplicates (block buffer (multiple dilutions). A standard curve is also generated using a titration of positive control anti- α OX40L antibody diluted in blocking buffer from 10 μ g/mL (1 in 3 dilution). Either titer or plasma sample are added to plate and incubated for 1 h at room temperature. Plates are then washed and biotinylated human OX40 is diluted to 500 ng/mL in blocking buffer added for 1 hour at room temperature. Plates are then washed and streptavidin-Europium-conjugate (Delphia® detection, PerkinElmer) diluted in DELPhia assay buffer (PerkinElmer) is added. Plates are then washed 3 times in Tris Buffer Saline +0.1% v/v. Then, DELPhia enhancement solution (PerkinElmer) is added to the plate and time-resolved fluorescence is measured at 615 nm on an EnVision plate reader (PerkinElmer). The concentration of anti- α OX40L antibody in the sample is calculated by extrapolating fluorescence values from sample wells to those obtained from the standard curve generated from the titration of the positive control anti- α OX40L antibody using a four parameter logistic curve fitting algorithm.

Example 9

Rhesus Macaque (GvHD) Model: effect of combined prophylaxis with 2D10 IgG4 PE plus rapamycin

[0941] A further rhesus macaque GrHV study was conducted to determine the effect of combined post-HSCT prophylaxis with 2D10 IgG4PE and rapamycin. The study was performed as described in Example 7, with dosing as follows: 2010 IgG4PE was administered i.v. at 10mg/kg on Day -2, Day +5, Day +12, Day +19, Day +26, Day +33, Day +40, Day +47 and Day +56 post-transplant. Rapamycin was administered at a loading dose of 0.1mg/kg i.m. on Day -14, followed by daily i.m. maintenance doses of 0.025 mg/kg until the scheduled termination of the study at Day +100. Rapamycin dosing was adjusted to maintain serum trough levels within the range 0.5-15nmol/L.

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[9942] Post-HSCT administration of 2010 IgG4PE together with rapamycin resulted in extended GvHD-free and absolute survival (median survival time, MST > 82 days; n=3) compared to historical control animals that did not receive post-HSCT experimental treatment (MST=6 days; n=4; Furian et al, Science Translational Medicine, 2010; 2(15), 31ra189). The benefit of combined 2010 IgG4PE plus rapamycin dosing appeared also to be greater than the additive effect of each molecule when administered alone (Figure 7: MST for post-HSCT 2010 IgG4PE and rapamycin was 19 and 17 days, respectively, both p < 0.01). It should also be noted that the Furian et al study used a 10 day course of tacrolimus plus methotrexate of 40 mg/kg. It is expected that a combination of tacrolimus plus methotrexane and an anti-OK40 antibody (such as 2010) would result in a much more rapid and effective reduction in this first-line therapy.

Animal No.	Animal ID	Survival Duration (days)	Whole Blood Chimerism (%)														
			Day 0	Day 1	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 11	Day 12	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16	Day 18	Day 20	Day 23
#1	13189	(24)	0	6.6	27.2	80.4	81.6	86.2	79.9								
#2	14079	16	0	5.7	31.7		66.3		82.3								
#3	14075	(0)															
#4	14081	26		22.9	68.2		82.9		92.1		97.5		98.4		98.8		98.7
#5	14082	22			81.4		98.4		98.6		99.1		99.2		99.6		
#6	14087	16	10.6	66.3		97.4		99.5		99.4							

[0943] Data in brackets indicates experimental failure due to infection (animal 1) or technical failure (animal 3)

Animal	2D10 IgG4PE Rhesus GVHD Study	
	Details	
#1	Survival to day 24. Received 4 doses of 2D10 IgG4PE. Bighash hematopoietic reconstitution, peripheral blood chimerism data indicated initial donor engraftment followed by sublogistic repopulation concurrent with evidence of CMV and rNLV infection. Viral infection considered possible cause of graft failure. Recorded as Technical Failure.	
#2	Survival to Day 16. Received 3 doses of 2D10 IgG4PE. Peak peripheral blood donor chimerism of 88% at Day 15. No evidence of CMV or rNLV infection. Study terminated on veterinary advice due to wound at catheter site (not deemed to be treatment or GVHD related). GVHD staging at necropsy: skin (1 rash < 25%) liver (0 no infiltrate); (0) no diarrhoea.	
#3	(Recorded as Technical Failure. Apheresis equipment failure resulted in drastically suboptimal donor blood product.	
#4	Survived to Day 26. Received 4 doses of 2D10 IgG4PE. Clear hematopoietic reconstitution with peak peripheral blood donor chimerism of 99% by Day 23. No evidence of CMV or rNLV infection. Study terminated on veterinary advice due to scrotal ulceration.	
#5	Survived to Day 22. Received 4 doses of 2D10 IgG4PE. Clear hematopoietic reconstitution with peak peripheral blood donor chimerism of 80% by Day 12. No evidence of CMV or rNLV infection. Study terminated due to persistent low platelet count with high bleeding risk and developing signs of acute systemic GVHD. GVHD staging at necropsy: skin (3 rash >50%), liver (1 (4x) infiltrate elevation); (3) (severe) diarrhoea.	
#6	Survived to Day 22. Received 4 doses of 2D10 IgG4PE. Clear hematopoietic reconstitution with peak peripheral blood donor chimerism of 80% by Day 12. No evidence of CMV or rNLV infection. GVHD staging at necropsy: skin (7 rash 75-100%), liver (1 (4x) infiltrate elevation); (3) (severe) diarrhoea.	

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SEQ ID NO:			
140		Cx Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	RTVAAPSVTTPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
141	Human CK constant region	IGKC 1*04	Cx Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
142		Cx Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	RTVAAPSVTTPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
143	Human CK constant region	IGKC 1*05	Cx Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
144		Cx Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	RTVAAPSVTTPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
145	Human CX constant region	IGCA 1*01	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
146		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	PKAKPHTLTPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
147	Human CX constant region	IGCA 1*02	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
148		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
149	Human CX constant region	IGCA 2*01	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence - Version A
150		CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence - Version B	
151		CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence - Version C	
152		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence - Encoded by Version A, B & C	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
153	Human CX constant region	IGCA 2*02	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
154		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
155	Human CX constant region	IGCA 3*01	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
156		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
157	Human CX constant region	IGCA 3*02	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
158		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
159	Human CX constant region	IGCA 3*03	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
160		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
161	Human CX constant region	IGCA 3*04	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
162		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
163	Human CX constant region	IGCA 8*01	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
164		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
165	Human CX constant region	IGCA 7*02	CA Light Chain Constant Region Nucleotide Sequence
166		CA Light Chain Constant Region Amino Acid Sequence	QPKAMPVITLPPPSSEELQANKATLCLSDPYGAVTVAWAKADSPVKAQEVTTPSQKQINWYAAASSLTLTPEWISHSHS/9QVTHEGSTVTKYVAPTECS
167	Recombinant Human OX40L (Leader sequence, Isoleucine Zipper and FLAG Sequence included)		Nucleotide Sequence
168			Amino Acid Sequence

SEG ID NO:	CDR	AMINO ACID SEQUENCE
225	γ heavy chain variable region of LC 033	Amino acid sequence of γ heavy chain variable region of LC 033 (Seq ID No: 12 in V02/00/0/29879)
226	α heavy chain variable region of LC 033	EVOLLEGGGLVPGGSLRLCSAASCFTTNSVAMSARVQAPQKGKLEWISLSGS GGFTTYADSGKGRFTTRDNRKTLQHNSLRAEDTAYVYCKRVLVAPGTFDTP WGGCATVYNS
227	γ heavy chain variable region of LC 059	Amino acid sequence of γ heavy chain variable region of LC 059 (Seq ID No: 17 in V02/00/0/29879)
228	κ light chain variable region of LC 060	Amino acid sequence of κ light chain variable region of LC 060 (Seq ID No: 18 in V02/00/0/29879)
229	γ heavy chain variable region of LC 060	ATGCTTGTSSPLSASVGVRYTTTASQGSSALAWQKQPG4PFLVHQSLES GVPPRPSGSQSGTDFLTLSLQDPEATYCYCQFNSWTRGQATVKEK
230	γ heavy chain variable region of LC 063	Amino acid sequence of γ heavy chain variable region of LC 063 (Seq ID No: 19 in V02/00/0/29879)
231	βE12 light chain variable region	Amino acid sequence of βE12 light chain variable region (Seq ID No: 13 in U\$7,812,133)
232	βE12 heavy chain variable region	Amino acid sequence of βE12 heavy chain variable region (Seq ID No: 14 in U\$7,812,133)
233	13G5 light chain variable region	Amino acid sequence of 13G5 light chain variable region (Seq ID No: 15 in U\$7,812,133)
234	13G5 heavy chain variable region	Amino acid sequence of 13G5 heavy chain variable region (Seq ID No: 16 in U\$7,812,133)

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Patentkrav

1. Kombination, som omfatter et antistof eller et fragment deraf, der binder specifikt til hOX40L, hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet omfatter et V_H -domæne, der omfatter en aminosyresekvens ifølge SEQ ID NO: 34; og et V_L -domæne, der omfatter en aminosyresekvens ifølge SEQ ID NO: 48, hvor antistoffet er et IgG4-antistof,
5 og et yderligere terapeutisk middel, der er valgt uafhængigt fra gruppen, der består af rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, ciclosporin, kortikosteroide (f.eks. methylprednisolon), basilixumab og daclizumab.
- 10 2. Kombination ifølge krav 1, hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet omfatter første og anden kopier af V_H -domænet, og/eller hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet omfatter første og anden kopier af V_L -domænet.
- 15 3. Kombination ifølge krav 1 eller 2, hvor
 - 20 (a) antistoffet eller fragmentet omfatter en kappa-let kæde; og/eller
 - (b) den lette kæde omfatter en konstant region fra gnaver, rotte, mus, menneske, kanin, kylling, kamel, får, okse, ikke-human primate eller haj; og/eller
 - 25 (c) antistoffet eller fragmentet yderligere omfatter humane eller humaniserede konstante regioner af let kæde, f.eks. human CL; og/eller
 - (d) antistoffet eller fragmentet omfatter en kappa-let kæde, der omfatter en konstant region valgt fra gruppen, der består af aminosyresekvenserne for konstant region af kappa-let kæde ifølge SEQ ID NO: 136, 138, 140, 142 og 144; og/eller
 - 30 (e) antistoffet er et fuldstændigt humant antistof; og/eller
 - (f) antistoffet omfatter en human gamma 4-konstant region, eventuelt en konstant region af tung kæde ifølge SEQ ID NO: 128.
- 35 4. Kombination ifølge et hvilket som helst af ovennævnte krav, hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet omfatter en tung kæde, der omfatter en aminosyresekvens, der består af sekvensen ifølge SEQ

ID No: 62, og en let kæde, der omfatter en aminosyresekvens, der består af sekvensen ifølge SEQ ID NO: 64.

5. Kombination ifølge et hvilket som helst af ovennævnte krav, der er formuleret til parenteral administration valgt blandt intravenøs eller subkutan administration.

6. Kit, som omfatter:

(i) et antistof eller et fragment deraf ifølge et hvilket som helst af ovennævnte krav; og
(ii) et yderligere terapeutisk middel, der er valgt uafhængigt fra gruppen, der består af rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, ciclosporin, kortikosteroider (f.eks. methylprednisolon), basilixumab og daclizumab.

15 7. Kit ifølge krav 6, hvor kittet omfatter en etiket eller en vejledning, hvor etiketten eller vejledningen er til anvendelse til behandling og/eller forbyggelse af en hOX40L-medieret tilstand eller sygdom valgt blandt en autoimmunsygdom eller -tilstand, en systemisk inflammatorionsygdom eller -tilstand eller transplantatafstødning; for eksempel inflammatorisk tarmsygdom (IBD), Crohns sygdom, rheumatoïd arthritis, allogen transplantatafstødning, *graft-versus-host-sygdom* (GvHD), ulcerativ colitis, systemisk lupus erythematosus (SLE), diabetes, uveitis, ankyloserende spondylitis, kontaktoverfølsomhed, multipel sklerose og aterosklerose, især GvHD, eventuelt hvor etiketten eller vejledningen omfatter et markedsføringstilladelsesnummer (f.eks. et FDA- eller EMA-tilladelsesnummer).

35 8. Kit ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 6 eller 7, som omfatter en i.v.- eller injektionsanordning, der omfatter antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf.

9. Kombination ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 5 til anvendelse til behandling og/eller forebyggelse af en hOX40L-medieret sygdom valgt blandt en autoimmunsygdom, en

systemisk inflammationssygdom eller transplantatafstødning.

10. Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 5 til anvendelse til behandling eller 5 forebyggelse af en hOX40L-medieret sygdom valgt blandt en autoimmunsygdom, en systemisk inflammationssygdom eller transplantatafstødning hos et individ, hvor individet også får administreret et yderligere terapeutisk middel, der er valgt uafhængigt fra gruppen, der består af 10 rapamycin (sirolimus), tacrolimus, ciclosporin, kortikosteroider (f.eks. methylprednisolon), basilixumab og daclizumab.

11. Kombination til anvendelse ifølge krav 9 eller antistof 15 eller fragment til anvendelse ifølge krav 10, hvor den hOX40L-medierede sygdom er valgt blandt inflammatorisk tarmsygdom (IBD), Crohns sygdom, rheumatoid arthritis, allogen transplantatafstødning, *graft-versus-host-sygdom* (GvHD), ulcerativ colitis, systemisk lupus erythematosus (SLE), 20 diabetes, uveitis, ankyloserende spondylitis, kontaktoverfølsomhed, multipel sklerose og aterosklerose.

12. Kombination til anvendelse ifølge krav 9 eller antistof eller fragment til anvendelse ifølge krav 10, hvor den hOX40L- 25 medierede sygdom er dermatitis.

13. Kombination til anvendelse ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 9, 11 og 12 eller antistof eller fragment til anvendelse ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 10 til 12, hvor 30 antistoffet eller fragmentet administreres parenteralt, for eksempel ved intravenøs eller subkutan administration.

14. Kombination ifølge et hvilket som helst af kravene 1 til 5 til anvendelse til terapi.

DRAWINGS

Figure 1

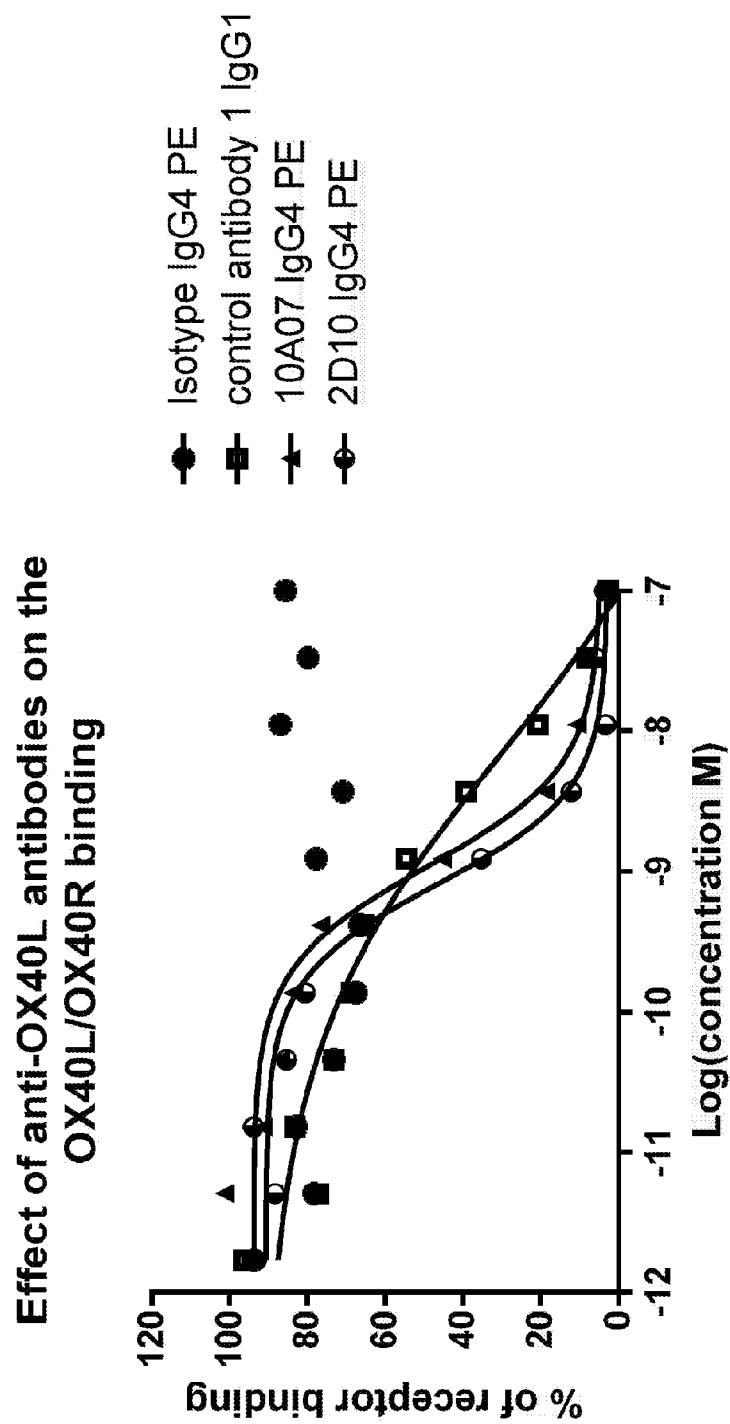
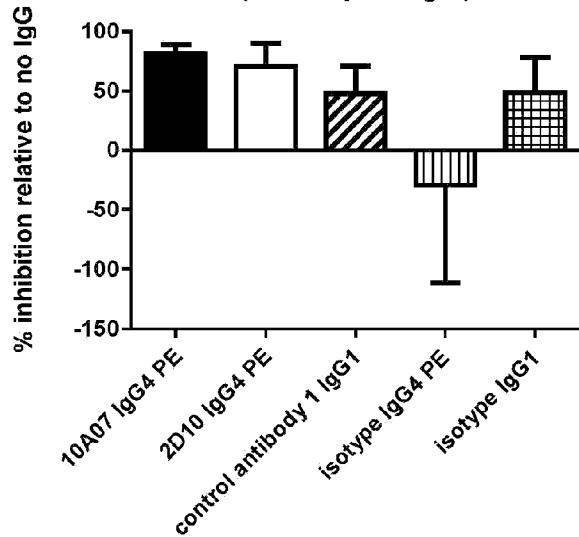


Figure 2

Effect of anti-OX40L Antibodies in PBMC/T MLR
Percentage Inhibition Relative to no IgG wells
(Donor pairing 1)



Effect of anti-OX40L Antibodies in PBMC/T MLR
Percentage Inhibition Relative to no IgG wells
(Donor pairing 2)

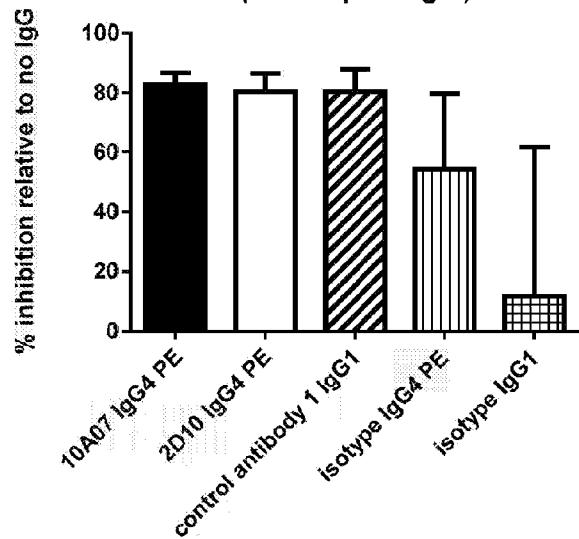
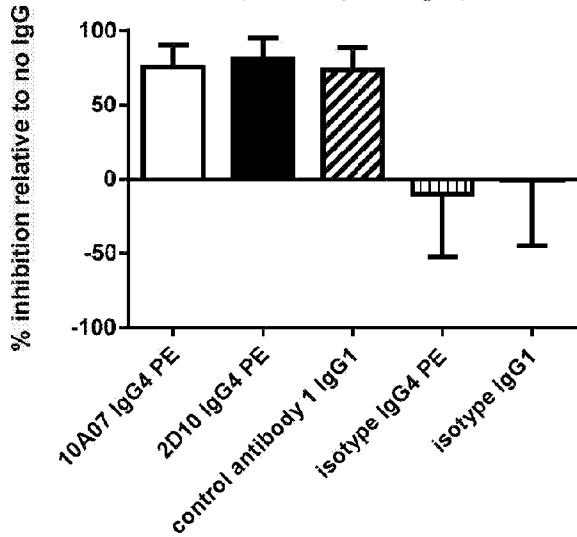


Figure 2 continued

Effect of anti-OX40L Antibodies in PBMC/T MLR
Percentage Inhibition Relative to no IgG wells
(Donor pairing 3)



Effect of anti-OX40L Antibodies in PBMC/T MLR
IFN gamma Relative to no IgG wells
(Donor pairing 1)

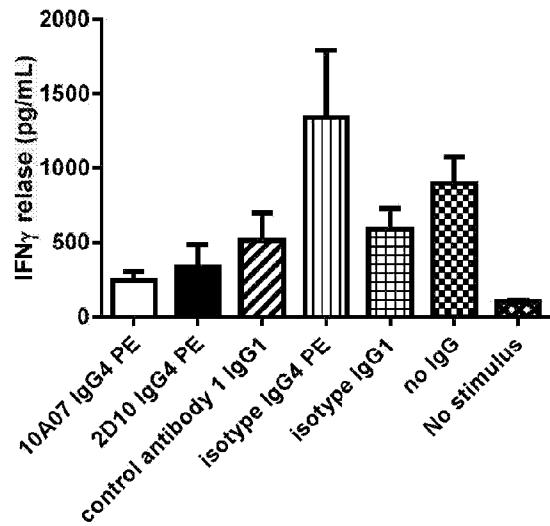
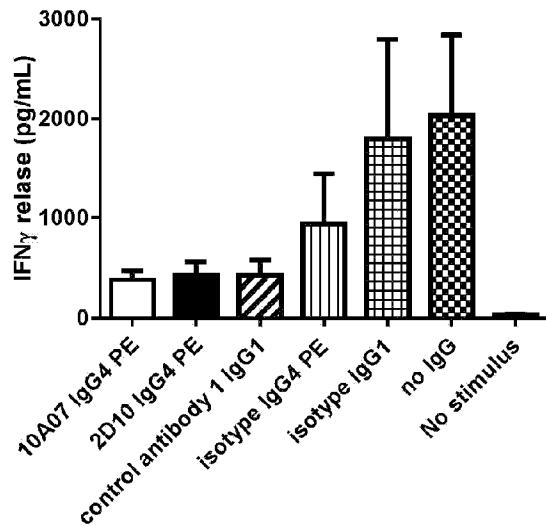


Figure 2 continued

Effect of anti-OX40L Antibodies in PBMC/T MLR
IFN gamma Relative to no IgG wells
(Donor pairing 2)



Effect of anti-OX40L Antibodies in PBMC/T MLR
IFN gamma Relative to no IgG wells
(Donor pairing 3)

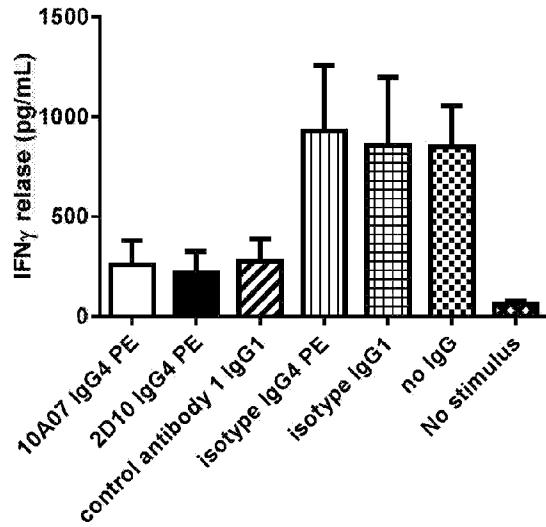


Figure 3

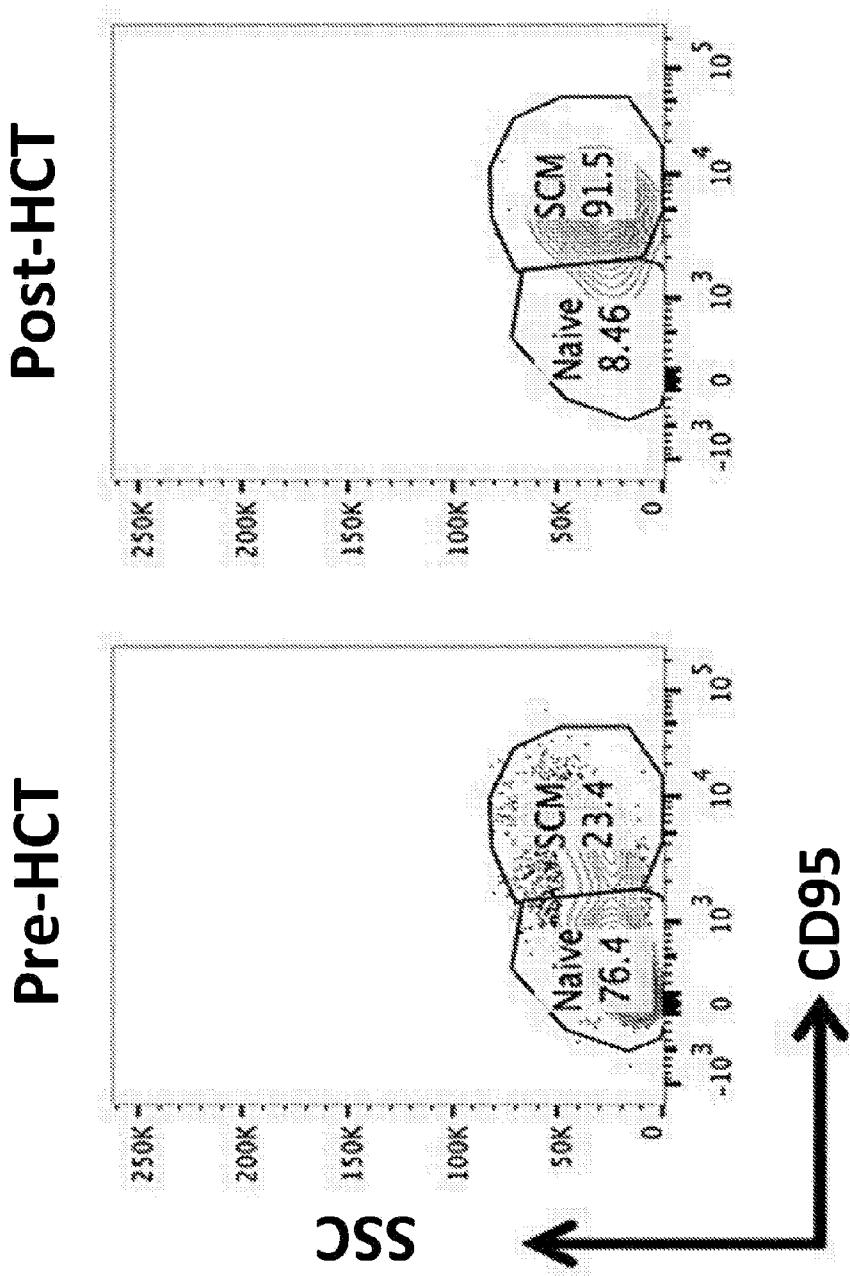


Figure 4

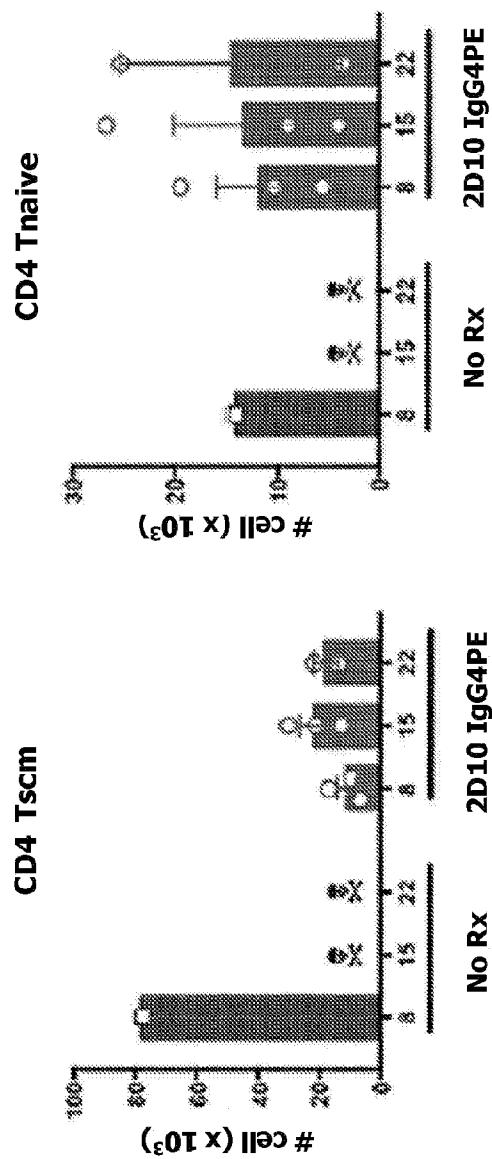


Figure 5

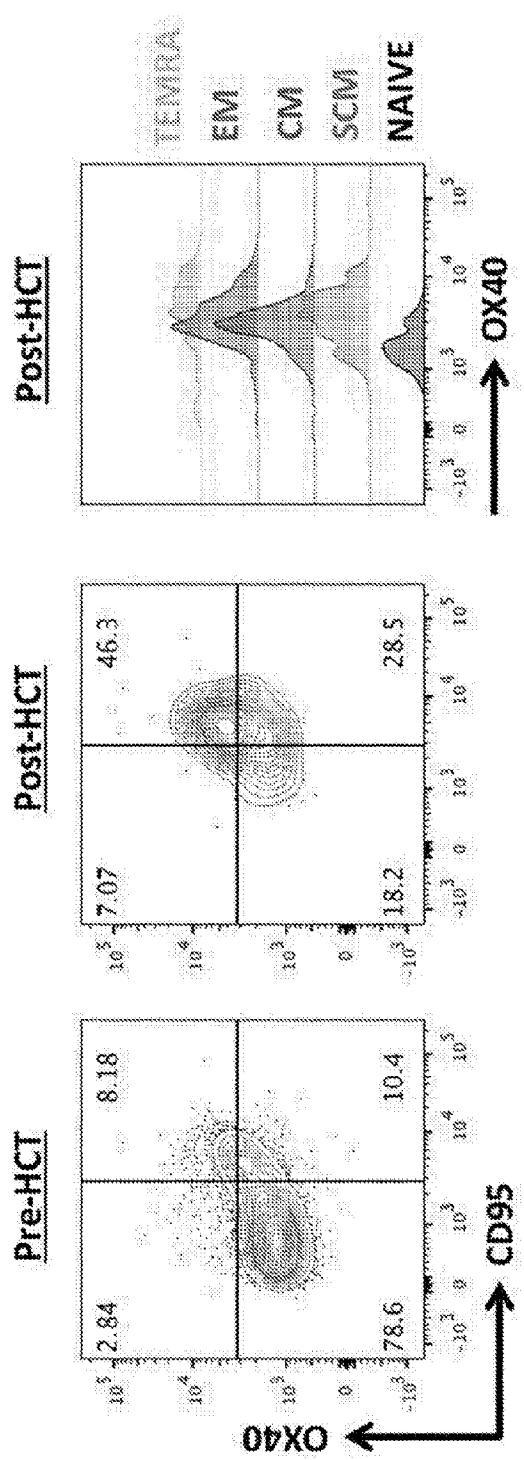


Figure 6a

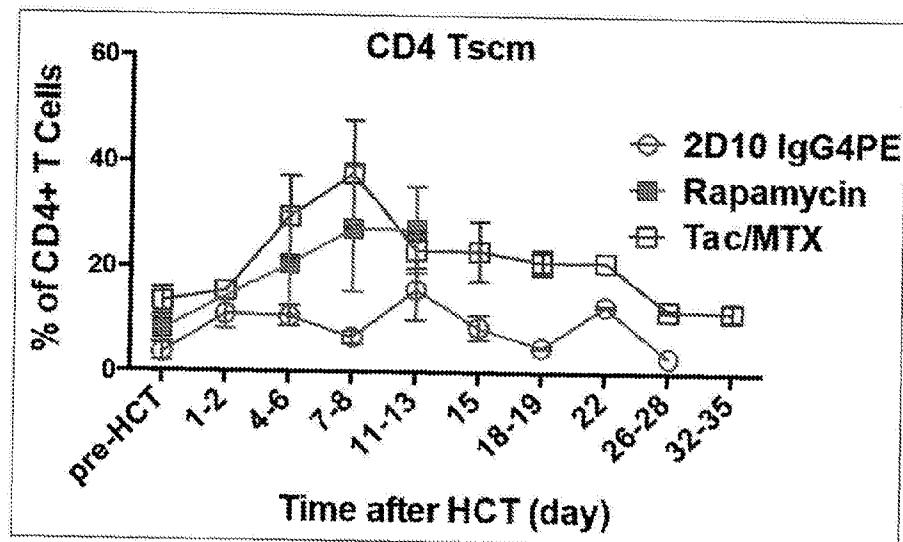


Figure 6b

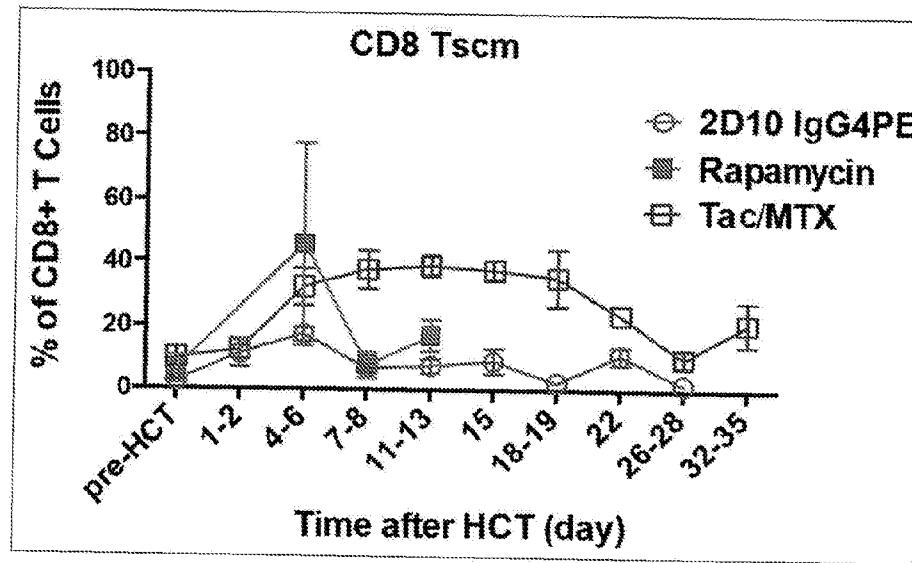
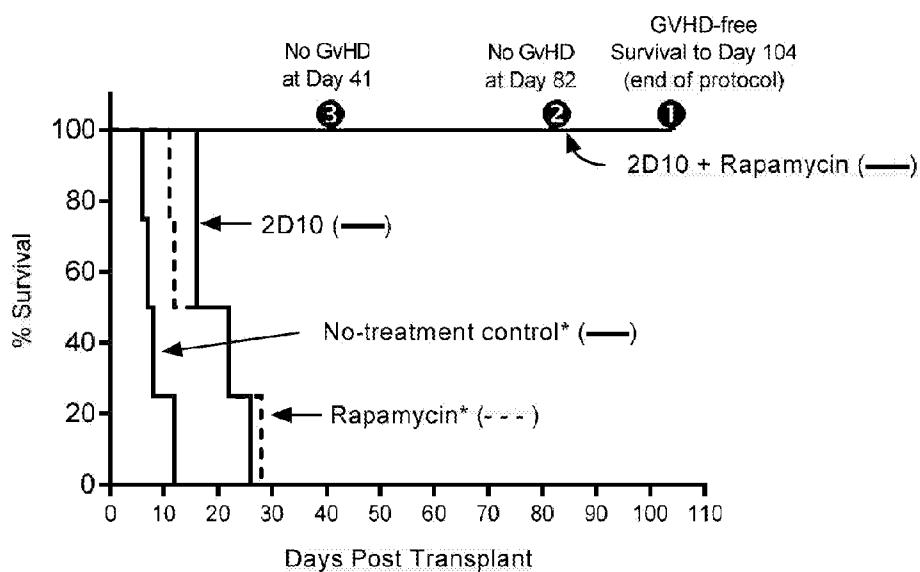


Figure 7



SEKVENSLISTE

Sekvenslisten er udeladt af skriftet og kan hentes fra det Europæiske Patent Register.

The Sequence Listing was omitted from the document and can be downloaded from the European Patent Register.

