WE CLAIM:

1. An antibody or antigen binding portion thereof that specifically binds to human VEGFR-3 comprising a LCDR1 of SEQ ID NO 1, a LCDR2 of SEQ ID NO 2, a LCDR3 of SEQ ID NO 3, a HCDR1 of SEQ ID NO 6, a HCDR2 of SEQ ID NO 7 and a HCDR3 of SEQ ID NO 8, wherein: a) the binding of said antibody to human VEGFR-3 is reduced by at least 90% by singly mutating Pro-219 of human VEGFR-3 to Leu; and b) the binding of said antibody to human VEGFR-3 is reduced by at least 50% by singly mutating Val-175 of human VEGFR-3 to Ala.

2. An antibody or antigen binding portion thereof that specifically binds to human VEGFR-3 comprising a LCDR1 of SEQ ID NO 1, a LCDR2 of SEQ ID NO 2, a LCDR3 of SEQ ID NO 3, a HCDR1 of SEQ ID NO 6, a HCDR2 of SEQ ID NO 7 and a HCDR3 of SEQ ID NO 8, wherein the binding of said antibody to human VEGFR-3 is reduced by at least 50% by singly mutating Leu-221 of human VEGFR-3 to Val.

~~2.~~3. The antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of claim 1 or 2, comprising a light chain variable region of SEQ ID NO: 5 and a heavy chain variable region of SEQ ID NO: 10.

~~3.~~4. The antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of claim 1 or 2, wherein the antibody comprises a light chain of SEQ ID NO: 15 and a heavy chain of SEQ ID NO: 16.

~~4.~~5. The antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of claim 3 or 4, wherein the antibody comprises two light chains of SEQ ID NO: 15 and two heavy chains of SEQ ID NO: 16.

~~5. An antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of any of claims 1-4 wherein:~~

~~a. the binding of said antibody to human VEGFR-3 is reduced by at least 90% by singly mutating Pro-219 of human VEGFR-3 to Leu; and~~

~~b. the binding of said antibody to human VEGFR-3 is reduced by at least 50% by singly mutating Val-175 of human VEGFR-3 to Ala.~~

~~6. The antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of any of claims 1-4 wherein the binding of said antibody to human VEGFR-3 is reduced by at least 50% by singly mutating Leu-221 of human VEGFR-3 to Val.~~

~~7.~~6. The antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of any of claims 1-~~4~~5 that also binds to a mutant mouse VEGFR-3 of SEQ ID NO. 20 and a mutant mouse VEGFR-3 of SEQ ID NO. 21, wherein the binding to the mutant mouse VEGFR-3 of SEQ ID NO. 20 is increased by more than 50-fold when compared with the binding to wild type mouse

VEGFR-3 (SEQ ID NO. 19) and the binding to the mutant mouse VEGFR-3 of SEQ ID NO. 21 is increased by more than 10-fold when compared with the binding to wild type mouse VEGFR-3.

~~8.~~7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to ~~7~~6 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

~~9.~~8. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 7~~8~~ wherein said composition optionally contains at least one other therapeutic ingredient.

~~10.~~9. The antibody or antigen binding portion thereof of any one of claims 1 to 6~~7~~ for use as a medicament.