

CLAIMS

1. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region/light chain variable region pair selected from the group consisting of VH11/VL15, VH12/VL15, VH13/VL15, VH14/VL15, VH14_1/VL15, VH14_1C/VL15, VH14_1D/VL15, VH14_1E/VL15, and VH14_1G/VL15, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL") protein.
2. A humanized antibody according to claim 1, wherein the heavy chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 52 and the light chain amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 50.
3. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
4. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region/light chain variable region pair of VH11/VL15 according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").
5. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region/light chain variable region pair of VH12/VL15 according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").
6. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region/light chain variable region pair of VH13/VL15 according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").
7. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region/light chain variable region pair of VH14/VL15 according

to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").

8. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable
5 region/light chain variable region pair of VH14_1/VL15 according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").

9. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable
10 region/light chain variable region pair of VH14_1C/VL15 according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").

10. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable
15 region/light chain variable region pair of VH14_1D/VL15 according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").

11. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable
20 region/light chain variable region pair of VH14_1E/VL15 according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").

12. A humanized antibody comprising a heavy chain variable
25 region/light chain variable region pair of VH14_1G/VL15 according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds to human "A proliferation-inducing ligand" ("APRIL").

13. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 4 and a
30 pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

14. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

15. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 6 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

5 16. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 7 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

17. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

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18. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

15 19. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 10 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

20. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 11 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

20 21. A composition comprising an antibody of claim 12 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.