and, wherein the last residue of said fragment ends at a position selected from the group consisting of:

l) amino acid residue 247 of SEQ ID NO: 4;

m) amino acid residue 248 of SEQ ID NO: 4;

n) amino acid residue 249 of SEQ ID NO: 4;

o) amino acid residue 250 of SEQ ID NO: 4;

p) amino acid residue 251 of SEQ ID NO: 4;

q) amino acid residue 252 of SEQ ID NO: 4; and,

r) amino acid residue 253 of SEQ ID NO: 4.

18. The single chain IL-12 polypeptide of claim 1, wherein p40C comprises a polypeptide sequence at least 80% identical, at least 85% identical, at least 90% identical, at least 95% identical, at least 97% identical, at least 98% identical, or at least 99% identical to amino acids 289 to 322, amino acids 289 to 328, amino acids 299 to 322, or amino acids 299 to 328 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

19. The single chain IL-12 polypeptide of claim 1, wherein p40C comprises a fragment of the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

20. The single chain IL-12 polypeptide of claim 19, wherein p40C comprises a fragment of the polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein the first residue of said p40C fragment begins at a position selected from the group consisting of:

a) amino acid residue 289 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

b) amino acid residue 290 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

c) amino acid residue 291 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

d) amino acid residue 292 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

e) amino acid residue 293 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

f) amino acid residue 294 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

g) amino acid residue 295 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

h) amino acid residue 296 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

i) amino acid residue 297 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

j) amino acid residue 298 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and,