CLAIMS

1. An anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, wherein said anti-LAP antibody comprises:

(i) a heavy chain CDR1 having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9;

(ii) a heavy chain CDR2 having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10;

(iii) a heavy chain CDR3 having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11;

(iv) a light chain CDR1 having the amino acid seequence of SEQ ID NO: 14;

(v) a light chain CDR2 having the amino acid seequence of SEQ ID NO: 15; and

(vi) a light chain CDR3 having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 16; and

wherein the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, comprises a heavy chain variable region sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein the heavy chain variable region comprises four framework regions which are each at least 75% identical to the corresponding framework region of the heavy chain variable region of SEQ ID NO: 8; and a light chain variable region sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13, wherein the light chain variable region comprises four framework regions which are each at least 75% identical to the corresonding framework region of the light chain variable region of SEQ ID NO: 13; and

wherein at least one of the framework regions of either the heavy chain variable region, the light chain varible region, or both, are not 100% identical to the framework region of either SEQ ID NO: 8 or SEQ ID NO: 13, respectivly.

2. The anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1, wherein the anti-LAP antibody further comprises a human constant region selected from the group consisting of IgG, IgE, IgM, IgD, IgA, and IgY.

3. The anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1, wherein the anti-LAP antibody further comprises a human IgG constant region.

4. The anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1, wherein the antigen-binding fragment is a Fab fragment, a Fab' fragment, a Fd fragment, a Fd' fragment, a Fv

fragment, a dAb fragment, a $F(ab')_2$ fragment, a single chain fragment, a diabody, or a linear antibody.

5. Use of

(i) the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, of claim 1, and

(ii) an antigen of interest to a subject in need thereof;

in the manufacture of a medicament for promoting the formation of memory T cells specific for the antigen of interest in the subject, wherein the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, and the antigen of interest, are to be administered to the subject.

6 The use of claim 5 wherein CD44+ and/or IL7R+ T cells are increased following administration of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof.

7. The use of claim 5 wherein the antigen of interest comprises a tumor antigen or an antigen expressed by an infectious pathogen.

8. The use of claim 7 wherein the tumor antigen is to be administered as a dendritic cell vaccine.

9. The use of claim 1 wherein the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, is a monoclonal antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof.

10. The use of claim 1 the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen binding fragment thereof, is chimeric, humanized, or fully human.

11. Use of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for increasing tumor-specific immunity in a subject, wherein an effective amount of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof is to be administered to the subject.

12. Use of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for increasing the number of CD8+ cytotoxic T cells in a tumor,

wherein an effective amount of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof is to be administered to a subject with the tumor.

13. Use of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for increasing the number of peripheral CD4+ T cells expressing IFN-γ in a subject in need thereof, wherein an effective amount of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof is to be administered to the subject.

14. Use of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for increasing the number of peripheral CD8+ T cells expressing granzyme B in a subject in need thereof, wherein an effective amount of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof is to be administered to the subject.

15. Use of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for decreasing the number of FoxP3+ regulatory T cells in a tumor, wherein an effective amount of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof is to be administered to a subject with the tumor.

16. Use of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting the expression of an immunosuppressive factor or marker by CD8+ and/or CD4+ T cells in a tumor, wherein an effective amount of the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof is to be administered to a subject with the tumor.

17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the anti-LAP antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, of claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, further comprising an inhibitor of TGF-β signaling.

19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, further comprising an immunomodulatory or chemotherapeutic agent.

20. Use of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 17 in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a cancer in a human subject, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is to be administered to the human subject.