

What is claimed is:

1. An antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof which specifically binds to CXCL13 for use in the treatment of peripheral nerve injury in a subject with aging-dependent regenerative decline.
2. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 1, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof inhibits CXCL13 activity.
3. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 2, wherein the inhibited CXCL13 activity is recruitment of CXCR5+ CD8+ T cells to the dorsal root ganglion (DRG) of the injured peripheral nerve.
4. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 1, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof inhibits CXCL13 interaction with its receptor.
5. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 4, wherein the CXCL13 receptor is CXCR5.
6. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof competitively inhibits a reference monoclonal antibody selected from the group consisting of Mab 5378, MAb 5261, MAb5080, MAb1476, 3D2, 3C9, MAb 5091, MAb 1758, or MAb 0745 from specifically binding to CXCL13.
7. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof specifically binds to the same CXCL13 epitope as a reference monoclonal antibody selected from the group consisting of Mab 5378, MAb 5261, MAb5080, MAb1476, 3D2, 3C9, MAb 5091, MAb 1758, or MAb 0745.
8. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof comprises
 - (A) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:18, 21, and 24, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs: 26, 30, and 33, respectively;
 - (B) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:18, 21, and 24, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:27, 30, and 33, respectively;

(C) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:19, 22, and 25, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:28, 31, and 34, respectively; or

(D) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:20, 23, and 25, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:29, 31, and 34, respectively.

9. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the VH and VL of said antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof comprise amino acid sequences identical to VH and VL sequences selected from the group consisting of: (i) SEQ ID NO: 6 and SEQ ID NO:7, respectively; (ii) SEQ ID NO: 8 and SEQ ID NO: 9, respectively; (iii) SEQ ID NO: 10 and SEQ ID NO:11, respectively; (iv) SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:13, respectively; (v) SEQ ID NO:14 and SEQ ID NO:15, respectively; and (vi) SEQ ID NO:16 and SEQ ID NO:17, respectively.
10. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof is MAb 5261, MAb 5091, MAb 1476, MAb 1758.
11. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the peripheral nerve injury is selected from the group consisting of sciatic nerve, injury, peroneal nerve injury, spinal accessory nerve injury, and brachial plexus injury.
12. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 11, wherein said use results in regeneration of the injured nerve totally or partially, reinnervation of epidermal tissue, or results in complete or partial recovery of neurological function of the injured nerve, or a combination thereof.
13. An effective amount of an isolated antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof which specifically binds CXCL13 for use in the treatment of a peripheral nerve injury in a subject with aging-dependent regenerative decline and a peripheral nerve injury.
14. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 13, wherein the peripheral nerve injury is a result of pressure, stretching or cutting of the peripheral nerve.
15. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 13 or 14, wherein the peripheral nerve injury is an injury of the sciatic nerve, brachial plexus, peroneal nerve, or spinal accessory nerve.

16. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 15, wherein the peripheral nerve injury is a sciatic nerve injury.
17. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 13-16, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof inhibits CXCL13 interaction with its receptor.
18. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 17, wherein the receptor is CXCR5.
19. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 13-18, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof comprises:
 - (A) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:18, 21, and 24, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs: 26, 30, and 33, respectively;
 - (B) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:18, 21, and 24, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:27, 30, and 33, respectively;
 - (C) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:19, 22, and 25, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:28, 31, and 34, respectively; or
 - (D) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:20, 23, and 25, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:29, 31, and 34, respectively.
20. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 13-18, wherein the VH and VL of said antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof comprise amino acid sequences identical to VH and VL sequences selected from the group consisting of: (i). SEQ ID NO: 6 and SEQ ID NO:7, respectively; (ii) SEQ ID NO: 8 and SEQ ID NO: 9, respectively; (iii) SEQ ID NO: 10 and SEQ ID NO:11, respectively; (iv) SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:13, respectively; (v) SEQ ID NO:14 and SEQ ID NO:15, respectively; and (vi) SEQ ID NO:16 and SEQ ID NO:17, respectively.
21. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 13-18, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof is a human or humanized

antibody that competitively inhibits a reference monoclonal antibody selected from the group consisting of Mab 5378, MAb 5261, MAb5080, MAb1476, MAb 5091, MAb 1758, 3D2 and 3C9 from specifically binding to CXCL13.

22. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 21, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof is MAb 5261, MAb 5091, MAb 1476, or MAb 1758.
23. An isolated antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof which specifically binds CXCL13 for use in the treatment of aging-dependent regenerative decline in a subject in need thereof.
24. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 23, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof inhibits CXCL13 interaction with its receptor.
25. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 24, wherein the receptor is CXR5.
26. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 23-25, wherein the isolated antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof competitively inhibits a reference monoclonal antibody selected from the group consisting of Mab 5378, MAb 5261, MAb5080, MAb1476, MAb 5091, MAb 1748, 3D2 and 3C9 from specifically binding to CXCL13.
27. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 23-26, wherein the antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof comprises:
 - (A) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:18, 21, and 24, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs: 26, 30, and 33, respectively;
 - (B) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:18, 21, and 24, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:27, 30, and 33, respectively;
 - (C) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:19, 22, and 25, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:28, 31, and 34, respectively; or
 - (D) a VH comprising heavy chain complementarity determining region 1 (VH-CDR1), VH-CDR2, and VH-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID

NOs:20, 23, and 25, respectively; and a VL comprising light chain complementarity determining region 1 (VL-CDR1), VL-CDR2, and VL-CDR3 amino acid sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs:29, 31, and 34, respectively.

28. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 23-26, wherein the VH and VL of said antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof comprise amino acid sequences identical to VH and VL sequences selected from the group consisting of: (i). SEQ ID NO: 6 and SEQ ID NO:7, respectively; (ii) SEQ ID NO: 8 and SEQ ID NO: 9, respectively; (iii) SEQ ID NO: 10 and SEQ ID NO:11, respectively; (iv) SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:13, respectively; (v) SEQ ID NO:14 and SEQ ID NO:15, respectively; and (vi) SEQ ID NO:16 and SEQ ID NO:17, respectively.
29. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 23-28, wherein the isolated antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof is MAb 5261 or MAb 5091, Man 1476, or MAb 1758.
30. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of any one of claims 23-29, wherein the subject has a peripheral nerve injury.
31. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 30, wherein the peripheral injury is a sciatic nerve injury, brachial plexus injury, spinal accessory nerve injury, or peroneal nerve injury.
32. The antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof for the use of claim 31, wherein the peripheral nerve injury is a sciatic nerve injury.