9. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the dissociate constant (K_D) of the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binding to *C. difficile* toxin A is less than about 8×10^{-10} M.

10. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof is humanized or chimeric.

11. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the antigen-binding portion thereof is a whole immunoglobulin molecule, an scFv, a Fab fragment, an F(ab′)2, or a disulfide-linked Fv.

12. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof comprises at least one constant domain selected from the group consisting of an IgG constant domain and an IgA constant domain.

13. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claim claims 1 to 12, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to fragment 4 of *C. difficile* toxin A.

14. An antibody produced by hybridoma designated CAN20G2.

15. A hybridoma designated CAN20G2.

16. An isolated antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof that specifically binds to the same *C. difficile* toxin A epitope recognized by a reference antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region and a light chain variable region, wherein the heavy chain variable region of the reference antibody comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:89; and the light chain variable region of the reference antibody comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 91.

17. An isolated antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof that competes for binding to *C. difficile* toxin A with a reference antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region and a light chain variable region, wherein the heavy chain variable region of the reference antibody comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:89; and the light chain variable region of the reference antibody comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 91.

18. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof is functionally linked to another molecule.

19. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of claim 18, wherein the molecule is an antibody, detectable agent, a cytotoxic agent, a pharmaceutical agent, a protein or peptide that mediates association with another molecule, an amino acid linker, a signal sequence, or an immunogenic carrier.

20. A composition comprising the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to14, and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

21. A kit comprising the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 14.

22. The kit of claim 21, further comprising: instructions for use; a therapeutic agent; a coupling agent; one or more of *C. difficile* whole toxin A, toxoid A, toxin A fragment 4, whole toxin B, toxoid B, toxin B fragment 4; or a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

23. Use of an effective amount of the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 14 in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing or treating *C. difficile*-associated disease.

24. The use of claim 23, wherein a dosage of the medicament comprises an effective amount of the antibody or antigen binding portion thereof.

25. The use of claim 23 or 24, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof is to be administered intravenously, subcutaneously, intramuscularly or transdermally.

26. The use of any one of claims 23 to 25, wherein the medicament further comprises a second agent.

27. The use of claim 26, wherein the second agent is a different antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof.

28. The use of claim 27, wherein the second agent is an antibiotic.

29. The use of claim 28, wherein the antibiotic is vancomycin, metronidazole, or fidaxomicin.

30. A method of detecting *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*) toxin A, comprising the steps of contacting a sample suspected or known to contain *C. difficile* toxin A with the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 14 and detecting binding of the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof to *C. difficile* toxin A.

31. A method of isolating *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*) toxin A from a sample, which comprises contacting a sample comprising or suspected of comprising *C. difficile* toxin A with the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 14.

32. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid that encodes the heavy chain variable region or the light chain variable region of an antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 14.

33. The polynucleotide of claim 32, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 70.

34. The polynucleotide of claim 32, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 71.

35. The polynucleotide of claim 32, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 88.

36. The polynucleotide of claim 32, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 90.

37. The polynucleotide of claim 32, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 92.

38. The polynucleotide of claim 32, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 94.

9. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof is humanized or chimeric.

10. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the antigen-binding portion thereof is a whole immunoglobulin molecule, an scFv, a Fab fragment, an F(ab′)2, or a disulfide-linked Fv.

11. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof comprises at least one constant domain selected from the group consisting of an IgG constant domain and an IgA constant domain.

12. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claim claims 1 to 11, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof binds to fragment 4 of *C. difficile* toxin A.

13. An antibody produced by hybridoma designated CAN20G2.

14. A hybridoma designated CAN20G2.

15. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof is functionally linked to another molecule.

16. The antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of claim 15, wherein the molecule is an antibody, detectable agent, a cytotoxic agent, a pharmaceutical agent, a protein or peptide that mediates association with another molecule, an amino acid linker, a signal sequence, or an immunogenic carrier.

17. A composition comprising the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 13 or 15 or 16, and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. A kit comprising the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 13 or 15 or 16.

19. The kit of claim 18, further comprising: instructions for use; a therapeutic agent; a coupling agent; one or more of *C. difficile* whole toxin A, toxoid A, toxin A fragment 4, whole toxin B, toxoid B, toxin B fragment 4; or a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. Use of an effective amount of the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 13 or 15 or 16 in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing or treating *C. difficile*-associated disease.

21. The use of claim 20, wherein a dosage of the medicament comprises an effective amount of the antibody or antigen binding portion thereof.

22. The use of claim 20 or 21, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof is to be administered intravenously, subcutaneously, intramuscularly or transdermally.

23. The use of any one of claims 20 or 22, wherein the medicament further comprises a second agent.

24. The use of claim 23, wherein the second agent is a different antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof.

25. The use of claim 24, wherein the second agent is an antibiotic.

26. The use of claim 25, wherein the antibiotic is vancomycin, metronidazole, or fidaxomicin.

27. A method of detecting *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*) toxin A, comprising the steps of contacting a sample suspected or known to contain *C. difficile* toxin A with the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 13 or 15 or 16 and detecting binding of the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof to *C. difficile* toxin A.

28. A method of isolating *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*) toxin A from a sample, which comprises contacting a sample comprising or suspected of comprising *C. difficile* toxin A with the antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 13 or 15 or 16.

29. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid that encodes the heavy chain variable region or the light chain variable region of an antibody or antigen-binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 13.

30. The polynucleotide of claim 29, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 70.

31. The polynucleotide of claim 29, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 71.

32. The polynucleotide of claim 29, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 88.

33. The polynucleotide of claim 29, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 90.

34. The polynucleotide of claim 29, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 92.

35. The polynucleotide of claim 29, comprising the nucleic acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 94.