

ANTI-IL-33 ANTIBODIES AND USES THEREOF

The present invention is in the field of medicine. More particularly, the present invention relates to antibodies directed against interleukin-33 (IL-33) and pharmaceutical compositions thereof. The antibodies of the present invention are expected to be useful in the treatment of atopic dermatitis.

Atopic dermatitis (also known as atopic eczema) is a chronic inflammatory allergic skin disease that is characterized by recurrent red, itchy lesions. Two major pathophysiological abnormalities are observed in atopic dermatitis patients; cutaneous inflammation due to inappropriate immune responses in the skin and altered epidermal structure and function. The inflammatory infiltrate is comprised of a mixture of cells, in particular immune cells expressing IL-4, IL-5 and IL-13. These cytokines are often elevated in other allergic diseases including asthma and allergic rhinitis.

Atopic dermatitis has been described as the leading non-fatal health burden attributable to skin diseases. Although it most often starts in infancy and affects two out of ten children, it is also highly prevalent in adults. Most adults who suffer from chronic atopic dermatitis have had nearly lifelong disease. Itch, sleep deprivation, and social embarrassment due to visible lesions have substantial effects on the psychosocial wellbeing of patients and their relatives. In children, the effect of atopic dermatitis on health-related quality of life is similar to that of other major childhood disorders, such as asthma and diabetes. Most people who have atopic dermatitis have a personal or family history of allergies.

Currently, atopic dermatitis cannot be cured, and the aim of disease management is to control or improve symptoms and achieve long-term disease control with a multistep approach. The main principles are continuous epidermal barrier repair with emollients, avoidance of individual trigger factors, and anti-inflammatory therapy with topical corticosteroids or calcineurin inhibitors. In severely affected cases, phototherapy or systemic immunosuppressants are indicated. Hence, there is a need for additional efficacious therapies for patients with atopic dermatitis.

IL-33 is a member of the IL-1 cytokine superfamily, and is mainly expressed by keratinocytes, epithelial cells, and endothelial cells. IL-33 activates several types of innate and acquired immune cells causing the production of other pro-inflammatory mediators,

and it is most frequently characterized as an epithelial cytokine that promotes type 2 or T helper 2 (Th2) immune responses. There are a number of antibodies that bind to and neutralize IL-33 known in the art. For example, United States Publication No. 20160168242A1 and International Publication No. WO2015/106080A2 disclose certain
5 antibodies that bind human IL-33. However, there is a need for alternative antibodies that bind human IL-33 with high affinity and are therapeutically effective in treating allergic diseases such as atopic dermatitis. Improved affinity and superior IC₅₀ may enable dosing benefits.

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Summary

In one aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided an antibody that binds human IL-33, comprising a light chain variable region (LCVR) and a heavy chain variable region (HCVR), wherein the LCVR comprises complementarity determining regions (CDRs) LCDR1, LCDR2, and LCDR3 and the HCVR comprises CDRs HCDR1,
15 HCDR2, and HCDR3, and wherein the amino acid sequence of LCDR1 is SEQ ID NO: 16, the amino acid sequence of LCDR2 is SEQ ID NO: 17, the amino acid sequence of LCDR3 is SEQ ID NO: 18, the amino acid sequence of HCDR1 is SEQ ID NO: 13, the amino acid sequence of HCDR2 is SEQ ID NO: 14, and the amino acid sequence of HCDR3 is SEQ ID NO: 15, and wherein Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Ser or
20 Phe, Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Leu or Ile, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Ala or Leu, and Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Ser or Pro.

In another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody disclosed herein, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents, or excipients.

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In a further aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided the antibody disclosed herein for use in therapy.

In another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided the antibody disclosed herein for use in the treatment of one or more allergic disease.

In a further aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided the antibody
30 disclosed herein for use in the treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis,

scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

5 In another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided the antibody disclosed herein for use in the treatment of Crohn's disease.

 In a further aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided the use of the antibody disclosed herein in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of one or more allergic disease.

10 In another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided the use of the antibody disclosed herein in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

 In a further aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided the use of the
15 antibody disclosed herein in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of Crohn's disease.

 In a further aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a HC, wherein the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 9.

20 In another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a LC, wherein the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 10.

 In a further aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a HC having the amino acid sequence of
25 SEQ ID NO: 9, and comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a LC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10.

 In a further aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a mammalian cell transformed with the DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a HC, wherein the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 9 and the DNA molecule
30 comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a LC, wherein the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 10, wherein the cell is capable of expressing an antibody comprising a

HC given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 and a LC given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10.

5 In another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a mammalian cell transformed with the DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a HC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, and comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a LC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10, wherein the cell is capable of expressing an antibody comprising a HC given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 and a LC given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10.

10 In a further aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a process for producing an antibody, which antibody comprises two HCs and two LCs, in which the amino acid sequence of each of the two HCs is given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 and the amino acid sequence of each of the two LCs is given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10, and which process comprises:

- 15 a. cultivating the mammalian cell disclosed herein under conditions such that the antibody expressed, and
- b. recovering the expressed antibody.

In another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided an antibody produced by the process disclosed herein.

20 **Description**

The present invention addresses the need for an alternative antibody therapy for patients having allergic diseases such as atopic dermatitis, food allergy, allergic rhinitis, and asthma. In some embodiments, the allergic disease is atopic dermatitis. The present invention also addresses the need for an alternative antibody therapy for patients having
25 persistent inflammatory diseases including eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The present invention also addresses the need for an alternative antibody therapy for patients having Crohn's disease.

30 The present invention provides antibodies that bind human IL-33. In some embodiments, the antibody comprises a light chain variable region (LCVR) and a heavy chain variable region (HCVR), wherein the LCVR comprises complementarity

determining regions (CDRs) LCDR1, LCDR2, and LCDR3 and the HCVR comprises CDRs HCDR1, HCDR2, and HCDR3, and wherein the amino acid sequence of LCDR1 is SEQ ID NO: 16, the amino acid sequence of LCDR2 is SEQ ID NO: 17, the amino acid sequence of LCDR3 is SEQ ID NO: 18, the amino acid sequence of HCDR1 is SEQ ID NO: 13, the amino acid sequence of HCDR2 is SEQ ID NO: 14, and the amino acid sequence of HCDR3 is SEQ ID NO: 15. In some such embodiments, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Ser, Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Leu, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is ala, and Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Ser. In other such embodiments, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Phe, Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Leu, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Leu, and Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Pro. In other such embodiments, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is

Phe, Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Ile, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Leu, and Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Pro.

The present invention also provides an antibody that binds human IL-33, wherein the antibody comprises a LCVR and a HCVR, and wherein the amino acid sequence of the LCVR is SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 8, or SEQ ID NO: 12, and the amino acid sequence of the HCVR is SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 7, or SEQ ID NO: 11. In a particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of the LCVR is SEQ ID NO: 4, and the amino acid sequence of the HCVR is SEQ ID NO: 3. In another particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of the LCVR is SEQ ID NO: 8, and the amino acid sequence of the HCVR is SEQ ID NO: 7. In another particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of the LCVR is SEQ ID NO: 12, and the amino acid sequence of the HCVR is SEQ ID NO: 11.

The present invention also provides an antibody that binds human IL-33, wherein the antibody comprises a light chain (LC) and a heavy chain (HC), and wherein the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 6, or SEQ ID NO: 10, and the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 5, or SEQ ID NO: 9. In a particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 2, and the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 1. In another particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 6, and the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 5. In another particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 10, and the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 9.

The present invention also provides an antibody that binds human IL-33, wherein the antibody comprises 2 LCs and 2 HCs, and wherein amino acid sequence of each LC is SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 6, or SEQ ID NO: 10, and the amino acid sequence of each HC is SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 5, or SEQ ID NO: 9. In a particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of each LC is SEQ ID NO: 2, and the amino acid sequence of each HC is SEQ ID NO: 1. In a particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of each LC is SEQ ID NO: 6, and the amino acid sequence of each HC is SEQ ID NO: 5. In another particular embodiment, the amino acid sequence of each LC is SEQ ID NO: 10, and the amino acid sequence of each HC is SEQ ID NO: 9.

The present invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody of the present invention, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents, or excipients. In some embodiments, pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention can be used in the treatment of an allergic disease, whereby such treatment

5 comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of the present invention. In some particular embodiments, the allergic disease is atopic dermatitis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, or food allergy. In some embodiments, pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention can be used in the treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, or

10 chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In some embodiments, pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention can be used in the treatment of Crohn's disease.

The present invention also provides a method of treating an allergic disease, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of an antibody of the present invention. In some such embodiments, the allergic disease is atopic

15 dermatitis. In other such embodiments, the allergic disease is asthma. In other such embodiments, the allergic disease is food allergy. In other such embodiments, the allergic disease is allergic rhinitis. The present invention also provides a method of treating atopic dermatitis, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of an antibody of the present invention. In some embodiments, the present invention also

20 provides a method of treating at least one of eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of an antibody of the present invention. In some embodiments, the present invention also provides a method of treating Crohn's disease.

25 The present invention also provides an antibody of the present invention or pharmaceutical composition thereof for use in therapy. In some embodiments, the present invention provides an antibody of the present invention or pharmaceutical composition thereof for use in the treatment of allergic disease, wherein the allergic disease is atopic dermatitis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, or food allergy. In a particular embodiment, the

30 present invention provides an antibody of the present invention or pharmaceutical composition thereof for use in the treatment of atopic dermatitis. In some embodiments,

the present invention provides an antibody of the present invention or pharmaceutical composition thereof for use in the treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In some embodiments, the present invention provides an antibody of the present invention or pharmaceutical composition thereof for use in the treatment of Crohn's disease.

In an embodiment, the present invention also provides the use of an antibody of the present invention or a pharmaceutical composition thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of allergic disease. In some embodiments, the present invention provides the use of an antibody of the present invention or a pharmaceutical composition thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of allergic disease, wherein the allergic disease is atopic dermatitis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, or food allergy. In a particular embodiment, the present invention provides the use of an antibody of the present invention in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of atopic dermatitis. In some embodiments, the present invention provides the use of an antibody of the present invention or a pharmaceutical composition thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In some embodiments, the present invention provides the use of an antibody of the present invention or a pharmaceutical composition thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of Crohn's disease.

The present invention also relates to the nucleic acid molecules encoding the antibodies of the present invention. In an embodiment, the present invention provides a DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a HC, wherein the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 9. According to some such embodiments, the DNA molecule has a polynucleotide sequence given by SEQ ID NO: 20.

In an embodiment, the present invention provides a DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a LC, wherein the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 10. According to some such embodiments, the DNA molecule has a polynucleotide sequence given by SEQ ID NO: 21.

In a further embodiment, the present invention provides a DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a HC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, and comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a LC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10. In a particular embodiment, the polynucleotide sequence encoding the HC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 is given by SEQ ID NO: 20, and the polynucleotide sequence encoding the LC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10 is given by SEQ ID NO: 21.

The present invention also provides a mammalian cell transformed with DNA molecule(s), which cell is capable of expressing a compound comprising a HC and a LC of the present invention, wherein the HC is given by SEQ ID NO: 9, and the LC is given by SEQ ID NO: 10. Also, the present invention provides a process for producing a compound comprising the HC and the LC, comprising cultivating the mammalian cell under conditions such that the antibody of the present invention is expressed. The present invention also provides an antibody produced by said process.

In another embodiment, the present invention provides an antibody that contacts human IL-33 at a novel epitope, wherein the epitope has the following residues of SEQ ID NO: 19: Ser at position 23; Pro at position 24; Ile at position 25; Thr at position 26; Glu at position 27; Tyr at position 28; Leu at position 29; Tyr at position 69; Glu at position 71; Val at position 83; Asp at position 84; Lys at position 86; Leu at position 88; Leu at position 126; Asn at position 128; Met at position 129; Asn at position 132; Cys at position 133; Val at position 134; Glu at position 175; and Thr at position 176. In such an embodiment, the epitope is determined by X-ray crystallography where any residue on IL-33 within 4.5Å of another residue on the bound Fab is considered to be a contact site. The term “epitope” as used herein thus refers to sites of an antigen that are in contact with the variable region of an antibody.

As used herein, an “antibody” is an immunoglobulin molecule comprising 2 HCs and 2 LCs interconnected by disulfide bonds. The amino terminal portion of each LC and HC includes a variable region of about 100-120 amino acids primarily responsible for antigen recognition via the CDRs contained therein. The CDRs are interspersed with regions that are more conserved, termed framework regions (“FR”). Each LCVR and HCVR is composed of 3 CDRs and 4 FRs, arranged from amino-terminus to carboxy-

terminus in the following order: FR1, CDR1, FR2, CDR2, FR3, CDR3, FR4. The 3 CDRs of the LC are referred to as “LCDR1, LCDR2, and LCDR3,” and the 3 CDRs of the HC are referred to as “HCDR1, HCDR2, and HCDR3.” The CDRs contain most of the residues which form specific interactions with the antigen. That is, the CDRs contain most of the residues that are in contact with (within 4.5 Å) the antigen’s residues. The functional ability of an antibody to bind a particular antigen is, thus, largely influenced by the amino acid residues within the six CDRs. Assignment of amino acids to CDR domains within the LCVR and HCVR regions of the antibodies of the present invention is based on the well-known Kabat numbering convention (Kabat, et al., Ann. NY Acad. Sci. 190:382-93 (1971); Kabat et al., Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, Fifth Edition, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NIH Publication No. 91-3242 (1991)), North numbering convention (North et al., A New Clustering of Antibody CDR Loop Conformations, Journal of Molecular Biology, 406:228-256 (2011)), and Chothia (Chothia C, Lesk AM. Canonical structures for the hypervariable regions of immunoglobulins. J. Mol. Biol. 1987;196:901–17. Chothia C, Lesk AM, Tramontano A, Levitt M, Smith-Gill SJ, Air G, Sheriff S, Padlan EA, Davies D, Tulip WR, et al. Conformations of immunoglobulin hypervariable regions. Nature. 1989;342:877–83). The CDRs of the antibodies of the present invention are defined according to Table 1.

Table 1. CDR numbering conventions used to define the CDRs of the antibodies of the present invention.

CDR	Starting Amino Acid Residue Defined By:	Ending Amino Acid Residue Defined By:
HCDR1	Chothia	Kabat/North
HCDR2	Kabat	Kabat
HCDR3	Chothia/Kabat	Chothia/Kabat
LCDR1	Chothia/Kabat/North	Chothia/Kabat/North
LCDR2	Chothia/Kabat	Chothia/Kabat/North
LCDR3	Chothia/Kabat/North	Chothia/Kabat/North

The antibodies of the present invention may be prepared and purified using known methods. For example, cDNA sequences encoding a HC (for example the amino acid sequence given by SEQ ID NO: 9) and a LC (for example, the amino acid sequence given by SEQ ID NO: 10) may be cloned and engineered into a GS (glutamine synthetase) expression vector. The engineered immunoglobulin expression vector may then be stably transfected into CHO cells. As one skilled in the art will appreciate, mammalian expression of antibodies will result in glycosylation, typically at highly conserved N-glycosylation sites in the Fc region. Stable clones may be verified for expression of an antibody specifically binding to IL-33. Positive clones may be expanded into serum-free culture medium for antibody production in bioreactors. Medium, into which an antibody has been secreted, may be purified by conventional techniques. For example, the medium may be conveniently applied to a Protein A or G Sepharose FF column that has been equilibrated with a compatible buffer, such as phosphate buffered saline. The column is washed to remove nonspecific binding components. The bound antibody is eluted, for example, by pH gradient and antibody fractions are detected, such as by SDS-PAGE, and then pooled. The antibody may be concentrated and/or sterile filtered using common techniques. Soluble aggregate and multimers may be effectively removed by common techniques, including size exclusion, hydrophobic interaction, ion exchange, or hydroxyapatite chromatography. The product may be immediately frozen, for example at -70°C, or may be lyophilized.

An antibody of the present invention can be incorporated into a pharmaceutical composition which can be prepared by methods well known in the art and comprise an antibody of the present invention and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents, or excipients.

A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an antibody of the present invention can be administered to a patient at risk for, or exhibiting, diseases or disorders as described herein by parental routes (e.g., subcutaneous, intravenous, intraperitoneal, intramuscular, or transdermal). An "effective amount" refers to an amount necessary (at dosages and for periods of time and for the means of administration) to achieve the desired therapeutic result. An effective amount of the antibody may vary according to factors such as the disease state, age, sex, and weight of the individual, and

the ability of the antibody to elicit a desired response in the individual. An effective amount is also one in which any toxic or detrimental effects of the antibody of the present invention are outweighed by the therapeutically beneficial effects.

The antibodies of the present invention can be used in the treatment of patients.

5 More particularly the antibodies of the present invention are expected to treat allergic diseases such as atopic dermatitis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, and food allergy. Allergic diseases are a set of chronic conditions involving abnormal immune responses to substances that are ordinarily harmless to most people. The antibodies of the present invention are also expected to treat eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic
10 sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The antibodies of the present invention are also expected to treat Crohn's disease.

As used interchangeably herein, "treatment" and/or "treating" and/or "treat" are intended to refer to all processes wherein there may be a slowing, interrupting, arresting, controlling, stopping, or reversing of the progression of the disorders described herein,
15 but does not necessarily indicate a total elimination of all disorder symptoms. Treatment includes administration of an antibody of the present invention for treatment of a disease or condition in a human that would benefit from a reduction in IL-33 activity, and includes: (a) inhibiting further progression of the disease; and (b) relieving the disease, i.e., causing regression of the disease or disorder or alleviating symptoms or
20 complications thereof.

Antibody Engineering

A parental human anti-IL-33 antibody was optimized for binding to human IL-33. To accomplish this, the CDRs of the isolated VH and VL were randomized by mutagenesis and resulting antibodies screened for binding to human IL-33 using an
25 ELISA. Affinity enhancing mutations were then combined to yield Antibody 23, which was then optimized using a framework library approach. For the framework library, twelve human VH framework germline genes (1-24, 1-46, 1-69, 2-5, 3-15, 3-23, 3-53, 3-72, 4-04, 4-39, 5-51, and 6-01) and eight human VL framework genes (A-19, A-26, A-27, B-2, B-3, L-2, L-12, and O-2) containing Antibody 23 CDRs were synthesized and
30 cloned into heavy and light chain human IgG4 expression vectors. Following 293 HEK transient transfection of all 96 heavy and light chain combinations, supernatants were

assayed by ELISA for binding to human IL-33 directly coated onto a plate and to biotinylated IL-33 in solution following the capture of Human IgG from supernatants with an anti-human kappa antibody. A human antibody with CDRs derived from antibody Antibody 23, utilizing the 3-53 heavy chain human framework and A27 human light chain framework, was chosen for further development (Antibody 75). The expression of Antibody 75 in transient CHO resulted in higher expression titers as compared to Antibody 23. Furthermore, the purification of Antibody 75 resulted in higher purification yields than Antibody 23. Reduced nonspecific binding to Heparin was also observed with Antibody 75 as compared to Antibody 23. Overall, Antibody 75 had preferred properties compared to Antibody 23. Antibody 75 bound to human IL-33 with an affinity of 14.5 pM and bound to cynomolgus IL-33 with an affinity of 12,400 pM, representing an ~850-fold difference in species cross-reactivity.

Antibody 75 was then optimized for binding to cynomolgus IL-33. To accomplish this, the CDRs of the isolated VH and VL of Antibody 75 were randomized by mutagenesis and resulting antibodies screened for binding to human IL-33 and cynomolgus IL-33 by ELISA. Affinity enhancing mutations to cynomolgus which did not significantly impact affinity to human IL-33 were then combined to yield Antibody 54. Antibody 54 bound to human IL-33 with an affinity of 46 pM and bound to cynomolgus IL-33 with an affinity of 217 pM representing a 5-fold difference in species cross-reactivity. Antibody 54 was then further engineered to reduce potential immunogenicity, which resulted in Antibody 43. Amino acid sequence identification numbers are provided below for Antibodies 43, 54, and 75.

	HC	LC	HCVR	LCVR
Ab 75	SEQ ID NO: 1	SEQ ID NO: 2	SEQ ID NO: 3	SEQ ID NO: 4
Ab 54	SEQ ID NO: 5	SEQ ID NO: 6	SEQ ID NO: 7	SEQ ID NO: 8
Ab 43	SEQ ID NO: 9	SEQ ID NO: 10	SEQ ID NO: 11	SEQ ID NO: 12

25

Examples

Example 1: Expression and Purification of Exemplified Antibodies

The antibodies of the invention can be biosynthesized, purified, and formulated for administration by well-known methods. An appropriate host cell, such as HEK 293 or

CHO, is either transiently or stably transfected with an expression system for secreting antibodies using a predetermined HC:LC vector ratio if two vectors are used, or a single vector system encoding both heavy chain and light chain. Vectors suitable for expression and secretion of antibodies from these commonly-used host cells are well-known.

5 Following expression and secretion of the antibody, the medium is clarified to remove cells and the clarified medium is purified using any of many commonly-used techniques. For example, the medium may be applied to a Protein A or G column that has been equilibrated with a buffer, such as phosphate buffered saline (pH 7.4). The column is washed to remove nonspecific binding components. The bound antibody is eluted, for
10 example, by a pH gradient (such as 0.1 M sodium phosphate buffer pH 6.8 to 0.1 M sodium citrate buffer pH 2.5). Antibody fractions are detected, such as by SDS-PAGE, and then are pooled. Further purification is optional, depending on the intended use. The antibody may be concentrated and/or sterile filtered using common techniques. Other materials than the antibody, such as host cell and growth medium components, and
15 soluble aggregates and multimers of the antibody, may be effectively reduced or removed by common techniques, including size exclusion, hydrophobic interaction, cation exchange, anion exchange, affinity, or hydroxyapatite chromatography. The purity of the antibody after these chromatography steps is typically greater than 95%. The product may be frozen at -70 °C or may be lyophilized.

20 Exemplified Antibody 43 was expressed either transiently in CHO cells after co-transfection of separate heavy chain and light chain expression DNA vectors that incorporated the DNA sequences of SEQ ID NO: 20 and SEQ ID NO: 21, respectively, or was expressed stably in CHO cells after transfection of a single DNA vector that incorporated the DNA sequences of both SEQ ID NO: 20 and SEQ ID NO: 21, which
25 encode the heavy chain and light chain, respectively. Medium harvested from either a 7-day transient CHO culture or a 14-day CHO bulk culture was clarified and the resulting crude supernatant purified by Protein A chromatography. Antibody 43 bound to Protein A resin and was eluted using low pH buffer. The eluted antibody was further purified using either preparative size-exclusion chromatography (SEC), for material produced from
30 transient CHO, or using cation exchange chromatography as a polishing step for material produced from stable CHO. The final purity of Antibody 43 was evaluated by SDS-

PAGE, analytical SEC-HPLC, and LC/MS analysis. Endotoxin levels were shown to be <1EU/mg using Endosafe-PTS analysis. Purified Antibody 43 was stored in PBS (phosphate-buffered saline), pH 7.2 at 4°C.

5 ***In vitro* Binding Affinity and Kinetics.**

The binding kinetics and affinity of Antibody 43 to human, cynomolgus monkey, mouse, rat, and rabbit IL-33 is determined using a surface plasmon resonance assay on either a Biacore T100 or T200 instrument primed with HBS-EP+ (GE Healthcare, 10 mM Hepes pH7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 3 mM EDTA, 0.05% surfactant P20) running buffer and analysis temperature set at 37°C. A CM4 chip containing immobilized Protein A (generated using standard NHS-EDC amine coupling) on all four flow cells (Fc) is used to employ a capture method. Antibody samples are prepared at 10 µg/mL in running buffer. Mouse, rat, and rabbit IL-33 samples are prepared at final concentrations of 1000, 500, 250, 125, 63, 31, 16, and 0 nM in running buffer. Human and Cynomolgus IL-33 samples are prepared at final concentrations of 250, 125, 63, 31, 16, 8, 4, 2, 1, and 0 nM in running buffer. Each analysis cycle involves the steps of (1) capturing antibody samples on separate flow cells (Fc2, Fc3, or Fc4); (2) injecting 200 µL of IL-33 over all flow cells at 100 µL/min; (3) returning to buffer flow for a minimum of 10 min at 100 µL/min to monitor complex dissociation; (4) regenerating the chip surface with two sequential injections of 7.5 microliters of glycine, pH1.5; and (5) equilibrating the chip surface for 5 minutes prior to repeating the cycle. Each IL-33 concentration is injected in duplicate. Data is processed using standard double-referencing and fit to a 1:1 binding model using Biacore T100 Evaluation software, version 2.0.1, to determine the association rate (on-rate, k_{on} , $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ units) and the dissociation rate (off-rate, k_{off} , s^{-1} units). The equilibrium dissociation constant (K_D) is calculated from the relationship $K_D = k_{off}/k_{on}$, and is in molar units. Three experimental replicates (n) are conducted for the binding of Antibody 43 to human and cynomolgus monkey IL-33.

Following procedures essentially as described above, Antibody 43 had a concentration-dependent binding response to human IL-33 and to cynomolgus monkey IL-33. At the highest concentration of mouse, rat, and rabbit IL-33 injected (1000 nM) the binding response signal did not reach the theoretical half-maximal response signal. As a

result, the K_D of Antibody 43 to mouse, rat, and rabbit IL-33 were estimated to be >1000 nM. Similar methods as described above were used to determine the binding kinetics and affinity of Antibody 75 and Antibody 54. Similar methods were also used to determine the binding kinetics and affinity of an anti-IL-33 IgG4 antibody (not of the present invention) having the HCVR and LCVR sequences of APE4909 (disclosed in WO15106080; herein referred to as “Antibody 6”). These results are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: IL-33 binding kinetics and affinity of antibodies of the present invention and Antibody 6.

Antibody	Antigen	k_{on} ($M^{-1}s^{-1}$) Avg±SD	k_{off} (s^{-1}) Avg±SD	K_D (pM) Avg±SD	N
Antibody 75*	Human IL-33	$1.7 \pm 0.5 \times 10^6$	$2.6 \pm 0.1 \times 10^{-5}$	14.5 ± 1.5	3
Antibody 75*	Cynomolgus IL-33	$1.7 \pm 0.6 \times 10^6$	$1.9 \pm 0.1 \times 10^{-2}$	12400 ± 4000	3
Antibody 54*	Human IL-33	$1.5 \pm 0.5 \times 10^6$	$6.8 \pm 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$	46 ± 9	3
Antibody 54*	Cynomolgus IL-33	$1.5 \pm 0.2 \times 10^6$	$3.4 \pm 0.5 \times 10^{-4}$	217 ± 50	3
Antibody 43	Human IL-33	$1.5 \pm 0.1 \times 10^6$	$7.2 \pm 1.7 \times 10^{-5}$	49 ± 14	3
Antibody 43	Cynomolgus IL-33	$1.5 \pm 0.2 \times 10^6$	$51 \pm 2.0 \times 10^{-5}$	338 ± 45	3
Antibody 6*	Human IL-33	$1.6 \pm 0.1 \times 10^6$	$4.0 \pm 0.9 \times 10^{-4}$	252 ± 73	2
Antibody 6*	Cynomolgus IL-33	$1.8 \pm 0.6 \times 10^6$	$1.3 \pm 0.1 \times 10^{-3}$	804 ± 377	2
Antibody 43	Mouse IL-33	$K_D > 1000$ nM			1
Antibody 43	Rat IL-33	$K_D > 1000$ nM			1
Antibody 43	Rabbit IL-33	$K_D > 1000$ nM			1

*Tested on different days.

***In vitro* Characterization of Binding to Human IL-33 and Other IL-1 Family Members.**

BIAcore biosensor 2000 is used to demonstrate the binding specificity of Antibody 43 to human IL-33 and to show that the exemplified antibody does not bind to other members of the human IL-1 protein family.

Protein A (Calbiochem) is coupled via free amine groups to carboxyl groups on flow cells 1 and 2 of a CM5 biosensor chip (GE Healthcare) using a mixture of N-ethyl-N-(dimethylaminopropyl)-carbodiimide (EDC) and N-hydroxysuccinimide (NHS). To capture positive control antibodies, Rabbit anti-Goat IgG (Fc specific) is coupled to flow cell 3, and Rabbit anti-Rat IgG (Fc specific) is coupled to flow cell 4 (both from Jackson ImmunoResearch). Flow cells are monitored with a flow rate of 30 μ L/minute using a buffer containing 0.01 M HEPES, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 0.005% surfactant P20. Antibody 43 is captured on flow cell 2 to yield a total of 300 to 800 response units (RU; results reflect flow cell 2 minus flow cell 1). Binding tests are followed by a regeneration step using glycine-HCl (pH 1.5) between each cycle. Flow cell 1 is used as a control to monitor non-specific binding of analytes tested. The exemplified antibody is tested with all analytes of the human IL-1 protein family as listed at 500 nM concentration.

Following procedures essentially as described above, the results in Table 3 show that Antibody 43 only binds to human IL-33 and not to the other members of the IL-1 family.

Table 3: Antibody 43 binds specifically to IL-33.

Ligand	Exemplified Antibody binding	Positive control binding
IL-33	Yes	
IL-1 α	No	Yes
IL-1 β	No	Yes
IL-1RA	No	Yes
IL-18	No	Yes
IL-36 α	No	Yes
IL-36 β	No	Yes
IL-36 γ	No	Yes
IL-36RA	No	Yes
IL-37	No	Yes

Neutralization of IL-33 in the GEC NF κ B-Luciferase reporter assay *in vitro*.

Human glomerular endothelial cells (GEC) stably transfected with a NF κ B - luciferase construct are used to determine the ability of Antibody 43 to inhibit IL-33-induced NF κ B activity. The GEC line naturally expresses the ST2 receptor and its co-receptor IL1RAP. In response to human IL-33, the NF κ B pathway is activated in GECs.

GEC-NFκB-luc cells are cultured in assay medium (EGM BulletKit medium (LONZA) plus puromycin). On the day prior to the assay, GEC-NFκB-luc cells are plated at 5,000 cells in 50 μl/well in white walled Collagen I treated plates (BD Biocoat), and the plates are incubated overnight.

- 5 The next day the cells are treated with Antibody 43 in the presence of IL-33. For each test, 25 μl of exemplified antibody is added per well at a dose range of 0 to 133.3 nM per well. 25 μl of human IL-33 is then added to each well at a final concentration of 126 pM (based on MW = 20kDa). Human monomeric ST2 (IL1RL1) is used as a positive control in the assay in a dose range of 0 to 142.9 nM (final concentration base on MW= 35kDa), and an isotype control antibody is used as a negative control in the assay in a dose range of 0 to 133.3 nM (final concentration base on MW= 75kDa). All samples are run in triplicate. The 96-well plates are incubated at 37°C, 95% relative humidity, 5% CO₂ for 4 hours, after which 100 μl/well of One-Glo Luciferase solution is added to measure luciferase activity and plates are read on a luminometer (Perkin Elmer Victor3).
- 10 The results are shown below in Table 4.

Table 4: Exemplified antibody IC₅₀ (pM, Avg ± SD) in the *in vitro* NFκB-GEC-luciferase activity assay.

Antibody	Human IL-33 IC ₅₀	Cyno-IL33 IC ₅₀
Antibody 43	330 ± 112	1918 ± 152
Antibody 54*	139 ± 98	851 ± 500
Antibody 75*	286 ± 67	N.D.
Antibody 6*	292 ± 158	1031
Positive control	426 ± 115	175 ± 21

*Tested on a different day.

- 20 Following procedures essentially as described above, Antibody 43 inhibits human IL-33 and cyno IL-33, but not mouse, rat, or rabbit IL-33-induced NFκB activity in a dose-dependent manner. The average IC₅₀ from three independent experiments for human and cyno neutralization is summarized in Table 4. Negative control antibody did not inhibit NFκB activity in GEC-NFκB-luc cells at any concentration tested.

Neutralization of IL-33-induced GM-CSF secretion from human mast cells *in vitro*.

Inhibition of IL-33-induced GM-CSF release in human mast cells by treatment with Antibody 43 is determined. Human mast cells naturally expressing the ST2 (IL1RL1) receptor and its co-receptor IL1RAP are differentiated in culture from human cord blood stem cells using StemSpan Medium (StemCell) and SCF/IL-6. On the day of the assay, mast cells are plated at 50,000 cells in 50 μ l/well in 96-well tissue culture plates in culture medium. Cells are treated with IL-33 in the presence or absence of antibodies. For each test, 25 μ l of 4X exemplified antibody is added per well at dose range of 0 to 30 nM. 25 μ l of 4X human IL-33 is added to each well to a final concentration 0.5 nM. Assay medium alone is used as a no treatment control and a human monomeric ST2 is used as a positive control at a dose range of 0 to 30 nM. The isotype control antibody tested at 30 nM is used as a negative control. Testing is done in triplicates. The 96-well plates are placed in tissue culture incubator (37°C, 95% relative humidity, 5% CO₂) for 16 hours. 100 μ l/well of supernatant are collected to measure GM-CSF levels by commercial ELISA (R&D Systems).

Following procedures essentially as described above, Antibody 43 completely inhibited human IL33-induced GM-CSF secretion from human mast cells in a dose-dependent manner, with an IC₅₀ of 0.3 nM, which was greater than the positive control soluble receptor IC₅₀ of 7.6 nM. In another similar experiment, Antibody 54 inhibited human IL33-induced GM-CSF secretion from human mast cells with an IC₅₀ of 0.265 nM, and Antibody 6 inhibited human IL33-induced GM-CSF secretion from human mast cells with an IC₅₀ of 0.811 nM. Isotype control antibody did not inhibit IL-33 induced GM-CSF secretion. Results are representative of two independent experiments.

Inhibition of IL-33-induced IL-5 production *in vivo*.

To confirm neutralization of IL-33 *in vivo*, to determine whether Antibody 43 is able to neutralize human IL-33 function and inhibit production of mouse IL-5 *in vivo*, C57BL/6 mice (n=5) are injected intraperitoneally with 0.94 mg/kg, 0.282 mg/kg or 0.094 mg/kg of antibody or with an isotype control antibody at 0.94 mg/kg. One day post-injection, mice are challenged with 0.025 mg/kg of human IL-33 via intraperitoneal

injection. Six hours post-human IL-33 challenge, mice are sacrificed and serum is collected. Serum is analyzed for mouse IL-5 production using a commercial ELISA (R&D Systems) as per the manufacturer's instructions.

The results indicated that Antibody 43 is able to completely inhibit the production of mouse IL-5 in a dose dependent manner. The levels of IL-5 in serum of mice injected with 0.94 mg/kg, 0.282 mg/kg or 0.094 mg/kg of exemplified antibody were 0.03 ± 0.004 ng/mL, 0.166 ± 0.036 ng/mL, and 0.430 ± 0.095 ng/mL, respectively. The negative control antibody does not inhibit the human IL-33-induced production of mouse IL-5. These data demonstrate that Antibody 43 inhibits production of mouse IL-5 through neutralization of human IL-33 *in vivo*.

***In Vivo* Efficacy of a Surrogate Mouse IL-33 Antibody in an Airway Inflammation Model**

A surrogate antibody is developed to neutralize mouse IL-33 (mIL-33) for use in preclinical disease models. The surrogate is a murine IgG1 monoclonal antibody that neutralizes mIL-33 in *in vitro* assays. The ability of systemic administration of the anti-mIL-33 antibody to affect the airway inflammatory response to *Alternaria* challenge is determined *in vivo*. Female BALB/c mice (n=5 per group) are injected subcutaneously with 25 mg/kg of anti-mIL-33 or isotype control antibody on Day 0. Mouse ST2-Fc, a soluble form of one of the co-receptors for IL-33 that can neutralize mIL-33 in *in vitro* assays (Positive control), is injected at 12.5 mg/kg intraperitoneally on Days 1 and 2, 30 minutes prior to *Alternaria* administration. *Alternaria* extract (50 µg in 20 µL PBS) is administered intra-nasally to each mouse on days 1 and 2. Mice are sacrificed on day 3 with CO₂ inhalation and blood is immediately collected via cardiac puncture for preparation of serum.

Bronchial alveolar lavage fluid (BAL) is prepared by lavaging lungs with 10 washes (500 µL each wash) of PBS injection and withdrawal through a cannula in the exposed trachea of each mouse. BAL fluid is centrifuged at 200g for 10 minutes and supernatant is removed and frozen. Cells are resuspended in 1 mL ACK buffer (Sigma) to lyse the red blood cells, washed and are resuspended in 0.5 mL of PBS for counting. Eosinophils are counted using eosinophil diluting fluid and stain (ENG Scientific, Cat.

ES-3101) and total cells are counted with trypan blue. BAL fluid is assayed using commercial mouse IL-5 and Chitinase 3-like 3/YM1 (Chi3L3/YM1) ELISAs (R&D Systems) and for antibody exposure. The results are shown below in Table 5.

5 Table 5: Levels of IL-5 and Chi3L3/YM1, and number of eosinophils and total number of cells in BAL fluid.

Cells/Cytokines	Unchallenged	Isotype Control	Anti-mIL-33	Positive Control
Eosinophils (# cells)	32000 ± 13565	340000 ± 70711	120000 ± 51769	112000 ± 57480
IL-5 (pg/mL)	2 ± 0	69.6 ± 27.31	2 ± 0	9.2 ± 6.248
Chi3L3/YM1 (ng/mL)	17.4 ± 2.064	108.6 ± 28.7	27.4 ± 4.986	37.4 ± 6.313
Total Cells (# cells)	104000 ± 20396	408000 ± 95833	144000 ± 31241	152000 ± 44989

Following procedures essentially as described above, *Alternaria* challenge increased the number of cells, mostly eosinophils, present in the BAL fluid. It also induced the production of cytokines such as IL-5 and Chi3L3/YM1. Systemic administration of the anti-mIL-33 antibody significantly reduced eosinophil and total cell infiltration as measured by the BAL cell counts, and decreased IL-5 and Chi3L3/YM1 levels in the BAL fluid. These results demonstrate that inhibition of mIL-33 reduced multiple inflammatory markers in this airway inflammation model.

15

Epitope Mapping by X-ray Crystallography

X-ray Crystallography

A 10.6 mg/ml solution of hIL33:FAB complex is screened for crystals utilizing custom and commercially available screens. Vapor diffusion experiments are set up at 22°C as 400 nL + 400 nL (protein + well solution) crystallization drops with 50 µL well solution (0.2 M Ammonium Sulfate and 30% w/v Polyethylene Glycol 8,000) in a MRC2 (SWISSCI) sitting drop plate. 20 mM Magnesium Acetate is added to the protein to aid

20

in crystallization. Resulting crystals are flash frozen in liquid nitrogen following a quick dip in well solution containing 20% Ethylene Glycol added as a cryogenic agent. X-ray diffraction data are collected using synchrotron radiation at LRL-CAT 31-ID (Advanced Photon Source, Argonne, IL). 180 frames are collected at 1° oscillation at a wavelength of 0.97931 Å and processed with CCP41 packages.

The crystals are of the P21212 space group with unit cell dimensions $a=70.1$ Å $b=194.9$ Å $c=46.5$ Å $\alpha=\beta=\gamma=90^\circ$. A molecular replacement solution of the hIL33:FAB complex is obtained with Phaser2 using input models from PDB structure 4KC3 and a FAB model generated with the MOE3 (v2014.9) antibody modeling tool. The molecular replacement solution contains 1 complex in the asymmetric unit. This solution subsequently undergoes multiple rounds of refinement and model building with Buster4 and Coot5 yielding a final structure with Rwork of 17.8% and Rfree of 20.3% at 1.40 Å.

The hIL33 epitope is mapped for the high resolution crystal structure of hIL33:FAB complex using the Protein Contacts tool in MOE3 (v2015.10). The tool is used to evaluate “distance”, “covalent”, “arene”, “ionic”, and “hbond” interactions. The output for the interchain interactions is distilled down to the residue level in Microsoft Excel to identify the hIL33 epitope residues. The final list contains hIL33 residues that are within 4.5 Å of any FAB residue.

Following procedure essentially as described above, an antibody having the same CDRs as Antibody 75 contacts human IL-33 at an epitope given by the following residues of SEQ ID NO: 19: Ser at position 23; Pro at position 24; Ile at position 25; Thr at position 26; Glu at position 27; Tyr at position 28; Leu at position 29; Tyr at position 69; Glu at position 71; Val at position 83; Asp at position 84; Lys at position 86; Leu at position 88; Leu at position 126; Asn at position 128; Met at position 129; Asn at position 132; Cys at position 133; Val at position 134; Glu at position 175; and Thr at position 176. Antibody 54 and Antibody 43 also contact a substantially similar epitope on human IL-33.

Sequences

HC of Antibody 75 (SEQ ID NO: 1)

EVQLVETGGGLIQPGGSLRLSCAASGFTFSSYAMSWVRQAPGKGLEWVSAISGSG
5 GSTYYADSVKGRFTISRDN SKNTLYLQMNSLRAEDTAVYYCARTLHGIRAAAYDA
FIIWGQGTLVTVSSASTKGPSVFPLAPCSRSTSESTAALGCLVKDYFPEPVTVSWN
SGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVTVPSSSLGKTYTCNVDPHKPSNTKVDKR
VESKYGPPCPPCAPEAAAGGPSVFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVDVDSQEDPEV
QFNWYVDGVEVHNAKTKPREEQFNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSN
10 KGLPSSIEKTISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSQEEMTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEW
ESNGQPENNYKTTTPVLDSDGSFFLYSRLTVDKSRWQEGNVFSCSVMHEALHNH
YTQKSLSLSLG

LC of Antibody 75 (SEQ ID NO: 2)

15 EIVLTQSPGTLSPGERATLSCRASQSVGINLSWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYGASHRAT
GIPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLTISRLEPEDFAVYYCHQYSQSPPTFGGGTKVEIKRTVAA
PSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREAKVQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQD
SKDSTYSLSSLTLSKADYEKHKVYACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC

20 HCVR of Antibody 75 (SEQ ID NO: 3)

EVQLVETGGGLIQPGGSLRLSCAASGFTFSSYAMSWVRQAPGKGLEWVSAISGSG
GSTYYADSVKGRFTISRDN SKNTLYLQMNSLRAEDTAVYYCARTLHGIRAAAYDA
FIIWGQGTLVTVSS

25 LCVR of Antibody 75 (SEQ ID NO: 4)

EIVLTQSPGTLSPGERATLSCRASQSVGINLSWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYGASHRAT
GIPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLTISRLEPEDFAVYYCHQYSQSPPTFGGGTKVEIK

HC of Antibody 54 (SEQ ID NO: 5)

30 EVQLVETGGGLIQPGGSLRLSCAASGFTFSFYAMSWVRQAPGKGLEWVSAISGSG
GSTYYADSVKGRFTISRDN SKNTLYLQMNSLRAEDTAVYYCARTLHGIRAAAYDA

-21-

FIIWGQGTLVTVSSASTKGPSVFPLAPCSRSTSESTAALGCLVKDYFPEPVTVSWN
 SGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVPSSSLGTKTYTCNVDHKPSNTKVDKR
 VESKYGPPCPPCPAPEAAGGPSVFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVDVDSQEDPEV
 QFNWYVDGVEVHNAKTKPREEQFNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSN
 5 KGLPSSIEKTISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSQEEMTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEW
 ESNGQPENNYKTTPPVLDSDGSFFLYSRLTVDKSRW
 QEGNVFSCSVMHEALHNHYTQKSLSLGLG

LC of Antibody 54 (SEQ ID NO: 6)

10 EIVLTQSPGTLSPGERATLSCRASQSVGINLSWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYGASHRLT
 GIPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLTISRLEPEDFAVYYCHQYSQPPPTFGGGTKVEIKRTVAA
 PSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREAKVQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQD
 SKDSTYLSSTLTLSKADYEEKHKVYACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC

15 HCVR of Antibody 54 (SEQ ID NO: 7)

EVQLVETGGGLIQPGGSLRLSCAASGFTFSFYAMSWVRQAPGKGLEWVSAISGSG
 GSTYYADSVKGRFTISRDN SKNTLYLQMNSLRAEDTAVYYCARTLHGIRAAAYDA
 FIIWGQGTLVTVSS

20 LCVR of Antibody 54 (SEQ ID NO: 8)

EIVLTQSPGTLSPGERATLSCRASQSVGINLSWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYGASHRLT
 GIPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLTISRLEPEDFAVYYCHQYSQPPPTFGGGTKVEIK

HC of Antibody 43 (SEQ ID NO: 9)

25 EVQLVETGGGLIQPGGSLRLSCAASGFTFSFYAMSWVRQAPGKGLEWVSAISGSG
 GSTYYADSVKGRFTISRDN SKNTLYLQMNSLRAEDTAVYYCARTIHGIRAAAYDA
 FIIWGQGTLVTVSSASTKGPSVFPLAPCSRSTSESTAALGCLVKDYFPEPVTVSWN
 SGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVPSSSLGTKTYTCNVDHKPSNTKVDKR
 VESKYGPPCPPCPAPEAAGGPSVFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVDVDSQEDPEV
 30 QFNWYVDGVEVHNAKTKPREEQFNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSN
 KGLPSSIEKTISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSQEEMTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEW

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ESNGQPENNYKTTTPVLDSDGSFFLYSRLTVDKSRWQEGNVFSCSVMHEALHNH
YTQKSLSLSLG

LC of Antibody 43 (SEQ ID NO: 10)

5 EIVLTQSPGTLSPGERATLSCRASQSVGINLSWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYGASHRLT
GIPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLTISRLEPEDFAVYYCHQYSQPPPTFGGGTKVEIKRTVAA
PSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREAKVQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQD
SKDSTYLSSTLTLSKADYEEKHKVYACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC

10 HCVR of Antibody 43 (SEQ ID NO: 11)

EVQLVETGGGLIQPGGSLRLSCAASGFTFSFYAMSWVRQAPGKGLEWVSAISGSG
GSTYYADSVKGRFTISRDN SKNTLYLQMNSLRAEDTAVYYCARTIHGIRAAAYDA
FIIWGQGTLVTVSS

15 LCVR of Antibody 43 (SEQ ID NO: 12)

EIVLTQSPGTLSPGERATLSCRASQSVGINLSWYQQKPGQAPRLLIYGASHRLT
GIPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLTISRLEPEDFAVYYCHQYSQPPPTFGGGTKVEIK

HCDR1 (SEQ ID NO: 13)

20 GFTFSXYAMS

Wherein X at position 6 is S or F.

HCDR2 (SEQ ID NO: 14)

AISGSGGSTYYADSVKG

25

HCDR3 (SEQ ID NO: 15)

TXHGIRAAAYDAFII

Wherein X at position 2 is L or I.

30 LCDR1 (SEQ ID NO: 16)

RASQSVGINLS

LCDR2 (SEQ ID NO: 17)

GASHRXT

Wherein X at position 6 is A or L.

5

LCDR3 (SEQ ID NO: 18)

HQYSQXPPFT

Wherein X at position 6 is S or P.

10 Human IL-33 Amino Acids 95-270 (SEQ ID NO: 19)

AFGISGVQKYTRALHDSSITGISPITEYLASLSTYNDQSITFALEDESYEIYVEDLKK
DEKKDKVLLSYYESQHPSNESGDGVDGKMLMVTLSPTKDFWLHANNKEHSVEL
HKCEKPLPDQAFFVLHNMHSNCVSFECKTDPGVFIGVKDNHLALIKVDSSENLCT
ENILFKLSET

15

DNA Encoding the HC of SEQ ID NO: 9 (SEQ ID NO: 20)

GAGGTGCAGCTGGTGGAGACTGGAGGAGGCTTGATCCAGCCTGGGGGGTCCC
TGAGACTCTCCTGTGCAGCCTCTGGATTACCTTTAGCTTTTATGCTATGAGCT
GGGTCCGCCAGGCTCCAGGGAAGGGGCTGGAGTGGGTCTCAGCTATTAGTGG
20 TAGTGGTGGTAGCACATACTACGCAGATTCCGTGAAGGGCCGATTACCATCT
CCAGAGACAATTCCAAGAACACGCTGTATCTTCAAATGAACAGCCTGAGAGC
CGAGGACACGGCCGTGTATTACTGTGCGAGAACGATCCACGGTATACGCGCA
GCCTATGATGCTTTTATTATCTGGGGCCAGGGCACCCCTGGTCACCGTCTCCTC
AGCTTCTACCAAGGGCCCATCGGTCTTCCCGCTAGCGCCCTGCTCCAGGAGCA
25 CCTCCGAGAGCACAGCCGCCCTGGGCTGCCTGGTCAAGGACTACTTCCCCGA
ACCGGTGACGGTGTCGTGGAACCTCAGGCGCCCTGACCAGCGGCGTGACACACC
TTCCCGGCTGTCTACAGTCCTCAGGACTCTACTCCCTCAGCAGCGTGGTGAC
CGTGCCCTCCAGCAGCTTGGGCACGAAGACCTACACCTGCAACGTAGATCAC
AAGCCCAGCAACACCAAGGTGGACAAGAGAGTTGAGTCCAAATATGGTCCCC
30 CATGCCCAACCTGCCAGCACCTGAGGCCGCCGGGGGACCATCAGTCTTCCTG
TTCCCCCAAAACCAAGGACACTCTCATGATCTCCCGGACCCCTGAGGTCAC

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GTGCGTGGTGGTGGACGTGAGCCAGGAAGACCCCGAGGTCCAGTTCAACTGG
TACGTGGATGGCGTGGAGGTGCATAATGCCAAGACAAAGCCGCGGGAGGAG
CAGTTCAACAGCACGTACCGTGTGGTCAGCGTCCTCACCGTCCTGCACCAGGA
CTGGCTGAACGGCAAGGAGTACAAGTGCAAGGTCTCCAACAAAGGCCTCCCG
5 TCCTCCATCGAGAAAACCATCTCCAAAGCCAAAGGGCAGCCCCGAGAGCCAC
AGGTGTACACCCTGCCCCCATCCCAGGAGGAGATGACCAAGAACCAGGTGAG
CCTGACCTGCCTGGTCAAAGGCTTCTACCCCAGCGACATCGCCGTGGAGTGG
GAAAGCAATGGGCAGCCGGAGAACAACACTACAAGACCACGCCTCCCGTGCTGG
ACTCCGACGGCTCCTTCTCCTCTACAGCAGGCTAACCCTGGACAAGAGCAG
10 GTGGCAGGAGGGGAATGTCTTCTCATGCTCCGTGATGCATGAGGCTCTGCAC
AACCACTACACACAGAAGAGCCTCTCCCTGTCTCTGGGT

15 **DNA Encoding the LC of SEQ ID NO: 10 (SEQ ID NO: 21)**

GAAATTGTGTTGACGCAGTCTCCAGGCACCCTGTCTTTGTCTCCAGGGGAAAG
AGCCACCCTCTCCTGCAGGGCCAGTCAGAGTGTTGGCATCAACTTGTCTGGT
ACCAGCAGAAACCTGGCCAGGCTCCCAGGCTCCTCATCTATGGTGCATCCCAT
AGGCTAACTGGCATCCCAGACAGGTTTCAGTGGCAGTGGGTCTGGGACAGACT
20 TCACTCTCACCATCAGCAGACTGGAGCCTGAAGATTTTGCAGTGTATTACTGT
CATCAATATAGTCAACCACCTCCCTTCACTTTTCGGCGGAGGGACCAAGGTGG
AGATCAAACGGACCGTGGCTGCACCATCTGTCTTCATCTTCCCGCCATCTGAT
GAGCAGTTGAAATCTGGAACCTGCCTCTGTTGTGTGCCTGCTGAATAACTTCTA
TCCCAGAGAGGGCCAAAGTACAGTGGAAGGTGGATAACGCCCTCCAATCGGGT
25 AACTCCCAGGAGAGTGTACAGAGCAGGACAGCAAGGACAGCACCTACAGC
CTCAGCAGCACCCCTGACGCTGAGCAAAGCAGACTACGAGAAACACAAAGTCT
ACGCCTGCGAAGTCACCCATCAGGGCCTGAGCTCGCCCGTCACAAAGAGCTT
CAACAGGGGAGAGTGC

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WE CLAIM:

1. An antibody that binds human IL-33, comprising a light chain variable region (LCVR) and a heavy chain variable region (HCVR), wherein the LCVR comprises complementarity determining regions (CDRs) LCDR1, LCDR2, and LCDR3 and the HCVR comprises CDRs HCDR1, HCDR2, and HCDR3, and wherein the amino acid sequence of LCDR1 is SEQ ID NO: 16, the amino acid sequence of LCDR2 is SEQ ID NO: 17, the amino acid sequence of LCDR3 is SEQ ID NO: 18, the amino acid sequence of HCDR1 is SEQ ID NO: 13, the amino acid sequence of HCDR2 is SEQ ID NO: 14, and the amino acid sequence of HCDR3 is SEQ ID NO: 15, and wherein:
 - a) Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Ser, Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Leu, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Ala, and Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Ser;
 - b) Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Phe, Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Leu, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Leu, and Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Pro; or
 - c) Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Phe, Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Ile, Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Leu, and Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Pro.
2. The antibody of Claim 1, wherein:
 - a. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Ser;
 - b. Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Leu;
 - c. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Ala; and
 - d. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Ser.
3. The antibody of Claim 1, wherein:
 - a. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Phe;
 - b. Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Leu;
 - c. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Leu; and
 - d. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Pro.
4. The antibody of Claim 1, wherein:
 - a. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 13 is Phe;
 - b. Xaa at position 2 of SEQ ID NO: 15 is Ile;
 - c. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 17 is Leu; and

- d. Xaa at position 6 of SEQ ID NO: 18 is Pro.
- 5. The antibody of Claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the LCVR is SEQ ID NO: 4, and the amino acid sequence of the HCVR is SEQ ID NO: 3.
- 6. The antibody of Claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the LCVR is SEQ ID NO: 8, and the amino acid sequence of the HCVR is SEQ ID NO: 7.
- 7. The antibody of Claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence of the LCVR is SEQ ID NO: 12, and the amino acid sequence of the HCVR is SEQ ID NO: 11.
- 8. The antibody of Claim 1, comprising a light chain (LC) and a heavy chain (HC), wherein the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 2, and the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 9. The antibody of Claim 1, comprising a LC and a HC, wherein the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 6, and the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 5.
- 10. The antibody of Claim 1, comprising a comprising a LC and a HC, wherein the amino acid sequence of the LC is SEQ ID NO: 10, and the amino acid sequence of the HC is SEQ ID NO: 9.
- 11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of any one of Claims 1-10, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents, or excipients.
- 12. The antibody of any one of Claims 1-10 for use in therapy.
- 13. The antibody of any one of Claims 1-10 for use in the treatment of one or more allergic disease.

14. The antibody of Claim 13, wherein the allergic disease is atopic dermatitis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, or food allergy.
15. The antibody of Claim 14, wherein the allergic disease is atopic dermatitis.
16. The antibody of any one of Claims 1-10 for use in the treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
17. The antibody of any one of Claims 1-10 for use in the treatment of Crohn's disease.
18. Use of the antibody of any one of Claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of one or more allergic disease.
19. The use of Claim 18, wherein the allergic disease is atopic dermatitis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, or food allergy.
20. The use of Claim 19, wherein the allergic disease is atopic dermatitis.
21. Use of the antibody of any one of Claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis, scleroderma/systemic sclerosis, ulcerative colitis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
22. Use of the antibody of any one of Claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of Crohn's disease.
23. A DNA molecule comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a HC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, and comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a LC having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10.

24. A mammalian cell transformed with the DNA molecule of claim 23, wherein the cell is capable of expressing an antibody comprising a HC given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 and a LC given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10.
25. A process for producing an antibody, which antibody comprises two HCs and two LCs, in which the amino acid sequence of each of the two HCs is given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 and the amino acid sequence of each of the two LCs is given by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10, wherein the process comprises:
 - a. cultivating the mammalian cell of claim 24 under conditions such that the antibody expressed, and
 - b. recovering the expressed antibody.