CLAIMS

1. A method of detecting pre-eclampsia in an individual, the method comprising detecting in a sample of or from an individual:

(a) an elevated level of expression, activity or amount of CD105, IL6, PlGF, TIMP1 or ANP in a Cholera Toxin subunit B (CTB) binding microparticle, but not an Annexin V (AV) binding microparticle;

(b) an elevated level of expression, activity or amount of FLT1 or BNP in both a Cholera Toxin subunit B (CTB) binding microparticle and an Annexin V (AV) binding microparticle; or

(c) a lowered level of expression, activity or amount of CD9 in a Cholera Toxin subunit B (CTB) binding microparticle and an elevated level of expression, activity or amount of CD9 in a Annexin V (AV) binding microparticle;

as compared to the level of expression, activity or amount of the selected polypeptide in the same microparticle type of an individual not suffering from pre-eclampsia;

in which the elevated level of expression, activity or amount of PlGF is detected using an antibody array;

in which the modulated level of expression, activity or amount of the selected polypeptide indicates that the individual is suffering from, or is likely to be suffering from, pre-eclampsia.

2. A method according to any preceding claim, which further comprises detecting a modulated level of expression, activity or amount of a pre-eclampsia biomarker polypeptide selected from the polypeptides set out in Table 1A, Table 1B and Table 1C; Table 2A, Table 2B and Table 2C; Table 3A and Table 3B and Table 4A and Table 4B.

3. A method according to any preceding claim, which further comprises establishing a profile comprising the expression, activity or amount of a plurality of pre-eclampsia biomarker polypeptides of the individual, and comparing the profile against a profile of an individual known to be not suffering from pre-eclampsia.

4. A method according to any preceding claim, which further comprises a step of normalising the level, concentration or amount of the selected polypeptide between two or

more samples, in which the normalisation is preferably conducted with reference to BNP, CD9 and/or TIMP-1 polypeptide.

5. A method according to any preceding claim: (a) which further comprises a step of selecting microparticles by size, for example, by size exclusion chromatography; (b) in which the microparticles comprise CD9+ microparticles; (c) in which the sample is selected from the group consisting of: urine, blood, tears, saliva, bronchoaveolar fluid, tumoral effusions, epididymal fluid, amniotic fluid and milk; or (d) in which the microparticles comprise microvesicles, exosomes, ectosomes or apoptotic bodies.

6. A method of monitoring the progress of an individual suffering from pre-eclampsia, the method comprising monitoring the modulation of expression of a pre-eclampsia biomarker polypeptide in a cell, tissue or organ of the individual by a method according to any preceding claim.

7. A method of prognosis of an individual suffering from pre-eclampsia, the method comprising detecting modulation of expression of a pre-eclampsia biomarker polypeptide in a cell, tissue or organ of the individual by a method according to any of Claims 1 to 5.

8. A method of choosing a therapy for an individual suffering from pre-eclampsia, the method comprising detecting modulation of expression of pre-eclampsia biomarker polypeptide in a cell, tissue or organ of the individual by a method according to any of Claims 1 to 5 and choosing an appropriate therapy based on the severity of the pre-eclampsia.

9. A method of determining the likelihood of success of a particular therapy in an individual suffering from pre-eclampsia, the method comprising comparing the therapy with a therapy determined by a method according to Claim 8.

10. A method according to Claim 8 or 9, in which the therapy comprises an antihypertensive, isradipine, Labetolol, Hydralazine, Nifedipine or magnesium sulfate.