

Amendments to the Claims

Applicants request the Examiner to enter the following amendments.

Cancel **Claim 4**.

Amend **Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-21, 23, 25, and 26**, as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) An antibody that binds to human IL-21, comprising a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) and a light chain variable region (LCVR) wherein the LCVR comprises SEQ- ID- NO:7 at CDRL1, SEQ- ID- NO:8 at CDRL2 and SEQ- ID- NO:9 at CDRL3 and wherein the HCVR comprises SEQ- ID- NO:10 at CDRH1, SEQ- ID- NO:11 at CDRH2 and SEQ- ID- NO:12 at CDRH3.
2. (Currently Amended) The antibody of Claim 1, comprising two heavy chain variable regions (HCVRs) and two light chain variable regions (LCVRs), wherein each LCVR comprises SEQ- ID- NO:7 at CDRL1, SEQ- ID- NO:8 at CDRL2 and SEQ- ID- NO:9 at CDRL3 and wherein each HCVR comprises SEQ- ID- NO:10 at CDRH1, SEQ- ID- NO:11 at CDRH2 and SEQ- ID- NO:12 at CDRH3.
3. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an autoimmune condition in a patient comprising administering an effective dose of the antibody of Claim 2 to the patient, wherein the autoimmune condition is primary Sjögren's Syndrome, Sjögren's Syndrome, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Grave's disease, or type 1 diabetes.
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4 3 in which the autoimmune condition is primary Sjögren's Syndrome or Sjögren's Syndrome.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4 3 in which the autoimmune condition is Systemic Lupus Erythematosus.
7. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of Claim 4 2 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient.
8. (Currently Amended) The antibody of Claim 1, comprising an antibody heavy chain and an antibody light chain, wherein the heavy chain comprises a heavy chain variable region, the amino acid sequence of which is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:1, and wherein the light chain

comprises a light chain variable region, the amino acid sequence of which is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:2.

9. (Currently Amended) The antibody of claim 8, comprising two antibody heavy chains and two antibody light chains, in which each heavy chain comprises a heavy chain variable region, the amino acid sequence of which is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:1, and in which each light chain comprises a light chain variable region, the amino acid sequence of which is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:2.
10. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an autoimmune condition in a patient comprising administering an effective dose of the antibody of Claim 9 to the patient, wherein the autoimmune condition is primary Sjögren's Syndrome, Sjögren's Syndrome, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Grave's disease, or type 1 diabetes.
11. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of Claim 9 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient.
12. (Currently Amended) The antibody of Claim 9, comprising two antibody heavy chains and two antibody light chains, in which the amino acid sequence of each heavy chain is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:3 and the amino acid sequence of each light chain is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:4.
13. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an autoimmune condition in a patient comprising administering an effective dose of the antibody of Claim 9 12 to the patient, wherein the autoimmune condition is primary Sjögren's Syndrome, Sjögren's Syndrome, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Grave's disease, or type 1 diabetes.
14. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of Claim 9 12 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient.
15. (Currently Amended) A DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide that encodes the antibody heavy chain whose amino acid sequence is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:3.
16. (Currently Amended) The DNA molecule of Claim 15 in which the sequence of the polynucleotide that encodes the antibody heavy chain is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:5.
17. (Currently Amended) A DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide that encodes the antibody light chain whose amino acid sequence is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:4.

18. (Currently Amended) The DNA molecule of Claim 17 in which the sequence of the polynucleotide that encodes the antibody light chain is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:6.
19. (Currently Amended) A DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide that encodes the antibody heavy chain whose amino acid sequence is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:3 and comprising a polynucleotide that encodes the antibody light chain whose amino acid sequence is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:4.
20. (Currently Amended) An isolated mammalian cell transformed with the DNA molecule of Claim 19, which transformed mammalian cell is capable of expressing an antibody comprising two antibody heavy chains and two antibody light chains, in which the amino sequence of each of the two heavy chains is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:3 and the amino acid sequence of each of the two light chains is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:4.
21. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an antibody, which antibody comprises two antibody heavy chains and two antibody light chains, in which the amino sequence of each of the two heavy chains is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:3 and the amino acid sequence of each of the two light chains is ~~the sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO:4, and which process comprises:
 - a. cultivating the mammalian cell of Claim 20 under conditions such that the antibody is expressed, and
 - b. recovering the expressed antibody.
22. (Original) An antibody obtainable by the process of Claim 21.
23. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an autoimmune condition in a patient comprising administering an effective dose of the antibody of Claim 22 to the patient, wherein the autoimmune condition is primary Sjögren's Syndrome, Sjögren's Syndrome, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Grave's disease, or type 1 diabetes.
24. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of Claim 22 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient.
25. (Currently Amended) An antibody produced by
 - a. cultivating a mammalian cell that comprises a polynucleotide sequence encoding the ~~polypeptide~~ antibody heavy chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 and a polynucleotide sequence encoding the ~~polypeptide~~ antibody light chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID

NO:4 under conditions such that the ~~polypeptides~~ antibody heavy and light chains are expressed, and

- b. recovering the expressed antibody.

26. (Currently Amended) An antibody produced by

- a. cultivating a mammalian cell that is transformed with a DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes an ~~polypeptide~~ antibody heavy chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 and a polynucleotide sequence that encodes an ~~polypeptide~~ antibody light chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 under conditions such that the ~~polypeptides~~ antibody heavy and light chains are expressed, and
- b. recovering the expressed antibody.

27. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of Claim 25 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents or excipients.

28. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of Claim 26 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents or excipients.