We claim:

1. An isolated antibody specifically binding human CCL17 comprising a heavy chain variable region (VH) and a light chain variable region (VL), wherein the antibody competes for binding to human CCL17 with an antibody comprising the VH of SEQ ID NO:45 and the VL of SEQ ID NO: 52.
2. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody binds human CCL17 at least within CCL17 amino acid residues 21-23, 44-45 and 60-68 of SEQ ID NO: 1.
3. The antibody of claim 2, wherein the antibody binds human CCL17 at least at residues R22 and K23 of SEQ ID NO: 1.
4. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody blocks CCL17/CCR4 interaction.
5. The antibody of claim 4, wherein the antibody binds human CCL17 with an affinity constant (K_D) of about $1x10^{-10}$ M or less, when the K_D is measured using solution equilibrium affinity in tris-based saline buffer containing 0.05% Tween-20 after co-incubation of the antibody and human CCL17 for 48 hours at 4°C.
6. The antibody of claims 1-5, wherein the antibody binds human CCL17 with the K_D of about $5x10^{-12}$ M or less.
7. The antibody of claims 1-6, wherein the antibody binds *Macaca fascicularis* (cyno) CCL17 with the K_D of about $1x10^{-8}$ M or less, when the K_D is measured using solution equilibrium affinity in tris-based saline buffer containing 0.05% Tween-20 after co-incubation of the antibody and cyno CCL17 for 48 hours at 4°C.
8. The antibody of claims 1-7, wherein the antibody inhibits 10 ng/ml human CCL17-induced calcium mobilization in CCRF-CEM cells measured using Fluo-8 NW with an IC_{50} value of about $1x10^{-9}$ M or less.
9. The antibody of claim 5, comprising heavy chain complementarity determining regions (HCDR) 1 (HCDR1), 2

(HCDR2) and 3 (HCDR3) and light chain complementarity determining regions (LCDR) 1 (LCDR1), 2 (LCDR2) and 3 (LCDR3), wherein the HCDR1, the HCDR2, the HCDR3, the LCDR1, the LCDR2 and the LCDR3 comprise the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 42, 8, 24 and 28, respectively, or the VH and the VL of SEQ ID NOs: 46 and 62, respectively.

10. The antibody of claims 1-8, comprising heavy chain complementarity determining regions (HCDR) 1 (HCDR1), 2 (HCDR2) and 3 (HCDR3) and light chain complementarity determining regions (LCDR) 1 (LCDR1), 2 (LCDR2) and 3 (LCDR3), wherein the HCDR1, the HCDR2, the HCDR3, the LCDR1, the LCDR2 and the LCDR3 comprise the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 71, 72, 73 and 74, respectively.

11. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the HCDR1 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, the HCDR2 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 and the HCDR3 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 6, 42 or 43.

12. The antibody of claim 11, wherein the LCDR1 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17 or 18, the LCDR2 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 20, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 26 and the LCDR3 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 37 or 38.

13. The antibody of claim 12, comprising the HCDR1, HCDR2, HCDR3, LCDR1, LCDR2 and LCDR3 sequences of

a) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 8, 20 and 28, respectively;
b) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 9, 21 and 29, respectively;
c) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 10, 22 and 30, respectively;
d) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 13, 21 and 33, respectively;
e) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 14, 20 and 34, respectively;
f) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 15, 25 and 35, respectively;

g) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 17, 25 and 37, respectively;

h) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 18, 26 and 38, respectively;

i) SEQ ID NOs:, 4, 5, 42, 8, 24 and 28, respectively; or

j) SEQ ID NOs:, 4, 5, 43, 8, 24 and 28, respectively.

14. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody comprises the VH of SEQ ID NO: 75 and the VL of SEQ ID NO: 76.

15. The antibody of claim 14, wherein the VH comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 45, 46 or 47.

16. The antibody of claim 15, wherein the VL comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 50, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60 or 62.

17. The antibody of claim 16, wherein the antibody comprises

a) the VH of SEQ ID NO: 45 and the VL of SEQ ID NOs: 50, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 59 or 60;

b) the VH and the VL of SEQ ID NOs: 46 and 62, respectively; or

c) the VH and the VL of SEQ ID NOs: 47 and 62, respectively.

18. The antibody of claim 5, wherein the antibody comprises the VH comprising the amino acid sequence at least 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to the VH of SEQ ID NO: 46 and the VL comprising the amino acid sequence at least 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to the VL of SEQ ID NO: 62.

19. The antibody of claims 1-18, wherein the antibody is human or humanized.

20. The antibody of claim 19, wherein the antibody is of IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, or IgG4 isotype.

21. The antibody of claim 20, wherein the antibody comprises a substitution in an Fc region.

22. The antibody of claim 21, wherein the substitution comprises V234A, G237A, P238S, H268A, V309L, A330S or

P331S substitution on IgG2, or S228P, L234A or L235A substitution on IgG4, wherein residue numbering is according to the EU Index.

23. The antibody of claim 22, wherein the substitution comprises V234A/G237A/P238S/H268A/V309L/A330S/P331S substitution on IgG2 or S228P/L234A/L235A substitution on IgG4, wherein residue numbering is according to the EU Index.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of claims 1-23 and a pharmaceutically accepted carrier.

25. An isolated polynucleotide encoding the VH or the VL of the antibody of any of the claims 9-24.

26. A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 25.

27. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 26.

28. A method of producing the antibody of claims 9-24, comprising culturing the host cell of claim 27 in conditions that the antibody is produced.

29. A method of treating a CCL17-mediated disease, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof the antibody of claims 1-24 for a time sufficient to treat the CCL17-mediated disease.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the CCL17-mediated disease is an inflammatory disease.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein the inflammatory disease is asthma, ulcerative colitis (UC), atopic dermatitis (AD) or idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF).

32. A method of treating asthma or airway hyper-reactivity, comprising administering to a subject an antibody of claims 1-24 for a time sufficient to treat asthma.

33. Use of the antibody of claims 1-24 for therapy.

34. The antibody of claims 1-24 for use in therapy.

35. The antibody of claims 1-24 for use in treating a subject having a CCL17-mediated disease.

36. The antibody for use according to claim 35, wherein the CCL17-mediated disease is an inflammatory disease, asthma, ulcerative colitis (UC), atopic dermatitis (AD) or idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF).

37. The antibody for use according to claim 36, wherein the CCL17-mediated disease is asthma.

CLAIMS

1. An isolated antibody specifically binding human CCL17 comprising a heavy chain variable region (VH), a light chain variable region (VL), heavy chain complementarity determining regions (HCDR) 1 (HCDR1), 2 (HCDR2) and 3 (HCDR3) and light chain complementarity determining regions (LCDR) 1 (LCDR1), 2 (LCDR2) and 3 (LCDR3), wherein
   a) the HCDR1, the HCDR2, the HCDR3, the LCDR1, the LCDR2 and the LCDR3 comprise the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 42, 8, 24 and 28, respectively; or
   b) the VH and the VL comprise the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 46 and 62, respectively.
2. An isolated antibody specifically binding human CCL17 comprising a heavy chain variable region (VH) and a light chain variable region (VL), wherein the antibody competes for binding to human CCL17 with an antibody comprising the VH of SEQ ID NO:45 and the VL of SEQ ID NO: 52.
3. The antibody of claims 1-2, wherein the antibody binds human CCL17 at least within CCL17 amino acid residues 21-23, 44-45 and 60-68 of SEQ ID NO: 1.
4. The antibody of claim 3, wherein the antibody binds human CCL17 at least at residues R22 and K23 of SEQ ID NO: 1.
5. The antibody of claims 1-4, wherein the antibody blocks CCL17/CCR4 interaction.
6. The antibody of claims 1-5, wherein the antibody binds human CCL17 with an affinity constant (K_D) of about $1x10^{-10}$ M or less, when the K_D is measured using solution equilibrium affinity in tris-based saline buffer containing 0.05% Tween-20 after co-incubation of the antibody and human CCL17 for 48 hours at 4°C.
7. The antibody of claims 1-6, wherein the antibody binds human CCL17 with the K_D of about $5x10^{-12}$ M or less.
8. The antibody of claims 1-7, wherein the antibody binds *Macaca fascicularis* (cyno) CCL17 with the K_D of about $1x10^{-8}$ M or less, when the K_D is measured using solution equilibrium affinity in tris-based

saline buffer containing 0.05% Tween-20 after co-incubation of the antibody and cyno CCL17 for 48 hours at 4°C.

9. The antibody of claims 1-8, wherein the antibody inhibits 10 ng/ml human CCL17-induced calcium mobilization in CCRF-CEM cells measured using Fluo-8 NW with an IC_{50} value of about $1x10^{-9}$ M or less.

10. The antibody of claims 2-9, comprising heavy chain complementarity determining regions (HCDR) 1 (HCDR1), 2 (HCDR2) and 3 (HCDR3) and light chain complementarity determining regions (LCDR) 1 (LCDR1), 2 (LCDR2) and 3 (LCDR3), wherein the HCDR1, the HCDR2, the HCDR3, the LCDR1, the LCDR2 and the LCDR3 comprise the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 71, 72, 73 and 74, respectively.

11. The antibody of claim 10, wherein the HCDR1 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, the HCDR2 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 and the HCDR3 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 6, 42 or 43.

12. The antibody of claim 11, wherein the LCDR1 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17 or 18, the LCDR2 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 20, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 26 and the LCDR3 comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 37 or 38.

13. The antibody of claim 12, comprising the HCDR1, HCDR2, HCDR3, LCDR1, LCDR2 and LCDR3 sequences of

a) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 8, 20 and 28, respectively;
b) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 9, 21 and 29, respectively;
c) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 10, 22 and 30, respectively;
d) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 13, 21 and 33, respectively;
e) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 14, 20 and 34, respectively;
f) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 15, 25 and 35, respectively;
g) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 17, 25 and 37, respectively;
h) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 6, 18, 26 and 38, respectively;
i) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 42, 8, 24 and 28, respectively; or
j) SEQ ID NOs: 4, 5, 43, 8, 24 and 28, respectively.

14. The antibody of claims 1-13, wherein the antibody comprises the VH of SEQ ID NO: 75 and the VL of SEQ ID NO: 76.

15. The antibody of claim 14, wherein the VH comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 45, 46 or 47.

16. The antibody of claim 15, wherein the VL comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 50, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60 or 62.

17. The antibody of claim 16, wherein the antibody comprises

a) the VH of SEQ ID NO: 45 and the VL of SEQ ID NOs: 50, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 59 or 60;

b) the VH and the VL of SEQ ID NOs: 46 and 62, respectively; or

c) the VH and the VL of SEQ ID NOs: 47 and 62, respectively.

18. The antibody of claim 5, wherein the antibody comprises the VH comprising the amino acid sequence at least 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to the VH of SEQ ID NO: 46 and the VL comprising the amino acid sequence at least 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to the VL of SEQ ID NO: 62.

19. The antibody of claims 1-18, wherein the antibody is human or humanized.

20. The antibody of claim 19, wherein the antibody is of IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, or IgG4 isotype.

21. The antibody of claim 20, wherein the antibody comprises a substitution in an Fc region.

22. The antibody of claim 21, wherein the substitution comprises V234A, G237A, P238S, H268A, V309L, A330S or P331S substitution on IgG2, or S228P, L234A or L235A substitution on IgG4, wherein residue numbering is according to the EU Index.

23. The antibody of claim 22, wherein the substitution comprises V234A/G237A/P238S/H268A/V309L/A330S/P331S substitution on IgG2 or S228P/L234A/L235A substitution on IgG4, wherein residue numbering is according to the EU Index.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of claims 1-23 and a pharmaceutically accepted carrier.

25. An isolated polynucleotide encoding the VH or the VL of the antibody of any of the claims 1 and 9-24.

26. A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 25.

27. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 26.

28. A method of producing the antibody of claims 1 and 9-24, comprising culturing the host cell of claim 27 in conditions that the antibody is produced.

29. The use of the antibody of claims 1-23 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a CCL17-mediated disease.

30. The use of claim 29, wherein the CCL17-mediated disease is an inflammatory disease.

31. The use of claim 30, wherein the inflammatory disease is asthma, ulcerative colitis (UC), atopic dermatitis (AD) or idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF).

32. The use of the antibody of claims 1-23 in the manufacture of a medicament for the therapeutic and/or prophylactic treatment of asthma or airway hyper-reactivity.

33. The antibody of claims 1-23 for use in therapy.

34. The antibody of claims 1-23 for use in the treatment of a CCL17-mediated disease.

35. The antibody for use according to claim 34, wherein the CCL17-mediated disease is an inflammatory disease, asthma, ulcerative colitis (UC), atopic dermatitis (AD) or idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF).

36. The antibody for use according to claim 35, wherein the CCL17-mediated disease is asthma.