CLAIMS

1. An antibody or part thereof capable of specifically binding to the Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and having Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) neutralizing activity, wherein said antibody or fragment thereof comprises a light chain CDR1 region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, a light chain CDR2 region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6, a light chain CDR3 region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7, a heavy chain CDR1 region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8, a heavy chain CDR2 region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9 and a heavy chain CDR3 region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10.

2. Antibody according to claim 1 comprising both heavy (VH) and light chain (VL) variable domains wherein the VH domain comprises an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 2 and wherein the VL domain comprises an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 4.

3. Antibody according to claims 1 or 2 which is a human antibody.

4. Antibody according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the antibody is a recombinant antibody.

5. Antibody according to any one of claims 1 - 4 for use in the treatment, prevention or prophylaxis of hepatitis B infection.

6. Antibody for use according to claim 5 wherein the antibody is administered to a mammal in an amount sufficient to maintain a minimum level of 12 IU/ml serum.

7. Use of an antibody or fragment thereof according to any one of claims 1 to 4 in the preparation of a medicament for preventing or treating HBV infection or a disease caused thereby in a mammal.

8. Use according to claim 7, wherein the medicament is formulated for administration in an amount sufficient to maintain a minimum level of 12 IU/ml of 15 serum.