THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. An isolated antibody or fragment thereof , wherein the isolated antibody or fragment thereof comprises:
    i. a heavy chain variable region H-CDR1 comprising SEQ ID NO: 106 and
    ii. a heavy chain variable region H-CDR2 comprising SEQ ID NO: 107 and
    iii. a heavy chain variable region H-CDR3 comprising SEQ ID NO: 108 and
    iv. a light chain variable region L-CDR1 comprising SEQ ID NO: 109 and
    v. a light chain variable region L-CDR2 comprising SEQ ID NO: 110 and
    vi. a light chain variable region L-CDR3 comprising SEQ ID NO: 111.
2. An isolated antibody or fragment thereof , wherein the isolated antibody or fragment thereof comprises:
    i. a heavy chain variable region H-CDR1 comprising SEQ ID NO: 106 and
    ii. a heavy chain variable region H-CDR2 comprising SEQ ID NO: 122 and
    iii. a heavy chain variable region H-CDR3 comprising SEQ ID NO: 108 and
    iv. a light chain variable region L-CDR1 comprising SEQ ID NO: 109 and
    v. a light chain variable region L-CDR2 comprising SEQ ID NO: 110 and
    vi. a light chain variable region L-CDR3 comprising SEQ ID NO: 126.
3. The isolated antibody or fragment thereof according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the isolated antibody or fragment thereof comprises
    i. a heavy chain variable domain comprising SEQ ID NO: 112 and a light chain variable domain comprising SEQ ID NO: 114 or
    ii. a heavy chain variable domain comprising SEQ ID NO: 138 and a light chain variable domain comprising SEQ ID NO: 140.
4. The isolated antibody according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the isolated antibody or fragment thereof comprises
    i. a heavy chain comprising SEQ ID NO: 116 and a light chain comprising SEQ ID NO: 118 or
    ii. a heavy chain comprising SEQ ID NO: 142 and a light chain comprising SEQ ID NO: 144 thereof.
5. The isolated antibody or fragment thereof according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein said antibody or fragment thereof is fully human, humanized or chimeric.

6. The isolated antibody or fragment thereof according to any one of claims 1-5, wherein said antibody or fragment thereof specifically binds IL-18, but does not bind the IL18/IL-18 binding protein complex.
7. The isolated antibody of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said antibody is an isolated fully human antibody.
8. The isolated antibody or fragment thereof of claim 1 or claim 2, that is an antibody fragment selected from the group consisting of a Fab, a Fab', a $F(ab')_2$, and a scFv.
9. An isolated polynucleotide encoding the antibody or fragment thereof of any one of claims 1 to 8.
10. The isolated polynucleotide according to claim 9 encoding a heavy chain variable domain, wherein the polynucleotide
    i. is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 113 or SEQ ID NO: 139; or
    ii. comprises SEQ ID NO: 113 or SEQ ID NO: 139; or
    iii. consists essentially of SEQ ID NO: 113 or SEQ ID NO: 139.
11. The isolated polynucleotide according to claim 9 encoding a light chain variable domain, wherein the polynucleotide
    i. is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 115 or SEQ ID NO: 141; or
    ii. comprises SEQ ID NO: 115 or SEQ ID NO:; or
    iii. consists essentially of SEQ ID NO: 115 or SEQ ID NO: 141.
12. The isolated polynucleotide according to claim 9 encoding a heavy chain, wherein the polynucleotide
    i. is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 117 or SEQ ID NO: 143; or
    ii. comprises SEQ ID NO: 117 or SEQ ID NO: 143; or
    iii. consists essentially of SEQ ID NO: 117 or SEQ ID NO: 143.
13. The isolated polynucleotide according to claim 9 encoding a light chain, wherein the polynucleotide
    i. is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 119 or SEQ ID NO: 145; or
    ii. comprises SEQ ID NO: 119 or SEQ ID NO:; or
    iii. consists essentially of SEQ ID NO: 119 or SEQ ID NO: 145.
14. A cloning or expression vector comprising one or more polynucleotides according to any one of claims 9 to 13.
15. The cloning or expression vector according to claim 14 comprising at least one polynucleotide selected from the group of SEQ ID NO: 113 or SEQ ID NO: 139 or SEQ

ID NO: 115 or SEQ ID NO: 141 or SEQ ID NO: 117 or SEQ ID NO: 143 or SEQ ID NO: 119 or SEQ ID NO: 145.

16. A host cell comprising one or more cloning or expression vectors according to claims 14 or 15, or a cloning or expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding the heavy chain variable region H-CDR1, H-CDR2 and H-CDR2 as defined in claim 1 or claim 2, and a cloning or expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding the light chain variable region L-CDR1, L-CDR2 and L-CDR2 as defined in claim 1 or claim 2.
17. A stably transformed or transfected host cell comprising one or more polynucleotides according to any one of claims 9 to 13, or a cloning or expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding the heavy chain variable region H-CDR1, H-CDR2 and H-CDR2 as defined in claim 1 or claim 2, and a cloning or expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding the light chain variable region L-CDR1, L-CDR2 and L-CDR2 as defined in claim 1 or claim 2.
18. A method of producing an antibody or a fragment thereof, which method comprises culturing a host cell of any one of claims 16 or 17 under conditions suitable for producing the binding molecule.
19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the isolated antibody or fragment thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 8 and a pharmaceutical carrier, wherein the pharmaceutical composition optionally comprises a second therapeutic compound.
20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 19 in intravenously, inhalable or sub-cutaneously administrable form.
21. Use of the antibody or a fragment thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 8 or the pharmaceutical composition of claims 19 or 20 for the preparation of a medicament for treating and/or preventing sarcoidosis, in particular pulmonary sarcoidosis, hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH), familial hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (FHL) and other immunodeficiency syndromes, Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), adult onset Still's Disease (AOSD), systemic juvenile idiopathic arthritis (SJIA), severe asthma, Uveitis, Geographic Atrophy, diabetes type 1, diabetes type 2 or atherosclerosis and any combination thereof in a mammalian patient.
22. The use according to claim 21, wherein the sarcoidosis is pulmonary sarcoidosis.
23. A method for detecting and/or measuring the presence and/or amount of free IL-18 (i.e. IL-18 not bound to IL-18BP) in a sample, wherein the sample is optionally a human

sample, wherein the method comprises contacting the sample with the isolated antibody or a fragment thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 8.

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the sample is blood, optionally human blood.