What is claimed is:

1. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to IL-6, wherein the antibody comprises a variable domain and a human IgG constant domain having one or more amino acid substitutions relative to a wild-type human IgG constant domain, wherein the antibody has an increased half-life compared to the half-life of an antibody comprising said variable domain and the wild-type human IgG constant domain, wherein the modified IgG constant domain comprises the M252Y, S254T, and T256E amino acid substitutions, wherein the amino acid residues are numbered according to the EU index as in Kabat, and wherein the variable domain comprises a VH domain comprising three CDRs and a VL domain comprising three CDRs; wherein the three CDRs of the VH domain comprise:

(a) a VH CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1;

(b) a VH CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

(c) a VH CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3; and

wherein the three CDRs of the VL domain comprise:

(a) a VL CDR1 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4;

(b) a VL CDR2 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5; and

(c) a VL CDR3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.

2. The antibody of claim 1, wherein IgG is IgG1.

3. The antibody of claim 1, wherein the variable domain comprises a VH domain having an amino acid sequence identical to SEQ ID NO: 7 and comprises a VL domain having an amino acid sequence identical to SEQ ID NO: 8.

4. An isolated nucleic acid encoding the amino acid sequence of the VH domain and the VL domain in claim 3.

5. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 4.

6. An isolated cell comprising the vector of claim 5.

7. An isolated cell line expressing the antibody of claim 6.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of claims 1 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.