CLAIMS

1. A monoclonal antibody that specifically binds an N-terminal region or a C-terminal region of human progastrin (hPG), wherein:

   the N-terminal region of hPG corresponds to residues 1-40 of SEQ ID NO:20;

   the C-terminal region of hPG corresponds to residues 41-80 of SEQ ID NO:20;

   the antibody does not detectably bind to an amidated gastrin 17, glycine-extended gastrin 17, amidated gastrin 34, glycine-extended gastrin 34, and C-terminal Flanking Peptide (CTFP), and

   the antibody is obtainable using:

   (i) a peptide antigen having an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ ID NO:25, or
   (ii) a peptide antigen having an amino acid sequence corresponding to SEQ ID NO:27.

2. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 1**, said antibody being selected in the group consisting of:

   - A monoclonal antibody produced by an hybridoma chosen between the hybridoma CNCM I-4371, the hybridoma CNCM I-4372, the hybridoma CNCM I-4373, the hybridoma CNCM I-4374, the hybridoma CNCM I-4375, and the hybridoma CNCM I-4376, all deposited in accordance with the Treaty of Budapest on October 6, 2010 by the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganisms (CNCM), Institut Pasteur, Paris, France; and
   - A monoclonal antibody comprising VL and VH CDRs having sequences selected from one of the following groups of VL and VH CDR sequences:

   (i) V_H CDR1.3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, V_H CDR 2.3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, V_H CDR 3.3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, V_L CDR 1.3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, V_L CDR 2.3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, and V_L CDR 3.3 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6;

(ii) V_H CDR 1.4 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7, V_H CDR 2.4 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8, V_H CDR 3.4 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, V_L CDR 1.4 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10, V_L CDR 2.4 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, and V_L CDR 3.4 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11;

(iii) V_H CDR 1.16 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 39, V_H CDR 2.16 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 43, V_H CDR 3.16 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 47, V_L CDR 1.16 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 50, V_L CDR 2.16 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 53, and V_L CDR 3.16 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 57;

(iv) V_H CDR 1.19 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 40, V_H CDR 2.19 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 44, V_H CDR 3.19 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 48, V_L CDR 1.19 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 51, V_L CDR 2.19 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 54, and V_L CDR 3.19 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 58; and

(v) VH CDR 1.13 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 38, VH CDR 2.13 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 42, VH CDR 3.13 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 46, VL CDR 1.13 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 50, VL CDR 2.13 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 53, and VL CDR 3.13 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 56.

3. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-2**, wherein said anti-hPG monoclonal antibody comprises VH and VL chains having sequences selected from one of the following groups of VH and VL sequences:

(i) SEQ ID NO:12 (mV_H 3) and SEQ ID NO:13 (mV_L 3);

(ii) SEQ ID NO:14 (mV_H 4) and SEQ ID NO:15 (mV_L 4);

(iii) SEQ ID NO:61 (mV_H 16) and SEQ ID NO:65 (mV_L 16);

(iv) SEQ ID NO:62 (mV_H 19) and SEQ ID NO:66 (mV_L 19); and

(v) SEQ ID NO:60 (mV_H 13) and SEQ ID NO:64 (mV_L 13).

4. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-2**, which is humanized.

5. The monoclonal antibody of **claim 4**, said antibody comprising V_H and V_L chains having sequences selected from one of the following groups of V_H and V_L sequences:

   (i) SEQ ID NO:21 (hV_H 3) and SEQ ID NO:22 (hV_L 3);
   (ii) SEQ ID NO:23 (hV_H 4) and SEQ ID NO:24 (hV_L 4);
   (iii) SEQ ID NO:84 (hV_H 16a) and SEQ ID NO:85 (hV_L 16a);
   (iv) SEQ ID NO:86 (hV_H 16b) and SEQ ID NO:87 (hV_L 16b);
   (v) SEQ ID NO:88 (hV_H 16c) and SEQ ID NO:89 (hV_L 16c);
   (vi) SEQ ID NO:90 (hV_H 19a) and SEQ ID NO:91 (hV_L 19a);
   (vii) SEQ ID NO:92 (hV_H 19b) and SEQ ID NO:93 (hV_L 19b);
   (viii) SEQ ID NO:94 (hV_H 19c) and SEQ ID NO:95 (hV_L 19c);
   (ix) SEQ ID NO:80 (hV_H 13a) and SEQ ID NO:81 (hV_L 13a); and
   (x) SEQ ID NO:82 (hV_H 13b) and SEQ ID NO:83 (hV_L 13b).

6. The monoclonal antibody of any one of **claims 1-5** that binds to:

   (i) an epitope comprising an amino acid sequence corresponding to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:28, 29, 30, 31, and 32, or
   (ii) an epitope comprising an amino acid sequence corresponding to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:33, 34, 35, and 36.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6** and an excipient, carrier, and/or diluent.

8. A first polynucleotide encoding a variable light chain (V_L) and a second polynucleotide encoding a variable heavy chain (V_H) of an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody of claims 1-6; or a single polynucleotide encoding both variable light and heavy chains (V_L and V_H), of an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6**.

9. An expression vector comprising a first polynucleotide encoding a variable light chain (V_L) and a second polynucleotide encoding a variable heavy chain (V_H) of an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody of claims 1-6; or a single polynucleotide encoding both variable light and heavy chains (V_L and V_H), of an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6**.

10. A host cell transformed with a first polynucleotide encoding a variable light chain (V_L) and a second polynucleotide encoding a variable heavy chain (V_H) of an anti-

hPG monoclonal antibody of claims 1-6; or a single polynucleotide encoding both variable light and heavy chains (V_L and V_H), of an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6**.

11. A method of producing an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody comprising:

    (a) culturing the host cell of **claim 10** under suitable conditions and
    (b) recovering the anti-hPG monoclonal antibody from the culture medium or the host cell.

12. The use of an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6** in the manufacture of a medicament for treating colorectal cancer.

13. A kit useful for detecting hPG, comprising:

    (i) an N-terminal anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6** and an antibody that specifically binds a C-terminal region of hPG; or
    (ii) a C-terminal anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to any one of **claims 1-6** and an antibody that specifically binds an N-terminal region of hPG.

14. The kit of **claim 13**, wherein:

    - the antibody that specifically binds a C-terminal region of hPG of (i) is a polyclonal antibody; or
    - the antibody that specifically binds an N-terminal region of hPG of (ii) is a polyclonal antibody.

15. A hybridoma capable of secreting an anti-hPG monoclonal antibody according to anyone of **claims 1-6**, wherein said hybridoma is chosen between the hybridoma CNCM I-4371, the hybridoma CNCM I-4372, the hybridoma CNCM I-4373, the hybridoma CNCM I-4374, the hybridoma CNCM I-4375, and the hybridoma CNCM I-4376, all deposited in accordance with the Treaty of Budapest on October 6, 2010 by the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganisms (CNCM), Institut Pasteur, Paris, France.