Claims

1. Use of a CD19xCD3 bispecific antibody in the preparation of a medicament for use in a method for the treatment of malignant CD19 positive lymphocytes in a human patient, said patient having a ratio of the number of B cells and the number of T cells (B:T cell ratio) in a biological sample which includes peripheral blood mononuclear cells of about 1:5 or lower, comprising:

   (a) a first dose of a CD19xCD3 bispecific antibody to be administered for a first period of time, wherein said first period of time is 7 days; and consecutively

   (b) a second dose of said antibody to be administered for a second period of time;

   wherein said second dose exceeds said first dose, and wherein said second period of time exceeds said first period of time.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the route of administration in step (a) and/or the route of administration in step (b) is intravenous.

3. The use of claim 1 or 2, wherein said second period of time exceeds 18 days, preferably said second period of time is between 18 days and 81 days, 21 or 49 days being preferred.

4. The use of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said first dose is between 1 and 15 $\mu g/m^2/d$, 5 or 15 $\mu g/m^2/d$ being preferred.

5. The use of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said second dose is between 15 and 60 $\mu g/m^2/d$, 60 $\mu g/m^2/d$ being preferred.

6. The use of claim 1 or 2, further comprising a third dose of said antibody to be administered for a third period of time after a first and second dose for a first and second period of time.

7. The use of claim 6, wherein said third period of time exceeds said first and second period of time, whereby said second dose exceeds said first dose.

8. The use of any one of claim 6 or 7, wherein said third period of time exceeds 8

days, preferably said third period of time is between 8 days and 78 days, with 14 or 42 days being preferred.

9. The use of any one of claims 6 to 8, wherein said third dose exceeds said first and second dose.

10. The use of any one of claims 6 to 9, wherein said first dose is between 1 and 15 $\mu g/m^2/d$, 5 $\mu g/m^2/d$ being preferred.

11. The use of any one of claims 6 to 10, wherein said second dose is between 1 and 15 $\mu g/m^2/d$, 15 $\mu g/m^2/d$ being preferred.

12. The use of any one of claims 6 to 11, wherein said third dose is between 15 and 60 $\mu g/m^2/d$, 60 $\mu g/m^2/d$ being preferred.

13. The use of any one of claims 6 to 12, wherein the route of administration of the third dose is intravenous.

14. The use of any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein said antibody is a bispecific single chain antibody, preferably said antibody is MT103.

15. The use of any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein said malignant CD19-positive lymphocytes are lymphoma or leukemia cells and the lymphoma preferably is indolent or aggressive B cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma (B NHL), mantle cell lymphoma (MCL) or chronic lymphatic leukemia (CLL), and the leukemia preferably is B-lineage acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL).

16. The use of any one of claims 1 to 15, wherein the human patient having a B:T cell ratio of about 1:5 or lower is identified by:

(a) determining the ratio of the number of B cells and the number of T cells (B:T cell ratio) in a biological sample which includes peripheral blood mononuclear cells from said patient; and

(b) identifying the patient as having an increased risk of potential adverse effects when the ratio is about 1:5 or less.