**CLAIMS**

1. An isolated, synthetic or recombinant anti-inflammatory polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of an IL-37 polypeptide,

wherein the polypeptide has at least 75% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 over the full length of SEQ ID NO:1;

wherein the polypeptide comprises a mutation or modification that reduces the capacity of the anti-inflammatory polypeptide to form a dimer, compared to a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1; and

wherein the mutation or modification in the polypeptide is at any one or more residues, or residues equivalent to, 71 to 74, 78, 80, 83 to 88 and 184 in SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the amino acid residue at, or equivalent to:

position 71 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not a Val;

position 72 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not an Leu;

position 73 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not a Asp;

position 74 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not a Ser;

position 78 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not an Ile;

position 80 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not a Val;

position 83 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not a Lys;

position 84 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not an Asn;

position 85 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not a Tyr;

position 86 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not an Ile;

position 87 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not an Arg;

position 88 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not a Pro; and/or

position 184 in SEQ ID NO: 1 is not an Asn.

2. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the mutation prevents the peptide from forming a dimerization interface that enables dimerization of IL-37 monomers.

3. The polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the mutation is located in a region of the peptide that has the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence that forms the dimerization interface of an IL-37 monomer.

4. The polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the mutation is located in the loop between the β3 or β4 strands that form the dimerization interface of an IL-37 monomer.

5. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the mutation or modification is located within a region, or a region equivalent to, residues 83 to 88 in SEQ ID NO: 1.

6. A polypeptide according to claim 1 or 5, wherein the mutation or modification occurs at a residue at a position, or at a position equivalent to, D73, K83, N84, Y85, I86, R87 or P88 in SEQ ID NO: 1.

7. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the mutation is a replacement with a non-conservative amino acid.

8. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the mutation is replacement with alanine or an amino acid with an opposite charge.

9. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the polypeptide has an amino acid sequence having at least, 80%, 81%, 82%, 83%, 84%, 85%, 86%, 87%, 88%, 89%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 1.

10. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the mutation is any one or more of D73A, D73K, K83E and Y85A.

11. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the mutation is D73A.

12. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the mutation is D73K.

13. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the mutation is K83E.

14. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the mutation is Y85A.

15. A polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein one or more residues at a position, or position equivalent to, residues 83 to 88 of SEQ ID NO: 1 are deleted.

16. A polypeptide according to any one of preceding claims wherein the peptide has an N terminal truncation.

17. A polypeptide according to claim 16, wherein the N terminal truncation is of, or equivalent to, residues 1 to 25 or 1 to 45.

18. A polypeptide according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the polypeptide inhibits the production or function of an inflammatory cytokine.

19. A polypeptide according to claim 18, wherein the peptide reduces the production of IL-1.

20. A pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing an inflammatory disease or condition comprising a polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 19 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, excipient or carrier.

21. Use of a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 19 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of an inflammatory disease or condition in a subject in need thereof.

22. A use according to claim 21, wherein the inflammatory disease is predominantly mediated by activation of TLR2 or TLR4.

23. A use according to claim 21, wherein the inflammatory disease is predominantly mediated by activation of TLR7, 8 or 9.

24. A use according to claim 21, wherein the inflammatory disease is an autoimmune disease.

25. A use according to claim 21, wherein the inflammatory disease is endotoxic shock.

26. A use according to claim 25, wherein the endotoxic shock is caused by bacteria.

27. A nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide according to any one of claims 1 to 19.

28. A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 27.

29. A cell comprising a vector according to claim 28 or nucleic acid molecule according to claim 27.