

CLAIMS

1. Use of an antibody that binds and neutralizes the inhibitory activity of NKG2A (anti-NKG2A) in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of cancer in an individual, in which the antibody is to be administered to the individual for at least one administration cycle, in which the anti-NKG2A antibody is to be administered twice per month intravenously at a dose of between 4-10 mg/kg or of about 10 mg/kg body weight.
2. Use according to Claim 1, in which the anti-NKG2A antibody is to be administered at a at least first loading dose of about 10 mg/kg body weight followed by at least two maintenance doses of about 4 mg/kg body weight.
3. Use according to Claim 1 or 2, in which the administration cycle is 8 weeks or at least 8 weeks.
4. Use according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the administration cycle comprises at least 4 administrations of the anti-NKG2A antibody.
5. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the individual has a hematological tumor.
6. Use according to Claim 5, in which the hematological tumor is selected from the group consisting of leukemia, acute lymphocytic leukemia, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, acute lymphoblastic leukemia, B-cell lymphoma, T-cell lymphoma, Hodgkin's lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, hairy cell lymphoma, Burkitt lymphoma, multiple myeloma, acute myelogenous leukemia, chronic myelogenous leukemia, promyelocytic leukemia and myelodysplastic syndrome.
7. Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, in which the individual has a solid tumor.
8. Use according to Claim 7, in which the individual has a HNSCC.
9. Use according to Claim 7, in which the individual has lung cancer.
10. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the antibody competes with HLA-E for binding to NKG2A.

11. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the antibody has a K_D of between 10^{-10} M and 10^{-12} M for binding to a recombinant soluble NKG2A polypeptide, as assessed by surface plasmon resonance.
12. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the antibody comprises a human IgG4 constant region, in which the antibody comprises an Fc- engineered constant region comprising an amino acid modification that reduces binding to a human Fc γ receptor or in which the antibody is an antibody fragment lacking an Fc domain.
13. Use according to Claim 12, in which the antibody fragment is from the group consisting of a Fab fragment, a Fab' fragment, a Fab'-SH fragment, a F(ab)² fragment, a F(ab')² fragment, an Fv fragment, a heavy chain Ig (a llama or camel Ig), a V_{HH} fragment, a single domain FV and a single-chain antibody fragment.
14. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the antibody comprises the VH CDRs of a heavy chain comprising an amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO: 2-6 and the VL CDRs of the light chain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 respectively.
15. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the antibody comprises a heavy chain comprising an amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO: 2-6 and a light chain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.
16. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the antibody comprises a heavy chain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 and a light chain comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.
17. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the antibody is to be administered at a dose of about 4 mg/kg body weight.
18. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the antibody is to be administered at a dose of between 6-10 mg/kg body weight.
19. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the anti-NKG2A antibody is to be administered as a pharmaceutically acceptable composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the anti-NKG2A antibody.

20. Use according to Claim 19, in which the composition is free of any other pharmaceutically active agents.