CLAIMS

1. An isolated binding molecule capable of recognizing and binding to an epitope in the HA2 subunit of the influenza haemagglutinin protein (HA), characterized in that said binding molecule has neutralizing activity against an influenza virus comprising HA of the H5 subtype, such as H5N1, H5N2, H5N8, and H5N9, and in that said binding molecule comprises the VH germline VH1-69.

2. A binding molecule according to claim 1, wherein said binding molecule also has neutralizing activity against an influenza virus comprising HA of the H1 subtype, such as H1N1, and preferably wherein said binding molecule also has neutralizing activity against an influenza virus comprising HA of the H2, H6 and/or H9 subtype.

3. A binding molecule according to claim 1, wherein said epitope in the HA2 subunit is selected from the group consisting of amino acid sequence:
    1. GVTNKVNSIIDK (SEQ ID NO:368),
    2. GVTNKVNSIINK (SEQ ID NO:369),
    3. GVTNKENSIIDK (SEQ ID NO:370),
    4. GVTNKVNRIIDK (SEQ ID NO:371),
    5. GITNKVNSVIEK (SEQ ID NO:372),
    6. GITNKENSVIEK (SEQ ID NO:373),
    7. GITNKVNSIIDK (SEQ ID NO:374), and
    8. KITSKVNNIVDK (SEQ ID NO:375).

4. A binding molecule according to claim 1, wherein the binding molecule is selected from the group consisting of:
    a) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3,

b) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:16, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:17, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:18,

c) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:22, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:23,

d) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:39, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:40, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:41,

e) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:45, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:46, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:47,

h) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:49, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:50,

i) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:52, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:53, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:54,

j) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:262, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:263, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:264,

k) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:268, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:269, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:270,

l) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:274, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:275, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:276,

m) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:280, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:281, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:282,

n) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:286, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:287, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:288,

o) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:292, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:293, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:294,

p) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:304, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:305, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:306, and

q) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:310, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:311, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:312.

5. A binding molecule according to claim 4, wherein , wherein the binding molecule is selected from the group consisting of a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3; and a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:39, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:40, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:41.

6. A binding molecule according to claim 1, wherein the binding molecule is selected from the group consisting of:

a) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:4, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:5, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:6,

b) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:7, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:8, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:9,

c) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:10, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:11, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:12,

d) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:13, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:14, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:15,

e) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:16, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:17, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:18, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:19, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:20, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:21,

f) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:22, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:23, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:24, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:25, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:26,

g) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:33, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:34, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:35,

h) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:36, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:37, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:38,

i) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:39, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:40, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:41, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:42, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:43, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:44,

j) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:45, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:46, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID

NO:47, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:7, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:8, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:48,

k) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:49, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:50, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:33, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:34, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:51,

l) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:52, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:53, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:54, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:55, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:56, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:57,

m) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:262, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:263, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:264, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:265, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:266, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:267,

n) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:268, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:269, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:270, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:271, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:272, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:273,

o) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:274, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:275, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:276, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:277, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:278, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:279,

p) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:280, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:281, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:282, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:283, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:284, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:285,

q) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:286, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:287, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:288, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:289, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:290, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:291,

r) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:292, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:293, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:294, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:295, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:296, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:297,
s) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:304, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:305, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:306, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:307, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:308, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:309, and
t) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:310, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:311, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:312, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:313, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:314, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:315.

7. A binding molecule according to claim 6, wherein the binding molecule is selected from the group consisting of a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:13, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:14, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:15; and a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:39, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:40, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:41, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:42, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:43, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:44.

8. A binding molecule according to any of the claims 1-7, wherein said binding molecule is a human monoclonal antibody.

9. A nucleic acid molecule encoding a binding molecule according to any one of claims 1-8.

10. A binding molecule according to any one of claims 1-9 for use as a medicament and preferably for the diagnostic, therapeutic and/or prophylactic treatment of influenza infection.

11. A binding molecule according to claim 10, wherein said influenza infection is caused by an influenza virus that is associated with a pandemic outbreak, or has the potential to be associated with a pandemic outbreak.

12. A binding molecule according to claim 11, wherein said influenza virus strain that is associated with a pandemic outbreak is selected from the group consisting of: H1N1, H5N1, H5N2, H5N8, H5N9, an H2-based strain, and H9N2.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a binding molecule according to any one of claims 1–8, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

14. Use of a binding molecule according to any one of claims 1–8 in the preparation of a medicament for the diagnosis, prophylaxis, and/or treatment of an influenza virus infection.

CLAIMS

1. An isolated human binding molecule capable of recognizing and binding to an epitope in the HA2 subunit of the influenza haemagglutinin protein (HA), characterized in that said binding molecule has neutralizing activity against an influenza virus comprising HA of the H5 subtype, such as H5N1, H5N2, H5N8, and H5N9, and in that said binding molecule comprises the VH germline VH1-69.

2. A binding molecule according to claim 1, wherein said binding molecule also has neutralizing activity against an influenza virus comprising HA of the H1 subtype, such as H1N1, and preferably wherein said binding molecule also has neutralizing activity against an influenza virus comprising HA of the H2, H6 and/or H9 subtype.

3. A binding molecule according to claim 1, wherein said epitope in the HA2 subunit is selected from the group consisting of amino acid sequence:
    1. GVTNKVNSIIDK (SEQ ID NO:368),
    2. GVTNKVNSIINK (SEQ ID NO:369),
    3. GVTNKENSIIDK (SEQ ID NO:370),
    4. GVTNKVNRIIDK (SEQ ID NO:371),
    5. GITNKVNSVIEK (SEQ ID NO:372),
    6. GITNKENSVIEK (SEQ ID NO:373),
    7. GITNKVNSIIDK (SEQ ID NO:374), and
    8. KITSKVNNIVDK (SEQ ID NO:375).

4. A binding molecule according to claim 1, wherein the binding molecule is selected from the group consisting of:
    a) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3,
    b) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:16, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:17, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:18,
    c) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:22, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:23,
    d) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:39, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:40, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:41,
    e) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:45, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:46, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:47,

h) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:49, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:50,
i) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:52, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:53, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:54,
j) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:262, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:263, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:264,
k) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:268, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:269, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:270,
l) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:274, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:275, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:276,
m) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:280, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:281, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:282,
n) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:286, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:287, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:288,
o) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:292, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:293, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:294,
p) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:304, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:305, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:306, and
q) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:310, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:311, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:312.

5. A binding molecule according to claim 4, wherein the binding molecule is selected from the group consisting of a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3; and a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:39, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:40, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:41.

6. A binding molecule according to claim 5, wherein the binding molecule comprises a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, and a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3.

7. A binding molecule according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the binding molecule comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising the amino acids 1-121 of SEQ ID NO: 65.

8. A binding molecule according to claim 1, wherein the binding molecule is selected from the group consisting of:

a) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:4, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:5, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:6,

b) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:7, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:8, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:9,

c) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:10, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:11, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:12,

d) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:13, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:14, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:15,

e) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:16, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:17, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:18, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:19, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:20, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:21,

f) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:22, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:23, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:24, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:25, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:26,

g) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:33, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:34, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:35,

h) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:36, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:37, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:38,

i) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:39, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:40, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:41, a light

chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:42, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:43, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:44,

j) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:45, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:46, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:47, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:7, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:8, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:48,

k) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:49, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:50, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:33, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:34, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:51,

l) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:52, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:53, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:54, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:55, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:56, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:57,

m) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:262, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:263, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:264, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:265, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:266, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:267,

n) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:268, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:269, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:270, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:271, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:272, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:273,

o) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:274, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:275, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:276, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:277, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:278, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:279,

p) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:280, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:281, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:282, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:283, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:284, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:285,

q) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:286, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:287, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:288, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:289, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:290, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:291,

r) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:292, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:293, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:294, a light

chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:295, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:296, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:297,

s) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:304, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:305, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:306, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:307, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:308, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:309, and

t) a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:310, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:311, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:312, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:313, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:314, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:315.

9. A binding molecule according to claim 6, wherein the binding molecule is selected from the group consisting of a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:13, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:14, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:15; and a binding molecule comprising a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:39, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:40, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:41, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:42, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:43, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:44.

10. A binding molecule according to claim 9, wherein the binding molecule comprises a heavy chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:1, a heavy chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:2, a heavy chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:3, a light chain CDR1 region of SEQ ID NO:13, a light chain CDR2 region of SEQ ID NO:14, and a light chain CDR3 region of SEQ ID NO:15.

11. A binding molecule according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the binding molecule comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising the amino acids 1-121 of SEQ ID NO: 65, and a light chain variable region comprising the amino acids 1-112 of SEQ ID NO: 91.

12. A binding molecule according to any of the claims 1-11, wherein said binding molecule is a human monoclonal antibody.

13. A nucleic acid molecule encoding a binding molecule according to any one of claims 1-12.

14. A binding molecule according to any one of claims 1-12 for use as a medicament and preferably for the diagnostic, therapeutic and/or prophylactic treatment of influenza infection.

15. A binding molecule according to claim 14, wherein said influenza infection is caused by an influenza virus that is associated with a pandemic outbreak, or has the potential to be associated with a pandemic outbreak.

16. A binding molecule according to claim 15, wherein said influenza virus strain that is associated with a pandemic outbreak is selected from the group consisting of: H1N1, H5N1, H5N2, H5N8, H5N9, an H2-based strain, and H9N2.

17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a binding molecule according to any one of claims 1–12, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

18. Use of a binding molecule according to any one of claims 1–12 in the preparation of a medicament for the diagnosis, prophylaxis, and/or treatment of an influenza virus infection.