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CLAIMS

1. An antibody to human interleukin-6 receptor, which is capable of binding specifically to a human interleukin-6 receptor.

2. An antibody as set forth in claim 1, which is a monoclonal antibody.

3. An antibody as set forth in claim 2, which is competitive with human interleukin-6 for the binding to a human interleukin-6 receptor.

4. An antibody as set forth in claim 3, which is PM1 antibody.

5. An antibody as set forth in claim 2, which is not competitive with human interleukin-6 for the binding to a human interleukin-6 receptor.

6. An antibody as set forth in claim 5, which is MT18 antibody.

7. An antibody as set forth in claim 1, which is a polyclonal antibody.

8. An antibody as set forth in any of claims 1 through 7, which recognizes a part of a human interleukin-6 receptor represented by (N-terminal) KTSMHPPYSLGQLVP (C-terminal) in which the alphabetic letters mean amino acids according to the one-letter method.

9. A hybridoma producing a monoclonal antibody as set forth in claim 2.

10. A process for the preparation of hybridoma, which comprises immunizing a mammal with a human interleukin-6 receptor antigen, obtaining immunocytes from the mammal, fusing the immunocytes with myeloma cells and cloning a hybridoma capable of recognizing a human interleukin-6 receptor from the fused cells.

11. A process according to claim 10, wherein the human interleukin-6 receptor antigen is human interleukin-6 receptor bounded to a solid carrier.

12. A process for the preparation of anti-human interleukin-6 receptor antibody, which comprises culturing a hybridoma as set forth in claim 9 or a

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hybridoma prepared according to a process as set forth in claim 10 or 11, and recovering a monoclonal antibody capable of recognizing a human interleukin-6 receptor from the culture.

13. A process for the preparation of anti-human interleukin-6 receptor polyclonal antibody, which comprises immunizing a mammal with a human interleukin-6 receptor antigen and recovering a polyclonal antibody capable of recognizing a human interleukin-6 receptor from the immunized animal.

14. A process according to claim 13, wherein the human interleukin-6 receptor antigen is a complex comprising a peptide having a sequence represented by (N-terminal) KTSMHPPYSLGQLVP (C-terminal) in which the alphabetic letters mean amino acids according to the one-letter expressing method, conjugated to a polymeric carrier.

15. Human interleukin-6 receptor antigen which is a complex comprising a peptide having a sequence represented by (N-terminal) KTSMHPPYSLGQLVP (C-terminal) in which the alphabetic letters mean amino acids according to the one letter method, conjugated to a polymeric carrier.

16. A peptide having a sequence represented by KTSMHPPYSLGQLVPC in which the alphabetic letters mean amino acids according to the one letter method.