CLAIMS

1. A specific binding molecule, in which the specific binding molecule comprises a VH domain comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 443 and a VL domain comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 444.

2. A specific binding molecule according to Claim 1, in which the specific binding molecule is an antibody or a fragment thereof, further optionally in which (a) the antibody or fragment thereof is humanised; and/or (b) in which the specific binding molecule is an antibody, the antibody is a monoclonal antibody, or when the specific binding molecule is a fragment of an antibody, the fragment is a Fab or $F(ab')_2$ antibody fragment, or an scFv molecule.

3. A composition comprising a specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2, in which at least 90% of the specific binding molecules in the composition that bind an epitope within SEQ ID NO: 1 bind with a K_D of less than 25 nM.

4. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2, optionally in which the nucleic acid sequence comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID No: 380.

5. A construct comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 4.

6. A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 4 or a construct according to Claim 5.

7. A host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 4, a construct according to Claim 5 or a vector according to Claim 6.

8. A method of preparing a specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2 comprising:

(i) introducing into a host cell a nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 4, a construct according to Claim 5 or a vector according to Claim 6;

(ii) expressing the nucleic acid molecule such that the specific binding molecule is produced; and

(iii) collecting the specific binding molecule, preferably by purification.

9. A specific binding molecule obtainable by a method according to Claim 8.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2 or a composition according to Claim 3 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable diluents, carriers or excipients.

11. A specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2, a composition according to Claim 3 or a pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 10 for use in a method of treating a tauopathy.

12. A specific binding molecule, composition or pharmaceutical composition for use according to Claim 11, in which the tauopathy is selected from the group consisting of Alzheimer's disease, Primary age-related tauopathy (PART), Neurofibrillary tangle-predominant senile dementia, Chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), Progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP), Corticobasal degeneration (CBD), Frontotemporal dementia (FTD), Frontotemporal dementia and parkinsonism linked to chromosome 17 (FTDP-17), Pick disease, disinhibition-dementia-parkinsonism-amyotrophy complex (DDPAC), pallido-ponto-nigral degeneration (PPND), Guam-ALS syndrome; pallido-nigro-luysian degeneration (PNLD), Dementia with Argyrophilic grains (AgD), Down's Syndrome (DS), dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB), Postencephalitic parkinsonism (PEP), Dementia pugilistica (DP), traumatic brain injury (TBI), stroke, ischemia, Lytico-bodig disease (Parkinson-dementia complex of Guam), Ganglioglioma, Gangliocytoma, Meningioangiomatosis, Postencephalitic parkinsonism, Subacute sclerosing panencephalitis (SSPE), Lead encephalopathy, tuberous sclerosis, Pantothenate kinase-associated neurodegeneration, lipofuscinosis and mild cognitive impairment (MCI).

13. An *in vitro* method of inhibiting aggregation of a tau protein or a fragment thereof comprising contacting the tau protein or a fragment thereof with a specific binding molecule according to Claims 1 or 2.

14. An *in vitro* method for detecting a tau protein or a fragment thereof in a sample comprising contacting the sample with a specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2.

15. A diagnostic method comprising contacting a sample with a specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2.

16. An *in vitro* method for detecting a tau protein or a fragment thereof according to Claim 14 or a diagnostic method according to Claim 15, comprising contacting the sample with at least one pair of first and second specific binding molecules, in which the pair of first and second specific binding molecules are selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a first specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2 and a second specific binding molecule that binds to an epitope within residues 367 to 379 of SEQ ID NO: 1;

(b) a first specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2 and a second specific binding molecule that binds to an epitope within residues 379 to 391 of SEQ ID NO: 1; and

(c) a first specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2 and a second specific binding molecule that binds to an epitope within residues 13 to 25 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

17. An *in vitro* method for detecting a tau protein or a fragment thereof according to Claim 14 or a diagnostic method according to Claim 15 in which:

(i) the sample is a plasma sample; and/or

(ii) the method further comprises a step of denaturing the tau protein or fragment thereof prior to contacting the sample with the specific binding molecule.

18. A diagnostic device for use in a method according to Claim 15, 16 or 17.

19. A kit comprising a specific binding molecule according to Claim 1 or 2 and reagents for detecting a tau protein or a fragment thereof in a sample.