CLAIMS

1. A humanized antibody, which binds to free IgE, membrane-bound IgE on B lymphocytes, or IgE bound by CD23, but not to IgE bound by FcεRI, wherein the humanized antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region (V_H) and a light chain variable region (V_L),

the V_H comprises an amino acid sequence that is identical to SEQ ID NO: 2, and the hypervariable regions of V_H are positions 26-35 (CDR-H1; SEQ ID NO: 5), 50-56 (CDR-H2; SEQ ID NO: 6) and 93-104 (CDR-H3; SEQ ID NO: 7); and

the V_L comprises an amino acid sequence that is identical to SEQ ID NO:4, and the hypervariable regions of V_L are positions 27-34 (CDR-L1; SEQ ID NO: 8), 50-56 (CDR-L2; SEQ ID NO: 9), and 89-97 (CDR-L3; SEQ ID NO: 10).

2. The humanized antibody of claim 1, which crosslinks IgE-bound CD23 on B lymphocytes.

3. The humanized antibody of claim 1, which decreases the total IgE production by B lymphocytes.

4. The humanized antibody of claim 1, which decreases the antigen-specific IgE production by antigen-activated B lymphocytes.

5. The humanized antibody of claim 1, which decreases IgE production in patients treated with the humanized antibody.

6. The humanized antibody of claim 1, wherein the antibody is an antigen-binding fragment.

7. The humanized antibody of claim 6, wherein the antigen-binding fragment is Fab, F(ab')2, or single-chain Fv.

8. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a therapeutically-effective amount of the humanized antibody of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. Use of a humanized antibody for the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of allergic asthma, allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis, food allergy, chronic spontaneous (idiopathic) urticaria, chronic rhinosinusitis, systemic mastocytosis, cutaneous mastocytosis, allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis, recurrent idiopathic angioedema, and eosinophil-associated gastrointestinal disorder, wherein the humanized antibody is any of claims 1 to 7.

10. The use of claim 9, wherein at an effective amount of the humanized antibody, the humanized antibody does not induce the degranulation of mast cells and basophils.

11. The use of claim 9, wherein at an effective amount of the humanized antibody, the humanized antibody forms an immune complex with IgE, and the immune complex does not induce the degranulation of mast cells and basophils.