CLAIMS

1. Use of a composition comprising allogeneic cytotoxic T cells (CTLs) expressing a T cell receptor that specifically binds to an EBV peptide presented on a class I MHC in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing an autoimmune disease in a subject.

2. Use of a composition comprising EBV peptide-specific allogeneic CTLs in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing an autoimmune disease in a subject, said CTLs being obtained by selecting from a cell bank allogeneic CTLs expressing a T cell receptor that specifically binds to an EBV peptide presented on a class I MHC.

3. Use of a composition comprising peptide-specific allogeneic CTLs in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing an autoimmune disease in a subject, said CTLs being prepared by incubating a sample comprising allogeneic CTLs with antigen-presenting cells (APCs) presenting an EBV peptide, thereby inducing proliferation of peptide-specific CTLs expressing a T cell receptor that specifically binds to an EBV peptide presented on a class I MHC.

4. Use of a composition comprising allogeneic CTLs expressing a T cell receptor that specifically binds to an EBV peptide presented on a class I MHC in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing an autoimmune disease in a subject, said CTLs being prepared by :

a) incubating APCs with a nucleic acid construct encoding for an EBV peptide, thereby inducing the APCs to present an EBV peptide; and

b) inducing peptide-specific CTL proliferation by incubating a sample comprising allogeneic CTLs with the EBV peptide-presenting APCs, thereby inducing the proliferation of CTLs expressing a T cell receptor that specifically binds to an EBV peptide presented on a class I MH.

5. The use of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the class I MHC is encoded by an HLA allele that is present in the subject.

6. The use of claim 4 or 5, wherein the nucleic acid construct is a viral vector.

7. The use of claim 6, wherein the viral vector is AdE1-LMPpoly.

8. The use of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the allogeneic CTLs are stored in a cell bank before being administered to the subject.

9. The use of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the autoimmune disease is multiple sclerosis (MS).

10. The use of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the autoimmune disease is rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

11. The use of any one of claims 3 to 10, wherein the sample is incubated with one or more cytokines in step (a).

12. The use of any one of claims 3 to 11, wherein the APCs comprise B cells.

13. The use of any one of claims 3 to 11, wherein the APCs comprise antigen-presenting T-cells.

14. The use of any one of claims 3 to 11, wherein the APCs comprise dendritic cells.

15. The use of any one of claims 3 to 11, wherein the APCs comprise artificial antigen-presenting cells.

16. The use of claim 15, wherein the artificial antigen-presenting cells are aK562 cells.

17. The use of any one of claims 3 to 16, wherein the sample comprises peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs).

18. The use of any one of claims 1 to 17, wherein the EBV peptide comprises a LMP1 peptide or fragment thereof.

19. The use of any one of claims 1 to 17, wherein the EBV peptide comprises a LMP2A peptide or fragment thereof.

20. The use of any one of claims 1 to 17, wherein the EBV peptide comprises an EBNA1 peptide or fragment thereof.