~~1.~~ 1. An anti-hPG monoclonal antibody that specifically binds a C-terminal region of human progastrin (hPG) which is obtainable using an immunogen comprising a peptide antigen having an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ ID NO:27.

~~2. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 1** which specifically binds an N-terminal region of hPG.~~

~~3. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 2** which is obtainable using an immunogen comprising a peptide antigen having an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ ID NO:25.~~

~~4. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 2** that competes for binding hPG with a reference anti-hPG monoclonal antibody obtainable from a hybridoma selected from the group consisting of 43B9G11, WE5H2G7, 6B5B11C10, 20D2C3G2, 1E9A4A4, 1E9D9B6, 1C8D10F5, 1A7C3F11, 1B3B4F11, and 1C11F5E8.~~

~~5. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 2** which comprises V_L and V_H CDRs corresponding in sequence to the V_L and V_H CDRs of the monoclonal antibodies obtainable from a hybridoma selected from the group consisting of: 43B9G11, WE5H2G7, 6B5B11C10, 20D2C3G2, 1E9A4A4, 1E9D9B6, 1C8D10F5, 1A7C3F11, 1B3B4F11, and 1C11F5E8.~~

~~6. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 2** which comprises V_L and V_H CDRs having sequences selected from one of the following groups of V_L and V_H CDR sequences:~~

~~(i) V_H CDR1.3, V_H CDR 2.3, V_H CDR 3.3, V_L CDR 1.3, V_L CDR 2.3, and V_L CDR 3.3;~~
~~(ii) V_H CDR 1.4, V_H CDR 2.4, V_H CDR 3.4, V_L CDR 1.4, V_L CDR 2.4, and V_L CDR 3.4;~~
~~(iii) V_H CDR 1.16, V_H CDR 2.16, V_H CDR 3.16, V_L CDR 1.16, V_L CDR 2.16, and , V_L CDR 3.16; and~~
~~(iv) V_H CDR 1.19, V_H CDR 2.19, V_H CDR 3.19, V_L CDR 1.19, V_L CDR 2.19, and V_L CDR 3.19.~~

~~7. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-6**, which is humanized.~~

~~8. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 7** which comprises V_H and V_L chains having sequences selected from one of the following groups of V_H and V_L sequences:~~

~~(i) hV_H 3 (SEQ ID NO:21) and hV_L 3 (SEQ ID NO:22);~~
~~(ii) hV_H 4 (SEQ ID NO:23) and hV_L 4 (SEQ ID NO:24);~~
~~(iii) hV_H 16a (SEQ ID NO:84) and hV_L 16a (SEQ ID NO:85);~~
~~(iv) hV_H 16b (SEQ ID NO:86) and hV_L 16b (SEQ ID NO:87);~~
~~(v) hV_H 16c (SEQ ID NO:88) and hV_L 16c (SEQ ID NO:89);~~
~~(vi) hV_H 19a (SEQ ID NO:90) and hV_L 19a (SEQ ID NO:91);~~
~~(vii) hV_H 196b (SEQ ID NO:92) and hV_L 19b (SEQ ID NO:93); and~~
~~(viii) hV_H 19c (SEQ ID NO:94) and hV_L 19c (SEQ ID NO:95).~~

~~9. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 1** which specifically binds a C-terminal region of hPG.~~

~~10. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 9** which is obtainable using an immunogen comprising a peptide antigen having an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ ID NO:27.~~

~~11.~~ 2. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 1** which competes for binding hPG with a reference anti-hPG monoclonal antibody obtainable from a hybridoma selected from the group consisting of 1B4A11D11 (I-4371), 1B6A11F2 (I-4372), 1B11E4B11 (I-4373), ~~1C10D3B9~~, ~~1D8F5B3~~, ~~1E1C7B4~~, 2B4C8C8 (I-4374), 2B11E6G4 (I-4375), ~~2C6C3C7~~, ~~2H9F4B7~~, ~~1F11F5E10~~, ~~1F11F5G9~~, and ~~1A11F2C9~~.

~~12.~~ 3. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 1** which comprises V_L and V_H CDRs corresponding in sequence to the V_L and V_H CDRs of the monoclonal antibodies obtainable from a hybridoma selected from the group consisting of: 1B4A11D11 (I-4371), 1B6A11F2 (I-4372), 1B11E4B11 (I-4373), ~~1C10D3B9~~, ~~1D8F5B3~~, ~~1E1C7B4~~, 2B4C8C8 (I-4374), 2B11E6G4 (I-4375), ~~2C6C3C7~~, ~~2H9F4B7~~, ~~1F11F5E10~~, ~~1F11F5G9~~, and ~~1A11F2C9~~.

~~13.~~ 4. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 1** which comprises V_H and V_L CDRs having sequences selected from one of the following groups of V_H and V_L CDR sequences:

(i) V_H CDR 1.8 (SEQ ID NO:37), V_H CDR 2.8 (SEQ ID NO:41), V_H CDR 3.8 (SEQ ID NO:45), V_L CDR 1.8 (SEQ ID NO:49), V_L CDR 2.8 (SEQ ID NO:52), and V_L CDR 3.8 (SEQ ID NO:55); and

(ii) V_H CDR 1.13 (SEQ ID NO:38), V_H CDR 2.13 (SEQ ID NO:42), V_H CDR 3.13 (SEQ ID NO:46), V_L CDR 1.13 (SEQ ID NO:50), V_L CDR 2.13 (SEQ ID NO:53), and V_L CDR 3.13 (SEQ ID NO:56).

~~14.~~ 5. A monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-4**, which is humanized.

~~15.~~ 6. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 5** which comprises V_H and V_L chains having sequences selected from one of the following groups of V_H and V_L sequences:

(i) hV_H 8a (SEQ ID NO:75) and hV_L 8a (SEQ ID NO:76);
(ii) hV_H 8b (SEQ ID NO:77) and hV_L 8b (SEQ ID NO:78);
(iii) hV_H 8c (SEQ ID NO:79) and hV_L 8c (SEQ ID NO:76);
(iv) hV_H 13a (SEQ ID NO:80) and hV_L 13a (SEQ ID NO:81); and
(v) hV_H 13b (SEQ ID NO:82) and hV_L 13b (SEQ ID NO:83).

~~16.~~ 7. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-6** which has an affinity in the range of about 1 pM to about 7 nM.

~~17. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-8** that binds to an epitope comprising an amino acid sequence corresponding to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:28, 29, 30, 31, and 32.~~

~~18.~~ 8. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-7** that binds to an epitope comprising an amino acid sequence corresponding to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:33, 34, 35, and 36.

~~19. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-8** which competes for binding hPG with a reference antibody selected from the group consisting of: anti-hPG Mab1, anti-hPG Mab2, anti-hPG Mab3, anti-hPG Mab4, anti-hPG Mab15, anti-hPG Mab16, anti-hPG Mab17, anti-hPG Mab18, anti-hPG Mab19, and anti-hPG Mab20.~~

~~20.~~ 9. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-8** which competes for binding hPG with a reference antibody selected from the group consisting of: anti-hPG MAb5, anti-hPG MAb6, anti-hPG MAb7, anti-hPG MAb8, anti-hPG MAb9, anti-hPG MAb10, anti-hPG MAb11, anti-hPG MAb12, anti-hPG MAb13, anti-hPG MAb14, anti-hPG MAb21, anti-hPG MAb22, and anti-hPG MAb23.

~~21.~~ 10. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 1** which neutralizes hPG activity in an *in vitro* assay carried out with LS174T cells.

~~22.~~ 11. A composition comprising a monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-10** in an effective amount and an excipient, carrier, and/or diluent.

~~23.~~ 12. The composition of **claim 11** which is formulated for pharmaceutical use.

~~24.~~ 13. A polynucleotide encoding a variable light chain (V_L) for an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6**.

~~25.~~ 14. A polynucleotide encoding a variable heavy chain (V_H) for an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6**.

~~26.~~ 15. An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding a variable light chain (V_L) for an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to **claim 1**.

~~27.~~ 16. An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding a variable heavy chain (V_H) for an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to **claim 1**.

~~28.~~ 17. A host cell transformed with pairs of polynucleotides suitable for expressing an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-10**

~~29.~~ 18. A hybridoma capable of secreting an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to anyone of **claims 1-10**.

~~30. The hybridoma of **claim 29** selected from the group consisting of: 43B9G11, WE5H2G7, 6B5B11C10, 20D2C3G2, 1B4A11D11, 1B6A11F2, 1B11E4B11, 1C10D3B9, 1D8F5B3, 1E1C7B4, 2B4C8C8, 2B11E6G4, 2C6C3C7, 2H9F4B7, 1E9A4A4, 1E9D9B6, 1C8D10F5, 1A7C3F11, 1B3B4F11, 1C11F5E8, 1F11F5E10, 1F11F5G9, and 1A11F2C9.~~

~~31.~~ 19. The hybridoma of **claim 18**, which is selected from the group consisting of: 1B4A11D11 (I-4371), 1B6A11F2 (I-4372), 1B11E4B11 (I-4373), ~~1C10D3B9~~, ~~1D8F5B3~~, ~~1E1C7B4~~, 2B4C8C8 (I-4374), 2B11E6G4 (I-4375), ~~2C6C3C7~~, ~~2H9F4B7~~, ~~1F11F5E10~~, ~~1F11F5G9~~, and ~~1A11F2C9~~.

~~32. The hybridoma of **claim 29**, which is selected from the group consisting of: 1B4A11D11, 1B6A11F2, 1B11E4B11, 2B4C8C8, 2B11E6G4, and 1E9A4A4.~~

~~33.~~ 20. A method of obtaining an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody comprising:

(a) culturing a hybridoma of **claim 18** under suitable conditions and

(b) recovering the anti-hPG monoclonal antibody from the culture medium or the hybridoma cells.

~~34.~~ 21. A method of treating colorectal cancer comprising administering to a subject an amount of a ~~humanized neutralizing~~ anti-hPG monoclonal antibody of anyone of claims 1-10 effective to treat the colorectal cancer.

~~35. The method of **claim 21** in which the neutralizing anti-hPG monoclonal antibody competes for binding with an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody obtainable from a hybridoma selected from the group of consisting of: 43B9G11, WE5H2G7, 6B5B11C10, 20D2C3G2, 1B4A11D11, 1B6A11F2, 1B11E4B11, 1C10D3B9, 1D8F5B3, 1E1C7B4, 2B4C8C8, 2B11E6G4, 2C6C3C7, 2H9F4B7, 1E9A4A4, 1E9D9B6, 1C8D10F5, 1A7C3F11, 1B3B4F11, 1C11F5E8, 1F11F5E10, 1F11F5G9, and 1A11F2C9.~~

~~36. The method of **claim 34** in which the neutralizing anti-hPG monoclonal antibody has CDRs corresponding in sequence to the CDRs of an anti-hPG monoclonal~~

~~antibody selected from the group consisting of: anti-hPG MAb1, anti-hPG MAb2, anti-hPG MAb3, anti-hPG MAb4, anti-hPG MAb5, anti-hPG MAb6, anti-hPG MAb7, anti-hPG MAb8, anti-hPG MAb9, anti-hPG MAb10, anti-hPG MAb11, anti-hPG MAb12, anti-hPG MAb13, anti-hPG MAb15, anti-hPG MAb16, anti-hPG MAb17, anti-hPG MAb18, anti-hPG MAb19, anti-hPG MAb20, anti-hPG MAb21, anti-hPG MAb22, or anti-hPG MAb23.~~

~~37.~~ 22. A method of inhibiting proliferation of colorectal tumor cells, comprising exposing the colorectal tumor cells to an ~~neutralizing~~ anti-hPG monoclonal antibody of anyone of claims 1-10.

~~38. The method of **claim 37** in which the neutralizing anti-hPG monoclonal antibody competes for binding with an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody obtainable from a hybridoma selected from the group of consisting of: 43B9G11, WE5H2G7, 6B5B11C10, 20D2C3G2, 1B4A11D11, 1B6A11F2, 1B11E4B11, 1C10D3B9, 1D8F5B3, 1E1C7B4, 2B4C8C8, 2B11E6G4, 2C6C3C7, 1E9A4A4, 1E9D9B6, 1C8D10F5, 1A7C3F11, 1B3B4F11, 1C11F5E8, 1F11F5E10, 1F11F5G9, and 1A11F2C9.~~

~~39. The method of **claim 37** in which the neutralizing anti-hPG monoclonal antibody has CDRs corresponding in sequence to the CDRs of an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody selected from the group consisting of: anti-hPG MAb1, anti-hPG MAb2, anti-hPG MAb3, anti-hPG MAb4, anti-hPG MAb5, anti-hPG MAb6, anti-hPG MAb7, anti-hPG MAb8, anti-hPG MAb9, anti-hPG MAb10, anti-hPG MAb11, anti-hPG MAb12, anti-hPG MAb13, anti-hPG MAb15, anti-hPG MAb16, anti-hPG MAb17, anti-hPG MAb18, anti-hPG MAb19, anti-hPG MAb20, anti-hPG MAb21, anti-hPG MAb22, or anti-hPG MAb23.~~

~~40. The method of **claim 37** which is carried out *in vitro*.~~

~~41. The method of **claim 37** which is carried out *in vivo*.~~

~~42.~~ 23. A kit useful for detecting hPG, comprising an N-terminal anti-hPG monoclonal antibody ~~according to **claim 2**~~ and an antibody that specifically binds a C-terminal region of hPG.

~~43.~~ 24. The kit of **claim 23**, wherein the antibody that specifically binds a C-terminal region of hPG is a polyclonal antibody.

~~44.~~ 25. A kit useful for detecting hPG, comprising a C-terminal anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to **claims 1-10** and an antibody that specifically binds an N-terminal region of hPG.

~~45.~~ 26. The kit of **claim 25**, wherein the antibody that specifically binds an N-terminal region of hPG is a polyclonal antibody.

~~46.~~ 27. A method of diagnosing colorectal cancer in a subject, comprising quantifying the amount of progastrin in a serum sample from the subject using at least one monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-10**, wherein a quantity of progastrin in a range of about 20 to 400 pM is indicative of colorectal cancer.

~~47.~~ 28. A method of selecting a patient suitable for anti-hPG therapy, comprising quantifying the amount of progastrin in a serum sample from a patient with colorectal cancer, using at least one monoclonal antibody according to anyone of **claims 1-10**, wherein a quantity of progastrin in a range of about 20 to 400 pM is indicative of suitability for anti-hPG therapy.

~~48.~~ 29. A method of monitoring the effectiveness of a colorectal cancer treatment, comprising quantifying the blood progastrin level of a subject who is being treated for colorectal cancer, as a function of time, using at least one monoclonal antibody according to anyone of **claims 1-10**, where a time-dependent decrease in the subject's serum progastrin level indicates the treatment is effective.

~~49. A method of inhibiting a progastrin-dependent signal transduction cascade in a cell, comprising exposing a cell that secretes hPG with an amount of a neutralizing anti-PG monoclonal antibody effective to inhibit progastrin-dependent signal transduction.~~