CLAIMS

1. A human monoclonal antibody directed against influenza A virus hemagglutinin antigen, characterized in that it is capable of binding to and neutralizing a plurality of subtypes of the influenza A virus, wherein said plurality of subtypes comprises at least one influenza A virus subtype containing hemagglutinin H1 and at least one influenza A virus subtype containing hemagglutinin H3, the human monoclonal antibody comprising at least one heavy chain variable domain and at least one light chain variable domain, with the heavy chain variable domain having amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:1 and the light chain variable domain having amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2.

2. The monoclonal antibody according to claim 1, comprising at least one heavy chain variable domain and at least one light chain variable domain, with the heavy chain variable domain encoded by nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:3 and the light chain variable domain encoded by nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:4.

3. A monoclonal antibody according to any of claims 1 or 2, selected from the group consisting of whole immunoglobulins and immunoglobulin fragments comprising at least one heavy chain variable domain and at least one light chain variable domain.

4. The monoclonal antibody according to claim 3, wherein the said immunoglobulin fragments are selected from the group comprising Fab fragments, Fab' fragments, $F(ab')_2$ fragments, Fv fragments, single chain antibodies (scFv).

5. Isolated nucleotide sequences SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:4.

6. An expression vector comprising nucleotide sequences SEQ ID NO:3 and SEQ ID NO:4.

7. A host cell transformed by an expression vector according to claim 6.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of at least one antibody according to any of claims 1 to 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or diluent.

9. An antibody according to any of claims 1 to 4, for use as a prophylactic or therapeutic medicament for an influenza A virus infection or a pathology directly or indirectly caused by an influenza A virus infection.

10. The antibody for use according to claim 9, wherein the pathology caused by an influenza A virus infection is the influenza syndrome.

11. A diagnostic kit comprising a monoclonal antibody according to any of claims 1 to 4 as a specific reagent.

12. An assay method for detecting, in an immunogenic or vaccine composition, the presence of influenza A virus epitopes capable of eliciting anti-influenza A virus antibodies having a heterosubtype cross-neutralizing property against the influenza A virus, in a subject to which it is administered, comprising contacting the said composition with a monoclonal antibody according to any of claims 1 to 4 as a specific assay reagent.