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DESCRIPTION

Technical Field

[0001] The present invention relates to novel use of an antibody against CAPRIN-1 or a fragment thereof in a drug such as a therapeutic and/or preventive agent for cancer.

Background Art

[0002] Cancer is the first leading cause of death. This disease is currently treated principally by surgical therapy in combination with radiation therapy and/or chemotherapy. In spite of recent development of novel surgical techniques or discovery of novel anticancer agents, the existing treatment of cancer has an insufficiently improved outcome, except for some cancer types. With recent advances of molecular biology or cancer immunology, antibodies that specifically react with cancer, cancer antigens that are recognized by cytotoxic T cells, genes encoding such cancer antigens, and the like have been identified, raising expectations on specific cancer therapy targeting the cancer antigens (Non Patent Literature 1).

[0003] For reducing the adverse reaction of cancer therapy, it is desired that peptides, polypeptides, or proteins recognized as antigens of the cancer should rarely exist in normal cells and specifically exist in cancer cells. In 1991, Boon et al. (Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, Belgium) isolated a human melanoma antigen MAGE1 recognized by CD8-positive T cells by a cDNA expression cloning method using autologous cancer cell lines and cancer-reactive T cells (Non Patent Literature 2). Then, a SEREX (serological identification of antigens by recombinant expression cloning) method has been reported, which adopts a gene expression cloning approach to identify tumor antigens recognized by antibodies produced in response to autologous cancer *in vivo* in a cancer patient (Non Patent Literature 3 and Patent Literature 1). According to this method, some cancer antigens that are rarely expressed in normal cells and are specifically expressed in cancer have been isolated (Non Patent Literatures 4 to 9). In addition, by using a part of the cancer antigen as a target, cell therapy using immunocytes that specifically react with cancer antigens or cancer-specific immunotherapy using vaccines or the like comprising cancer antigens is under clinical trial targeting some of the isolated cancer antigens.

[0004] In recent years, various antibody drugs for cancer treatment targeting antigenic proteins on cancer cells have emerged in the world. These drugs have received attention because of their certain efficacy as cancer-specific therapeutic agents. A large majority of antigenic proteins targeted by the drugs, however, are also expressed in normal cells. As a result of administering the antibodies, normal cells expressing the antigens as well as cancer cells are damaged, disadvantageously resulting in adverse reaction. Thus, if cancer antigens specifically expressed on the surface of cancer cells can be identified and antibodies targeting the antigens can be used as drugs, these antibody drugs can be expected to achieve treatment with less adverse

reaction.

[0005] Cytoplasmic-activation and proliferation-associated protein 1 (CAPRIN-1) has been known as an intracellular protein that is expressed upon activation or cell division of resting normal cells and forms cytoplasmic stress granules with RNAs in the cell to participate in the regulation of transport and translation of mRNAs. This protein has been found to be specifically expressed on the surface of cancer cells and is under study as a target of antibody drugs for cancer treatment (Patent Literature 2).

[0006] Patent Literature 3 discloses anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies having anti-cancer activity and is the source of some of the comparative antibodies used in the examples herein.

Citation List

Patent Literature

[0007]

Patent Literature 1: U.S. Patent No. 5698396

Patent Literature 2: WO2010/016526

Patent Literature 3: WO2011/096517

Non Patent Literature

[0008]

Non Patent Literature 1: Tsuyoshi Akiyoshi, "Japanese Journal of Cancer and Chemotherapy", 1997, Vol. 24, p. 55-519 (Japanese Journal of Cancer and Chemotherapy Publishers Inc., Japan)

Non Patent Literature 2: Bruggen P. et al., Science, 254: 1643-1647 (1991)

Non Patent Literature 3: Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 92: 11810-11813 (1995)

Non Patent Literature 4: Int. J. Cancer, 72: 965-971 (1997)

Non Patent Literature 5: Cancer Res., 58: 1034-1041 (1998)

Non Patent Literature 6: Int. J. Cancer, 29: 652-658 (1998)

Non Patent Literature 7: Int. J. Oncol., 14: 703-708 (1999)

Non Patent Literature 8: Cancer Res., 56: 4766-4772 (1996)

Non Patent Literature 9: Hum. Mol. Genet 6: 33-39, 1997

Summary of Invention

Technical Problem

[0009] An object of the present invention is to produce an antibody that targets CAPRIN-1 specifically expressed on the surface of cancer cells and is superior in antitumor activity to conventional antibodies, and to provide use thereof as a therapeutic and/or preventive agent for cancer.

Solution to Problem

[0010] Features of the present invention are as follows:

[0011] The present invention provides an antibody or a fragment thereof which has immunological reactivity with a partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5, and a pharmaceutical composition for treatment and/or prevention of cancer, comprising the antibody or fragment thereof as an active ingredient.

[0012] In the above embodiment, the cancer is breast cancer, kidney cancer, pancreatic cancer, large intestinal cancer, lung cancer, brain tumor, gastric cancer, uterine cervix cancer, ovary cancer, prostate cancer, urinary bladder cancer, esophageal cancer, leukemia, lymphoma, fibrosarcoma, mastocytoma, or melanoma.

[0013] In one embodiment, the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.

[0014] In another embodiment, the antibody is a human antibody, a humanized antibody, a chimeric antibody, a single-chain antibody, or a multispecific antibody (e.g., a bispecific antibody).

Advantageous Effects of Invention

[0015] The antibody against CAPRIN-1 according to the present invention more strongly damages cancer cells than conventional antibodies against CAPRIN-1. Thus, the antibody against CAPRIN-1 according to the present invention is useful in the treatment or prevention of

cancer.

Description of Embodiments

[0016] The antibody according to the present invention is an antibody that recognizes and binds to a predetermined partial polypeptide of CAPRIN-1 and has antitumor activity. More specifically, the antibody according to the present invention is an antibody that recognizes (i.e., has immunological reactivity with) a partial polypeptide of a CAPRIN-1 protein (partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptide) consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5. In the present invention, this antibody has been shown to exhibit antitumor activity stronger than a conventional antibody against a CAPRIN-1 protein. The present invention relates to all antibodies that bind to fragments of CAPRIN-1 proteins as described above and exhibit antitumor activity.

[0017] The antibody against CAPRIN-1 according to the present invention may be any type of antibody that can exert antitumor activity and includes, for example, recombinant antibodies (e.g., synthetic antibodies, multispecific antibodies (e.g., bispecific antibodies), humanized antibodies, chimeric antibodies, and single-chain antibodies (scFv)), human antibodies, and their antibody fragments (e.g., Fab, F(ab')₂, and Fv). These antibodies and fragments thereof can be prepared by methods generally known to those skilled in the art. Desirably, the antibody according to the present invention has immunological reactivity with a CAPRIN-1 protein or a partial polypeptide thereof, i.e., binds to (preferably, specifically binds to) the CAPRIN-1 protein through antigen-antibody reaction. In this context, the phrase "specifically binding to the CAPRIN-1 protein" means that the antibody specifically binds to the CAPRIN-1 protein without substantially binding to other proteins. The antibody according to the present invention is preferably a monoclonal antibody and however, may be a polyclonal antibody as long as homogeneous antibodies can be stably produced. In the case of a human test subject, a human antibody or a humanized antibody is desirable for avoiding or suppressing adverse reaction.

[0018] The antibody against a CAPRIN-1 polypeptide according to the present invention can be evaluated for its antitumor activity, as described later, by examining *in vivo* the inhibition of tumor growth in a cancer-bearing animal or by examining *ex vivo* the presence or absence of immunocyte- or complement-mediated cytotoxic activity exhibited by the antibody against tumor cells expressing the polypeptide.

[0019] The test subject to receive the treatment and/or prevention of cancer according to the present invention is a mammal such as a human, a pet animal, livestock, or a sport animal and is preferably a human.

[0020] Hereinafter, the present invention will be described in more detail.

<Preparation of antigen for antibody preparation>

[0021] Proteins or fragments thereof used as sensitizing antigens for obtaining the antibody against CAPRIN-1 according to the present invention are not limited by animal species serving as their origins, including humans, dogs, cats, cattle, horses, mice, rats, and chickens. The proteins or the fragments thereof, however, are preferably selected in view of compatibility with parent cells for use in cell fusion. In general, mammal-derived proteins are preferred. Particularly, human-derived proteins are preferred. For example, when CAPRIN-1 is human CAPRIN-1, human CAPRIN-1 proteins, partial peptides thereof, or cells expressing human CAPRIN-1 can be used.

[0022] The nucleotide sequences and amino acid sequences of human CAPRIN-1 and homologs thereof can be obtained, for example, by making an access to GenBank (NCBI, USA) and using an algorithm such as BLAST or FASTA (Karlin and Altschul, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 90: 5873-5877, 1993; and Altschul et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 25: 3389-3402, 1997).

[0023] In the present invention, with reference to the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3) or amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4) of human CAPRIN-1, the target CAPRIN-1 is a nucleic acid or a protein consisting of a sequence having 70% to 100%, preferably 80% to 100%, more preferably 90% to 100%, further preferably 95% to 100%, for example, 97% to 100%, 98% to 100%, 99% to 100%, or 99.5% to 100% sequence identity to the nucleotide sequence or amino acid sequence of the ORF or mature portion of the reference (the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 2 and SEQ ID NO: 4 compared with each other differ in amino acid residues at and following position 690). In this context, the term "% sequence identity" means a percentage (%) of the number of identical amino acids (or bases) to the total number (including the number of gaps) of amino acids (or bases) when two sequences are aligned such that the maximum degree of similarity or identity can be achieved with or without introduced gaps.

[0024] A fragment that comprises an epitope (or an antigenic determinant), which is the minimum unit recognized by the antibody, and has a length ranging from the amino acid length of the epitope to less than the full-length of the CAPRIN-1 protein can be used as a CAPRIN-1 protein fragment. The epitope refers to a polypeptide fragment having antigenicity or immunogenicity in mammals, preferably humans. Its minimum unit consists of approximately 7 to 12 amino acids, for example, 8 to 11 amino acids. The CAPRIN-1 protein fragment for use in the preparation of the antibody according to the present invention is preferably a fragment that is recognized by the antibody of the present invention and comprises the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 (which corresponds to a sequence from positions 429 to 444 in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4) or an amino acid sequence having 80% or higher, preferably 85% or higher, more preferably 90% or higher, further preferably 95% or higher sequence identity to the amino acid sequence, or comprises at least an epitope consisting of approximately 7 to 12 consecutive amino acids, for example, 8 to 11 consecutive amino acids in any of these amino acid sequences.

[0025] The above human CAPRIN-1 proteins and polypeptide fragments comprising partial peptides thereof can be synthesized according to chemical synthesis methods, for example, Fmoc (fluorenylmethyloxycarbonyl) and tBoc (t-butyloxycarbonyl) methods (Seikagaku Jikken Koza (Biochemical Experimentation Course in English) 1, the Japanese Biochemical Society ed.,

Protein Chemistry IV, Chemical Modification and Peptide Synthesis, Tokyo Kagaku Dojin Co., Ltd. (Japan), 1981). Also, these polypeptides can be synthesized by routine methods using various commercially available peptide synthesizers.

[0026] Alternatively, polynucleotides encoding the polypeptides may be prepared using genetic engineering approaches known in the art (Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning*, the 2nd edition, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology* (1989), Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press; Ausubel et al., *Short Protocols in Molecular Biology*, the 3rd edition, A compendium of Methods from *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology* (1995), John Wiley & Sons; etc.) and incorporated into expression vectors, which are then introduced into host cells so that the host cells produce the polypeptides. In this way, the human CAPRIN-1 proteins of interest or the polypeptide fragments thereof can be obtained.

[0027] The polynucleotides encoding the polypeptides can be readily prepared by genetic engineering approaches known in the art or routine methods using commercially available nucleic acid synthesizers. For example, a DNA comprising the nucleotide sequence of a human CAPRIN-1 gene can be prepared by PCR using a human chromosomal DNA or cDNA library as a template and a pair of primers designed so as to be capable of amplifying the nucleotide sequence. Reaction conditions for this PCR can be appropriately determined. Examples of the conditions can include, but not limited to, 30 cycles each involving reaction steps of 94°C for 30 seconds (denaturation), 55°C for 30 seconds to 1 minute (annealing), and 72°C for 2 minutes (elongation) using thermostable DNA polymerase (e.g., Taq polymerase or Pfu polymerase) and a Mg²⁺-containing PCR buffer, followed by reaction at 72°C for 7 minutes. The PCR approach, conditions, etc. are described in, for example, Ausubel et al., *Short Protocols in Molecular Biology*, the 3rd edition, A Compendium of Methods from *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology* (1995), John Wiley & Sons (particularly, Chapter 15).

[0028] Also, appropriate probes or primers can be prepared on the basis of information about the nucleotide sequences of CAPRIN-1 genes and the amino acid sequences of CAPRIN-1 proteins, and used in the screening of, for example, a human cDNA library, to isolate the desired DNA. Preferably, such a cDNA library is produced from cells, organs, or tissues expressing CAPRIN-1 proteins. Examples of such cells or tissues include cells or tissues derived from cancers or tumors such as testis, leukemia, breast cancer, lymphoma, brain tumor, lung cancer, pancreatic cancer, large intestinal cancer, kidney cancer, gastric cancer, uterine cervix cancer, ovary cancer, prostate cancer, urinary bladder cancer, esophageal cancer, fibrosarcoma, mastocytoma, or melanoma. These operations, including the preparation of probes or primers, the construction of a cDNA library, the screening of the cDNA library, and the cloning of the gene of interest, are known to those skilled in the art and can be performed according to methods described in, for example, Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning*, the 2nd edition, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology* (1989), and Ausubel et al. (*supra*). DNAs encoding the human CAPRIN-1 proteins and the partial peptides thereof can be obtained from the DNA thus obtained.

[0029] The host cells to receive the expression vectors may be any cell capable of expressing the above polypeptides. Examples of prokaryotic cells include, but not limited to, *E. coli*. Examples of eukaryotic cells include, but not limited to: mammalian cells such as monkey kidney

cells COS1, Chinese hamster ovary cells CHO, a human embryonic kidney cell line HEK293, a mouse embryonic skin cell line NIH3T3, yeast cells such as budding yeast and fission yeast cells, silkworm cells, and *Xenopus* egg cells.

[0030] In the case of using prokaryotic cells as the host cells, the expression vectors used have an origin that permits replication in the prokaryotic cells, a promoter, a ribosomal binding site, a multicloning site, a terminator, a drug resistance gene, an auxotrophic complementary gene, etc. Examples of expression vectors for *E. coli* can include pUC series, pBluescript II, pET expression systems, and pGEX expression systems. The DNAs encoding the above polypeptides can be incorporated into such expression vectors, with which prokaryotic host cells are then transformed, followed by culture of the obtained transformants so that the polypeptides encoded by the DNAs are expressed in the prokaryotic host cells. In this respect, the polypeptides may be expressed as fusion proteins with other proteins.

[0031] In the case of using eukaryotic cells as the host cells, expression vectors for eukaryotic cells having a promoter, a splicing region, a poly(A) addition site, etc. are used as the expression vectors. Examples of such expression vectors can include pKA1, pCDM8, pSVK3, pMSG, pSVL, pBK-CMV, pBK-RSV, EBV, pRS, pcDNA3, and pYES2 vectors. In the same way as above, the DNAs encoding the above polypeptides can be incorporated into such expression vectors, with which eukaryotic host cells are then transformed, followed by culture of the obtained transformants so that the polypeptides encoded by the DNAs are expressed in the eukaryotic host cells. In the case of using expression vectors such as pIND/V5-His, pFLAG-CMV-2, pEGFP-N1, or pEGFP-C1, the polypeptides may be expressed as various fusion proteins tagged with His tag (e.g., (His)₆ to (His)₁₀), FLAG tag, myc tag, HA tag, GFP, or the like.

[0032] The expression vectors can be introduced into the host cells using well known methods such as electroporation, a calcium phosphate method, a liposome method, a DEAE dextran method, microinjection, viral infection, lipofection, and binding with cell-penetrating peptides.

[0033] The polypeptide of interest can be isolated and purified from the host cells by a combination of separation operations known in the art. Examples thereof include, but not limited to, treatment with a denaturant (e.g., urea) or a surfactant, ultrasonication, enzymatic digestion, salting-out, solvent fractionation and precipitation, dialysis, centrifugation, ultrafiltration, gel filtration, SDS-PAGE, isoelectric focusing electrophoresis, ion-exchange chromatography, hydrophobic chromatography, affinity chromatography, and reverse-phase chromatography.

[0034] The antigens thus prepared can be used as sensitizing antigens as described later for producing the antibody according to the present invention.

<Structure of antibody>

[0035] Antibodies (immunoglobulins) are usually heteromultimeric glycoproteins each comprising at least two heavy chains and two light chains. The immunoglobulins, except for IgM,

are heterotetrameric glycoproteins of approximately 150 kDa each composed of two identical light (L) chains and two identical heavy (H) chains. Typically, each light chain is connected to a heavy chain via a single covalent disulfide bond, though the number of disulfide bonds between heavy chains varies among different immunoglobulin isotypes. Each of the heavy and light chains also has an intrachain disulfide bond. Each heavy chain has a variable domain (VH region) at one end, followed by a series of constant regions. Each light chain has a variable domain (VL region) at one end and has a single constant region at the other end. The light chain constant region is aligned with the first heavy chain constant region, while the light chain variable domain is aligned with the heavy chain variable domain. Particular regions called complementarity determining regions (CDRs) in the antibody variable domains exhibit specific variability and impart binding specificity to the antibody. Portions relatively conserved in the variable regions are called framework regions (FRs). The complete heavy and light chain variable domains each comprise four FRs connected via three CDRs. These three CDRs are called CDRH1, CDRH2, and CDRH3 in this order from the N-terminus of the heavy chain. Likewise, the CDRs are called CDRL1, CDRL2, and CDRL3 in the light chain. CDRH3 is most important for the binding specificity of the antibody for its antigen. In addition, CDRs in each chain are kept close to each other by the FR regions and contribute to the formation of an antigen-binding site in the antibody, together with CDRs in the other chain. The constant regions do not directly contribute to antibody-antigen binding, but exhibit various effector functions, for example, involvement in antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC), phagocytosis mediated by binding to an Fcγ receptor, half-life/clearance rate mediated by a neonatal Fc receptor (FcRn), and complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC) mediated by a C1q component in the complement cascade.

<Preparation of antibody>

[0036] The anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody according to the present invention means an antibody having immunological reactivity with a full-length CAPRIN-1 protein or a fragment thereof. Particularly, the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody of the present invention is an antibody immunologically binding to a partial polypeptide of a CAPRIN-1 protein (partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptide) that is a peptide consisting of the epitope-containing amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5. Preferably, the antibody of the present invention recognizes an epitope consisting of approximately 7 to 12 consecutive amino acids, for example, 8 to 11 consecutive amino acids, in the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5. This anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody of the present invention is capable of specifically binding to the full-length CAPRIN-1 protein. The antibody of the present invention can be obtained by selecting an antibody immunologically binding to the polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5, according to a routine method from among antibodies obtained with CAPRIN-1 proteins or fragments thereof as antigens.

[0037] In this context, the "immunological reactivity" means the property of the antibody binding to the CAPRIN-1 antigen (full-length CAPRIN-1 protein or partial polypeptide thereof) *in vivo*. Via such binding to CAPRIN-1, the antibody of the present invention exerts the function of damaging (e.g., killing, suppressing, or regressing) tumor cells. The antibody of the present invention can

damage tumor, for example, breast cancer, kidney cancer, pancreatic cancer, large intestinal cancer (e.g., colon cancer), lung cancer, brain tumor, gastric cancer, uterine cervix cancer, ovary cancer, prostate cancer, urinary bladder cancer, esophageal cancer, leukemia, lymphoma, fibrosarcoma, mastocytoma, or melanoma through binding to the CAPRIN-1 protein.

[0038] The antibody of the present invention may be any type of antibody. Examples of the type of the antibody of the present invention include monoclonal antibodies, polyclonal antibodies, synthetic antibodies, multispecific antibodies, human antibodies, humanized antibodies, chimeric antibodies, single-chain antibodies, and antibody fragments (e.g., Fab, F(ab')₂, and Fv). Also, the antibody is any class of immunoglobulin molecule, for example, IgG, IgE, IgM, IgA, IgD, or IgY, or any subclass, for example, IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgA1, or IgA2.

[0039] The antibody may be further modified by acetylation, formylation, amidation, phosphorylation, PEGylation, or the like, in addition to glycosylation.

[0040] Hereinafter, preparation examples of various antibodies will be shown.

[0041] When the antibody of the present invention is a monoclonal antibody, for example, a breast cancer cell line SK-BR-3 expressing CAPRIN-1 is administered to each mouse for immunization. The spleen is extracted from this mouse. After separation of spleen cells, the cells are fused with mouse myeloma cells. Clones producing antibodies having a cancer cell growth inhibitory effect are selected from among the obtained fusion cells (hybridomas). Alternatively, clones producing antibodies binding to a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 may be selected. The hybridomas producing monoclonal antibodies having a cancer cell growth inhibitory effect or the hybridomas producing monoclonal antibodies against the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5 or the like are isolated and cultured. The antibody of the present invention can be prepared by purification from the culture supernatant according to a general affinity purification method.

[0042] The monoclonal antibody-producing hybridomas may be prepared, for example, as follows: first, animals are immunized with sensitizing antigens according to a method known in the art. This immunization method generally involves intraperitoneally or subcutaneously injecting the sensitizing antigens to mammals. Specifically, the sensitizing antigens are diluted with or suspended in PBS (phosphate-buffered saline), physiological saline, or the like into an appropriate amount and then mixed, if desired, with an appropriate amount of a conventional adjuvant, for example, a complete Freund's adjuvant. After emulsification, the resulting emulsion is administered to each mammal several times every 4 to 21 days. Alternatively, an appropriate carrier may be used for the immunization with sensitizing antigens.

[0043] After confirmation of a rise in the level of the desired antibody in the serum of the mammal thus immunized, immunocytes are collected from the mammal and subjected to cell fusion. Preferred examples of the immunocytes particularly include spleen cells.

[0044] Mammalian myeloma cells are used as partner parent cells to be fused with the immunocytes. Various cell lines known in the art, for example, P3U1 (P3-X63Ag8U1), P3

(P3x63Ag8.653) (J. Immunol. (1979) 123, 1548-1550), P3x63Ag8U.1 (Current Topics in Microbiology and Immunology (1978) 81, 1-7), NS-1 (Kohler, G. and Milstein, C. Eur. J. Immunol. (1976) 6, 511-519), MPC-11 (Margulies, D.H. et al., Cell (1976) 8, 405-415), SP2/0 (Shulman, M. et al., Nature (1978) 276, 269-270), FO (deSt. Groth, S.F. et al., J. Immunol. Methods (1980) 35, 1-21), S194 (Trowbridge, I.S. J. Exp. Med. (1978) 148, 313-323), R210 (Galfre, G. et al., Nature (1979) 277, 131-133), 240E-1 and 240E-W are preferably used as the myeloma cells.

[0045] The cell fusion between the immunocytes and the myeloma cells can be performed basically according to a method known in the art, for example, the method of Kohler and Milstein (Kohler, G. and Milstein, C. Methods Enzymol. (1981) 73, 3-46).

[0046] More specifically, the cell fusion is carried out, for example, in the presence of a cell fusion promoter in a conventional nutrient medium. For example, polyethylene glycol (PEG) or senndai virus (HVJ) is used as the fusion promoter. If necessary, an auxiliary such as dimethyl sulfoxide may be further added for use in order to enhance fusion efficiency.

[0047] The ratio between the immunocytes and the myeloma cells used can be arbitrarily set. For example, the amount of the immunocytes is preferably set to 1 to 10 times the amount of the myeloma cells. Examples of the medium that can be used in the cell fusion include RPMI1640 and MEM media suitable for the growth of the myeloma cell lines as well as conventional media for use in this type of cell culture. In addition, a serum supplement such as fetal calf serum (FCS) may be used in combination with these media.

[0048] For the cell fusion, the immunocytes and the myeloma cells are well mixed in a predetermined amount of the medium. A PEG solution (average molecular weight: for example, approximately 1000 to 6000) preheated to approximately 37°C is usually added to the mixture at a concentration of 30 to 60% (w/v) and mixed therewith to form the hybridomas of interest. Subsequently, procedures of sequentially adding an appropriate medium and removing the supernatant by centrifugation are preferably repeated to remove cell fusion agents or the like unfavorable for the growth of the hybridomas.

[0049] The hybridomas thus obtained are cultured in a conventional selective medium, for example, a HAT medium (medium containing hypoxanthine, aminopterin, and thymidine) for selection. This culture in the HAT medium is continued for a period (usually, several days to several weeks) sufficient for the death of cells (non-fused cells) other than the hybridomas of interest. Subsequently, hybridomas producing the antibody of interest are screened for and cloned as single clones by a conventional limiting dilution method.

[0050] In addition to such obtainment of the hybridomas by the immunization of non-human animals with antigens, hybridomas producing human antibodies having the desired activity (e.g., cell growth inhibitory activity) may be obtained by sensitizing human lymphocytes, for example, EB virus-infected human lymphocytes, with proteins, protein-expressing cells, or lysates thereof *in vitro* and fusing the sensitized lymphocytes with human-derived myeloma cells capable of dividing permanently, for example, U266 (Registration No. TIB 196).

[0051] The monoclonal antibody-producing hybridomas thus prepared can be subcultured in a conventional medium and can also be stored for a long period in liquid nitrogen.

[0052] Specifically, the desired antigens or cells expressing the desired antigens are used as sensitizing antigens in immunization according to a conventional immunization method. The obtained immunocytes are fused with parent cells known in the art according to a conventional cell fusion method. Monoclonal antibody-producing cells (hybridomas) can be screened for by a conventional screening method to prepare the antibody of interest.

[0053] Another example of the antibody that may be used in the present invention is a polyclonal antibody. The polyclonal antibody can be obtained, for example, as follows:

[0054] Serum is obtained from small animals such as mice, human antibody-producing mice, or rabbits immunized with natural CAPRIN-1 proteins or recombinant CAPRIN-1 proteins expressed as fusion proteins with GST or the like in microorganisms such as *E. coli*, or partial peptides thereof. Alternatively, serum may be obtained from mammals immunized with CAPRIN-1 fragments serving as sensitizing antigens, i.e., a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 or an amino acid sequence having 80% or higher, preferably 85% or higher, more preferably 90% or higher, further preferably 95% or higher sequence identity to the amino acid sequence (preferably, a polypeptide consisting of any of these amino acid sequences), or a polypeptide comprising an epitope (preferably, consisting of the epitope) consisting of approximately 7 to 12 consecutive amino acids, for example, 8 to 11 consecutive amino acids, in the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 or the amino acid sequence having 80% or higher, preferably 85% or higher, more preferably 90% or higher, further preferably 95% or higher sequence identity to the amino acid sequence. The serum thus obtained can be purified using, for example, ammonium sulfate precipitation, protein A or protein G columns, DEAE ion-exchange chromatography, or affinity columns coupled with CAPRIN-1 proteins or synthetic peptides to prepare anti-CAPRIN-1 polyclonal antibodies. The polyclonal antibody of the present invention includes antibodies obtained from human antibody-producing animals (e.g., mice) immunized with CAPRIN-1 proteins.

[0055] In this context, for example, KM mice (Kirin Pharma Co., Ltd./Medarex) and Xeno mice (Amgen Inc.) are known as the human antibody-producing mice (e.g., International Publication Nos. WO02/43478 and WO02/092812). Complete human polyclonal antibodies can be obtained from the blood by immunizing such mice with CAPRIN-1 proteins or fragments thereof. Alternatively, spleen cells may be isolated from the mice thus immunized and fused with myeloma cells. In this way, human monoclonal antibodies can be obtained.

[0056] The antigens can be prepared according to, for example, a method using animal cells (JP Patent Publication (Kohyo) No. 2007-530068 A) or a method using baculovirus (e.g., International Publication No. WO98/46777). Antigens having low immunogenicity can be bound to immunogenic macromolecules such as albumin for immunization. The antigens may be administered together with adjuvants for immunization.

[0057] Alternatively, the antibody of the present invention may be obtained as a genetically

recombinant antibody that is produced using a gene recombination technique which involves: cloning a gene of the antibody from hybridomas; incorporating the antibody gene into appropriate vectors; and introducing the vectors into hosts (see, e.g., Carl, A.K. Borrebaeck, James, W. Larrick, THERAPEUTIC MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES, Published in the United Kingdom by MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS LTD, 1990). Specifically, antibody variable region (V region) cDNAs are synthesized from the mRNAs of hybridomas using reverse transcriptase. After obtainment of DNAs encoding the antibody V regions of interest, the DNAs are ligated with DNAs encoding the desired antibody constant regions (C regions). The resulting ligation products are incorporated into expression vectors. Alternatively, the antibody V region-encoding DNAs may be incorporated into expression vectors containing antibody C region DNAs. These DNAs are incorporated into the expression vectors so as to be expressed under the control of expression control regions, for example, an enhancer and a promoter. Next, host cells can be transformed with the resulting expression vectors and allowed to express antibodies.

[0058] The anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody of the present invention is preferably a monoclonal antibody. Alternatively, the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody of the present invention may be a polyclonal antibody, a genetically engineered antibody (chimeric antibody, humanized antibody, etc.), or the like.

[0059] The monoclonal antibody includes human monoclonal antibodies, non-human animal monoclonal antibodies (e.g., mouse, rat, rabbit, and chicken monoclonal antibodies), and chimeric monoclonal antibodies. The monoclonal antibody may be prepared by the culture of hybridomas obtained by the fusion between spleen cells from non-human mammals (e.g., mice, human antibody-producing mice, chickens, or rabbits) immunized with CAPRIN-1 proteins or fragments thereof and myeloma cells. The chimeric antibody is an antibody prepared from a combination of sequences derived from different animals and is, for example, an antibody composed of mouse antibody heavy and light chain variable regions and human antibody heavy and light chain constant regions. The chimeric antibody can be prepared using a method known in the art which involves, for example, ligating DNAs encoding mouse antibody V regions with DNAs encoding human antibody C regions; incorporating the resulting ligation products into expression vectors; and introducing the vectors into hosts so that antibodies are produced.

[0060] Monoclonal antibodies that have immunological reactivity with the partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 and have an antitumor effect are prepared by a method described later in Examples.

[0061] The humanized antibody, also called reshaped human antibody, is an engineered antibody. The humanized antibody is constructed by grafting human antibody complementarity determining regions with antibody CDRs derived from an immunized animal. A general gene recombination approach therefor is also known.

[0062] Specifically, DNA sequences designed so as to link, for example, mouse, rabbit, or chicken antibody CDRs, and human antibody framework regions (FRs) are synthesized by PCR using several prepared oligonucleotides having terminal portions overlapping with each other. The obtained DNAs are ligated with DNAs encoding human antibody constant regions.

Subsequently, the resulting ligation products are incorporated into expression vectors, which are then introduced into hosts for antibody production to obtain the antibody of interest (see European Patent Application Publication No. EP239400 and International Publication No. WO96/02576).

[0063] The human antibody FRs connected via CDRs are selected such that the complementarity determining regions form a favorable antigen-binding site. If necessary, amino acids in the framework regions of antibody variable regions may be substituted such that the complementarity determining regions of the resulting reshaped human antibody form an appropriate antigen-binding site (Sato K. et al., *Cancer Research* 1993, 53: 851-856). In addition, these FRs may be replaced with framework regions derived from human antibodies of class or subclass different therefrom (see International Publication No. WO99/51743).

[0064] Amino acids in variable regions (e.g., FRs) or constant regions of the chimeric antibody or the humanized antibody thus prepared may be substituted, for example, by other amino acids.

[0065] The amino acid substitution is the substitution of, for example, less than 15, less than 10, 8 or less, 7 or less, 6 or less, 5 or less, 4 or less, 3 or less, or 2 or less amino acids, preferably 1 to 5 amino acids, more preferably 1 or 2 amino acids. The substituted antibody should be functionally equivalent to an unsubstituted antibody. The substitution is desirably conservative amino acid substitution, which is the substitution between amino acids similar in properties such as charge, side chains, polarity, and aromaticity. The amino acids can be classified in terms of similar properties into, for example: basic amino acids (arginine, lysine, and histidine); acidic amino acids (aspartic acid and glutamic acid); uncharged polar amino acids (glycine, asparagine, glutamine, serine, threonine, cysteine, and tyrosine); nonpolar amino acids (leucine, isoleucine, alanine, valine, proline, phenylalanine, tryptophan, and methionine); branched amino acids (leucine, valine, and isoleucine); and aromatic amino acids (phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, and histidine).

[0066] Examples of modified antibodies can include antibodies bound with various molecules such as polyethylene glycol (PEG). In the modified antibody of the present invention, the substance to be bound is not limited. In order to obtain such a modified antibody, the obtained antibody can be chemically modified. A method therefor has already been established in the art.

[0067] In this context, the phrase "functionally equivalent" means that an antibody concerned has biological or biochemical activity similar to that of the antibody of the present invention, specifically, the antibody concerned has the function of damaging tumor and essentially causes no adverse reaction when applied to humans, for example. Examples of such activity can include cell growth inhibitory activity and binding activity.

[0068] A method for preparing a polypeptide functionally equivalent to a certain polypeptide, which involves introducing a mutation into a polypeptide, is well known to those skilled in the art. For example, those skilled in the art can appropriately introduce a mutation into the antibody of the present invention using site-directed mutagenesis (Hashimoto-Gotoh, T. et al., (1995) *Gene* 152, 271-275; Zoller, M.J., and Smith, M. (1983) *Methods Enzymol.* 100, 468-500; Kramer, W. et

al., (1984) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 12, 9441-9456; Kramer, W. and Fritz, HJ., (1987) *Methods Enzymol.* 154, 350-367; Kunkel, TA., (1985) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.* 82, 488-492; and Kunkel (1988) *Methods Enzymol.* 85, 2763-2766) or the like, thereby preparing an antibody functionally equivalent to the antibody of the present invention.

[0069] The antibody that recognizes an epitope of a CAPRIN-1 protein or a CAPRIN-1 fragment polypeptide comprising the epitope can be obtained by a method generally known to those skilled in the art. For example, the antibody can be obtained by a method which involves determining the epitope of the CAPRIN-1 protein recognized by the obtained anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody having a cancer cell growth inhibitory effect by a conventional method (e.g., epitope mapping or an epitope identification method described later) and preparing an antibody using a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence contained in the epitope as an immunogen, or a method which involves determining an epitope for an antibody prepared by a conventional method and selecting an antibody that recognizes the same epitope as that for the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody. In this context, the "epitope" refers to a polypeptide fragment having antigenicity or immunogenicity in mammals, preferably humans. Its minimum unit consists of approximately 7 to 12 amino acids, preferably 8 to 11 amino acids.

[0070] The antibody of the present invention is an antibody having immunological reactivity with CAPRIN-1, an antibody that specifically recognizes CAPRIN-1, or an antibody that specifically binds to CAPRIN-1 and exhibits cytotoxic activity against cancer or a tumor growth inhibitory effect. The antibody is preferably an antibody having a structure that causes little or no adverse reaction in recipient animals. Examples of such antibodies include human antibodies, humanized antibodies, chimeric antibodies (e.g., human-mouse chimeric antibodies), single-chain antibodies, and bispecific antibodies when the recipient animals are humans. These antibodies have heavy and light chain variable regions derived from a human antibody or have heavy and light chain variable regions with complementarity determining regions (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3) derived from a non-human animal antibody and framework regions (FR1, FR2, FR3, and FR4) derived from a human antibody. Alternatively, these antibodies are recombinant antibodies having heavy and light chain variable regions derived from a non-human animal antibody and heavy and light chain constant regions derived from a human antibody. The antibody of the present invention is preferably the former two antibodies.

[0071] Such recombinant antibodies can be prepared as follows: DNAs encoding monoclonal antibodies (e.g., human, mouse, rat, rabbit, and chicken monoclonal antibodies) against human CAPRIN-1 are cloned from antibody-producing cells such as hybridomas and used as templates in RT-PCR or the like to prepare DNAs encoding the light and heavy chain variable regions of the antibodies. The respective sequences of the light and heavy chain variable regions, the respective sequences of CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in each region, or the respective sequences of FR1, FR2, FR3, and FR4 in each region can be determined on the basis of, for example, the Kabat EU numbering system (Kabat et al., *Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest*, 5th Ed. Public Health Service, National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Md. (1991)).

[0072] Such a DNA encoding each variable region or a DNA encoding each CDR is prepared using a gene recombination technique (Sambrook et al., *Molecular Cloning A Laboratory*

Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press (1989)) or a DNA synthesizer. In this context, the human monoclonal antibody-producing hybridomas can be prepared by immunizing human antibody-producing animals (e.g., mice) with human CAPRIN-1 and then fusing spleen cells excised from the immunized animals with myeloma cells. Aside from this, DNAs encoding human antibody-derived light or heavy chain variable and constant regions are prepared, if necessary, using a gene recombination technique or a DNA synthesizer.

[0073] For the humanized antibody, a DNA encoding the humanized antibody can be prepared by substituting the CDR coding sequences in DNAs encoding human antibody-derived light or heavy chain variable regions by corresponding CDR coding sequences of a non-human animal (e.g., mouse, rat, rabbit, or chicken)-derived antibody.

[0074] For the chimeric antibody, DNAs encoding light or heavy chain variable regions of a non-human animal (e.g., mouse, rat, rabbit, or chicken)-derived antibody can be ligated with DNAs encoding human antibody-derived light or heavy chain constant regions to prepare a DNA encoding the chimeric antibody.

[0075] The single-chain antibody refers to an antibody comprising heavy and light chain variable regions linearly linked to each other via a linker. A DNA encoding the single-chain antibody can be prepared by ligating a DNA encoding the heavy chain variable region, a DNA encoding the linker, and a DNA encoding the light chain variable region. In this context, the heavy and light chain variable regions are both derived from a human antibody or derived from a human antibody having CDRs alone substituted by CDRs of a non-human animal (e.g., mouse, rat, rabbit, or chicken)-derived antibody. The linker consists of 12 to 19 amino acids. Examples thereof include (G₄S)₃ consisting of 15 amino acids (G.B. Kim et al., *Protein Engineering Design and Selection* 2007, 20 (9): 425-432).

[0076] The bispecific antibody (e.g., diabody) refers to an antibody capable of specifically binding to two different epitopes. A DNA encoding the bispecific antibody can be prepared by ligating, for example, a DNA encoding a heavy chain variable region A, a DNA encoding a light chain variable region B, a DNA encoding a heavy chain variable region B, and a DNA encoding a light chain variable region A in this order (provided that the DNA encoding a light chain variable region B and the DNA encoding a heavy chain variable region B are ligated via a DNA encoding a linker as described above). In this context, the heavy and light chain variable regions are all derived from a human antibody or derived from a human antibody having CDRs alone substituted by CDRs of a non-human animal (e.g., mouse, rat, rabbit, or chicken)-derived antibody.

[0077] The recombinant DNAs thus prepared can be incorporated into one or more appropriate vectors, which are then introduced into host cells (e.g., mammalian cells, yeast cells, and insect cells) so that the DNAs are (co)expressed to produce recombinant antibodies (P.J. Delves., *ANTIBODY PRODUCTION ESSENTIAL TECHNIQUES.*, 1997 WILEY, P. Shepherd and C. Dean., *Monoclonal Antibodies.*, 2000 OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS; and J.W. Goding., *Monoclonal Antibodies: principles and practice.*, 1993 ACADEMIC PRESS).

[0078] Examples of the antibody of the present invention prepared by any of the methods described above include the following antibodies (a) to (i):

1. (a) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 10 and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13;
2. (b) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 14 and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13;
3. (c) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 52 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 54;
4. (d) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 16 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 18;
5. (e) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 23;
6. (f) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 25 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 23;
7. (g) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 26, 27, and 28 and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 30, 31, and 32 (e.g., an antibody constituted by a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 29 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 33);
8. (h) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 36, 37, and 38 and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 40, 41, and 42 (e.g., an antibody constituted by a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 39 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43); and
9. (i) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 46, 47, and 48 and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 40, 41, and 42 (e.g., an antibody constituted by a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 49 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43).

[0079] In this context, the amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 10 correspond to CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively, of a rabbit-derived antibody heavy chain variable region. The amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13 correspond to CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively, of a rabbit-derived antibody light chain variable region. The amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 14 corresponds to CDR3 of a rabbit-derived antibody heavy chain variable region.

[0080] Also, the amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOs: 26, 27, and 28, SEQ ID NOs: 36, 37, and 38, or SEQ ID NOs: 46, 47, and 48 correspond to CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively,

of a mouse antibody-derived heavy chain variable region. The amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOs: 30, 31, and 32 or SEQ ID NOs: 40, 41, and 42 correspond to CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively, of a mouse-derived antibody light chain variable region.

[0081] Examples of the humanized antibody, the chimeric antibody, the single-chain antibody, or the bispecific antibody of the present invention include the following antibodies (I) to (II), for example, in the form of (b):

1. (I) an antibody comprising a heavy chain variable region comprising CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 consisting of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 14, respectively, humanized antibody-derived framework regions or amino acid sequences with portions thereof substituted and a light chain variable region comprising CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 consisting of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13, respectively, human antibody-derived framework regions or amino acid sequences with portions thereof substituted; and
2. (II) an antibody comprising a heavy chain comprising a heavy chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 16 and a human antibody-derived heavy chain constant region, and a light chain comprising a light chain variable region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18 and a human antibody-derived light chain constant region.

[0082] The sequences of the constant and variable regions of human antibody heavy and light chains are available from, for example, NCBI (USA; GenBank, UniGene, etc.). For example, the following sequences can be referred to: Registration No. J00228 for a human IgG1 heavy chain constant region; Registration No. J00230 for a human IgG2 heavy chain constant region; Registration No. X03604 for a human IgG3 heavy chain constant region; Registration No. K01316 for a human IgG4 heavy chain constant region; Registration Nos. V00557, X64135, X64133, etc. for a human light chain κ constant region; and Registration Nos. X64132, X64134, etc. for a human light chain λ constant region.

[0083] Preferably, these antibodies have cytotoxic activity and can thereby exert an antitumor effect.

[0084] The above particular sequences of the heavy and light chain variable regions and CDRs in each antibody are provided merely for illustrative purposes. It is obvious that the antibody of the present invention is not limited by the particular sequences. Hybridomas capable of producing anti-human CAPRIN-1 human antibodies or non-human animal antibodies (e.g., mouse antibodies) different from those described above are prepared, and monoclonal antibodies produced by the hybridomas are recovered and assessed as being (or being not) the antibodies of interest with immunological binding activity against human CAPRIN-1 and cytotoxic activity as indexes. The monoclonal antibody-producing hybridomas of interest are thereby identified. Then, DNAs encoding the heavy and light chain variable regions of the antibodies of interest are produced from the hybridomas and sequenced, as described above. The DNAs are

used for the preparation of the different antibodies.

[0085] The above antibodies may each have the substitution, deletion, or addition of one or several amino acids, particularly in a framework region sequence and/or a constant region sequence, as long as the antibody has such specificity that it can specifically recognize CAPRIN-1. In this context, the term "several" means preferably 2 to 5, more preferably 2 or 3.

[0086] The affinity constant K_a (k_{on}/k_{off}) of the antibody of the present invention for a CAPRIN-1 protein or a fragment thereof is preferably at least $10^7 M^{-1}$, at least $10^8 M^{-1}$, at least $5 \times 10^8 M^{-1}$, at least $10^9 M^{-1}$, at least $5 \times 10^9 M^{-1}$, at least $10^{10} M^{-1}$, at least $5 \times 10^{10} M^{-1}$, at least $10^{11} M^{-1}$, at least $5 \times 10^{11} M^{-1}$, at least $10^{12} M^{-1}$, or at least $10^{13} M^{-1}$.

[0087] The antibody of the present invention can be conjugated with an antitumor agent. The conjugation of the antibody with the antitumor agent can be performed via a spacer having a group (e.g., a succinimidyl group, a formyl group, a 2-pyridyldithio group, a maleimidyl group, an alkoxy carbonyl group, or a hydroxy group) reactive with an amino group, a carboxyl group, a hydroxy group, a thiol group, or the like.

[0088] Examples of the antitumor agent include the following antitumor agents publicly known in literatures, etc.: paclitaxel, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, 5-fluorouracil, thiotepa, busulfan, improsulfan, piposulfan, benzodopa, carboquone, meturedopa, uredopa, altretamine, triethylenemelamine, triethylenephosphoramidate, triethylenethiophosphoramidate, trimethylolmelamine, bullatacin, bullatacinone, camptothecin, bryostatin, calystatin, cryptophycin 1, cryptophycin 8, dolastatin, duocarmycin, eleutherobin, pancratistatin, sarcodictyin, spongistatin, chlorambucil, chlornaphazine, cholophosphamide, estramustine, ifosfamide, mechlorethamine, mechlorethamine oxide hydrochloride, melphalan, novembichin, phenesterine, prednimustine, trofosfamide, uracil mustard, carmustine, chlorozotocin, fotemustine, lomustine, nimustine, ranimustine, calicheamicin, dynemicin, clodronate, esperamicin, aclacinomycin, actinomycin, authramycin, azaserine, bleomycin, cactinomycin, carabycin, carminomycin, carzinophilin, chromomycin, dactinomycin, detorbicin, 6-diazo-5-oxo-L-norleucine, Adriamycin, epirubicin, esorubicin, idarubicin, marcellomycin, mitomycin C, mycophenolic acid, nogalamycin, olivomycin, peplomycin, potfiromycin, puromycin, quelamycin, rodorubicin, streptonigrin, streptozocin, tubercidin, ubenimex, zinostatin, zorubicin, denopterin, pteropterin, trimetrexate, fludarabine, 6-mercaptopurine, thiamiprine, thioguanine, ancitabine, azacitidine, 6-azauridine, carmofur, cytarabine, dideoxyuridine, doxifluridine, enocitabine, floxuridine, androgens (e.g., calusterone, dromostanolone propionate, epitostanol, mepitostane, and testolactone), aminoglutethimide, mitotane, trilostane, frolic acid, aceglatone, aldophosphamide glycoside, aminolevulinic acid, eniluracil, amsacrine, bestrabucil, bisantrene, edatraxate, defofamine, demecolcine, diaziquone, elfornithine, elliptinium acetate, epothilone, etoglucid, lentinan, lonidamine, maytansine, ansamitocin, mitoguazone, mitoxantrone, mopidanmol, nitraerine, pentostatin, phenamet, pirarubicin, losoxantrone, podophyllinic acid, 2-ethylhydrazide, procarbazine, razoxane, rhizoxin, schizophyllan, spirogermanium, tenuazonic acid, triaziquone, roridin A, anguidine, urethane, vindesine, dacarbazine, mannomustine, mitobronitol, mitolactol, pipobroman, gacytosine, docetaxel, chlorambucil, gemcitabine, 6-

thioguanine, mercaptopurine, cisplatin, oxaliplatin, carboplatin, vinblastine, etoposide, ifosfamide, mitoxantrone, vincristine, vinorelbine, novantrone, teniposide, edatrexate, daunomycin, aminopterin, Xeloda, ibandronate, irinotecan, topoisomerase inhibitors, difluoromethylornithine (DMFO), retinoic acid, capecitabine, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and derivatives thereof.

[0089] When the antibody is conjugated with the antitumor agent, whether this conjugated antibody exerts antitumor activity can be evaluated by a method which involves reacting, for example, a mouse-derived anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody, simultaneously with a drug-attached secondary antibody capable of binding to a mouse antibody, and evaluating the antitumor effect on human cancer cells *ex vivo*. This evaluation can be conducted using, for example, an anti-human IgG antibody bound with saporin (Hum-ZAP (Advanced Targeting Systems, Inc.)).

[0090] Alternatively, the antibody of the present invention can be administered in combination with an antitumor agent to produce a higher therapeutic effect. This approach is adaptable to a patient with cancer expressing CAPRIN-1 either before or after surgical operation. This approach can be applied, particularly after surgery, to CAPRIN-1-expressing cancer, which has been treated conventionally with an antitumor agent alone, to produce higher prevention of cancer recurrence or prolongation of survival time.

[0091] Examples of the antitumor agent used in the combined administration with the antibody of the present invention also include the following antitumor agents publicly known in literatures, etc.: paclitaxel, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, 5-fluorouracil, thiotepa, busulfan, improsulfan, piposulfan, benzodopa, carboquone, meturedopa, uredopa, altretamine, triethylenemelamine, triethylenephosphoramidate, triethylenethiophosphoramidate, trimethylolmelamine, bullatacin, bullatacinone, camptothecin, bryostatin, callistatin, cryptophycin 1, cryptophycin 8, dolastatin, duocarmycin, eleutherobin, pancratistatin, sarcodictyin, spongistatin, chlorambucil, chlornaphazine, cholophosphamide, estramustine, ifosfamide, mechlorethamine, mechlorethamine oxide hydrochloride, melphalan, novembichin, phenesterine, prednimustine, trofosfamide, uracil mustard, carmustine, chlorozotocin, fotemustine, lomustine, nimustine, ranimustine, calicheamicin, dynemicin, clodronate, esperamicin, aclacinomycin, actinomycin, authramycin, azaserine, bleomycin, cactinomycin, carabycin, carminomycin, carzinophilin, chromomycin, dactinomycin, detorbicin, 6-diazo-5-oxo-L-norleucine, Adriamycin, epirubicin, esorubicin, idarubicin, marcellomycin, mitomycin C, mycophenolic acid, nogalamycin, olivomycin, peplomycin, potfiromycin, puromycin, quelamycin, rodorubicin, streptonigrin, streptozocin, tubercidin, ubenimex, zinostatin, zorubicin, denopterin, pteropterin, trimetrexate, fludarabine, 6-mercaptopurine, thiamiprine, thioguanine, ancitabine, azacitidine, 6-azauridine, carmofur, cytarabine, dideoxyuridine, doxifluridine, enocitabine, floxuridine, calusterone, dromostanolone propionate, epitiostanol, mepitiothane, testolactone, aminoglutethimide, mitotane, trilostane, frolic acid, aceglatone, aldophosphamide glycoside, aminolevulinic acid, eniluracil, amsacrine, bestrabucil, bisantrene, edatrexate, defofamine, demecolcine, diaziquone, elfornithine, elliptinium acetate, epothilone, etoglucid, lentinan, lonidamine, maytansine, ansamitocin, mitoguazone, mitoxantrone, mopidanmol, nitraerine, pentostatin, phenamet, pirarubicin, losoxantrone, podophyllinic acid, 2-ethylhydrazide, procarbazine, razoxane, rhizoxin, schizophyllan, spirogermanium, tenuazonic acid, triaziquone,

roridin A, anguidine, urethane, vindesine, dacarbazine, mannomustine, mitobronitol, mitolactol, pipobroman, gacytosine, docetaxel, chlorambucil, gemcitabine, 6-thioguanine, mercaptopurine, cisplatin, oxaliplatin, carboplatin, vinblastine, etoposide, ifosfamide, mitoxantrone, vincristine, vinorelbine, novantrone, teniposide, edatrexate, daunomycin, aminopterin, Xeloda, ibandronate, irinotecan, topoisomerase inhibitors, difluoromethylornithine (DMFO), retinoic acid, capecitabine, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts (known in the art) and derivatives (known in the art) thereof. Of these antitumor agents, cyclophosphamide, paclitaxel, docetaxel, or vinorelbine is particularly preferably used.

[0092] Alternatively, the antibody of the present invention may be bound to a radioisotope publicly known in literatures, etc., such as, ^{211}At , ^{131}I , ^{125}I , ^{90}Y , ^{186}Re , ^{188}Re , ^{153}Sm , ^{212}Bi , ^{32}P , ^{175}Lu , ^{176}Lu , ^{89}Sr , ^{64}Cu , or ^{111}In (Hideo Saji, YAKUGAKU ZASSHI 128 (3) 323-332, 8 (2008), Jpn) A radioisotope effective for the treatment or diagnosis of tumor is desirable. Such a radioisotope is also included in the antitumor agent according to the present invention.

<Identification of epitope>

[0093] As shown in Examples below, the antibody of the present invention binds to an epitope in the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5. One example of a method for confirming an epitope for the antibody of the present invention includes a method which involves immobilizing an epitope in the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5 onto a plate and evaluating the antibody for its reactivity with this epitope. Specifically, an epitope in the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5 is immobilized through reaction onto a plate attached with electron-withdrawing functional groups via spacers such as oligoethylene glycol. The antibody of the present invention can be reacted with the plate and evaluated for its reactivity with the epitope through reaction with a labeled (e.g., horseradish peroxidase (HRP)-labeled) secondary antibody binding to the antibody of the present invention, i.e., the epitope to which the antibody of the present invention binds can be confirmed. The epitope in the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5 used in the immobilization onto a plate is a sequence itself comprising at least the epitope in the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 or a modified portion thereof (e.g., N-terminal or C-terminal residues modified with several arbitrary amino acids or a protein such as KLH or a (poly)peptide modified with a MAP protein). The antibody of the present invention needs only to bind to any of these (poly)peptides.

[0094] On the other hand, even the antibody of the present invention may be unreactive with the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5, i.e., the epitope may not be confirmed, in the above method. In this case, the antibody is reacted with an antigen under solution conditions that facilitate the binding between the antigen and the antibody. After obtainment of an antigen-antibody complex by an immunoprecipitation method, a partial polypeptide bound with the antibody can be separated and examined for its amino acid sequence to confirm the epitope for the antibody of the present invention. In this context, the antigen is, for example, the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5 itself or a modified portion thereof. Alternatively, even a CAPRIN-1 protein may be used as long as the epitope reactive with the antibody of the present invention can be confirmed by the above method.

<Antitumor effect>

[0095] The antitumor effect of the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody used in the present invention on CAPRIN-1-expressing cancer cells seems to be brought about by the following mechanism: effector cell-mediated antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) and complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC) against the CAPRIN-1-expressing cells. However, this mechanism is not intended to limit the scope of the present invention.

[0096] The antitumor effect based on the mechanism is known to correlate with the number of target molecules expressed on the surface of cancer cells to which the antibody binds (Niwa R., Clinical Cancer Research 2005 Mar 15; 11 (6): 2327-2336). The number of target molecules expressed on the surface of cancer cells can be examined using an existing assay kit capable of measuring the number of cell surface molecules. Specifically, the number of target molecules to which the antibody binds can be determined by: reacting primary antibodies such as antibodies against the target molecules with cancer cells; reacting therewith fluorescently labeled antibodies against the primary antibodies together with beads for a calibration curve with the known number of molecules; and measuring the mean fluorescence intensity of the samples to obtain a calibration curve.

[0097] Thus, the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody used in the present invention can be evaluated for its activity, as specifically shown in Examples below, by assaying the ADCC or CDC activity against CAPRIN-1-expressing cancer cells *ex vivo* or by examining the number of CAPRIN-1 molecules expressed on the surface of cancer cells using the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody according to the present invention as a primary antibody.

[0098] The anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody used in the present invention binds to a CAPRIN-1 protein on cancer cells and exhibits an antitumor effect through the activity. Thus, the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody of the present invention is presumably useful in the treatment or prevention of cancer. Specifically, the present invention provides a pharmaceutical composition for treatment and/or prevention of cancer, comprising the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody as an active ingredient. The anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody used for the purpose of administration to human bodies (antibody therapy) is preferably a human antibody or a humanized antibody for reducing immunogenicity.

[0099] An anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody with higher binding affinity for a CAPRIN-1 protein on cancer cell surface exerts stronger antitumor activity. Thus, the antibody of the present invention has high binding affinity for the CAPRIN-1 protein and can therefore be expected to have a stronger antitumor effect. Accordingly, the antibody of the present invention is adaptable to a pharmaceutical composition intended for the treatment and/or prevention of cancer. Such high binding affinity of the antibody of the present invention is preferably at least 10^7 M^{-1} , at least 10^8 M^{-1} , at least $5 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}$, at least 10^9 M^{-1} , at least $5 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1}$, at least 10^{10} M^{-1} , at least $5 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1}$, at least 10^{11} M^{-1} , at least $5 \times 10^{11} \text{ M}^{-1}$, at least 10^{12} M^{-1} , or at least 10^{13} M^{-1} , in terms of an association constant (affinity constant) K_a ($k_{\text{on}}/k_{\text{off}}$), as described above.

[0100] The anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody binding to a larger number of CAPRIN-1 molecules on cancer cell surface produces stronger antitumor activity. Desirably, the number of CAPRIN-1 molecules in assay using the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody of the present invention is 10^4 or more, preferably 10^5 or more, per cancer cell to which the antibody binds in expectation of the antitumor effect. Tumor (cancer cells) having a large number of CAPRIN-1 molecules on the cell surface is particularly preferred as cancer to receive the antibody of the present invention.

<Binding to antigen-expressing cell>

[0101] The ability of the antibody to bind to CAPRIN-1 can be determined by use of binding assay using, for example, ELISA, Western blot, immunofluorescence, and flow cytometry analysis, as described in Examples.

<Immunohistochemical staining>

[0102] The antibody that recognizes CAPRIN-1 can be tested for its reactivity with CAPRIN-1 by an immunohistochemical method well known to those skilled in the art using a paraformaldehyde- or acetone-fixed frozen section or paraformaldehyde-fixed paraffin-embedded section of a tissue obtained from a patient during surgical operation or from an animal carrying a xenograft tissue inoculated with a cell line expressing CAPRIN-1 either spontaneously or after transfection.

[0103] For immunohistochemical staining, the antibody reactive with CAPRIN-1 can be stained by various methods. For example, the antibody can be visualized through reaction with a horseradish peroxidase-conjugated goat anti-mouse antibody, goat anti-rabbit antibody, or goat anti-chicken antibody.

<Pharmaceutical composition and method for treating and/or preventing cancer>

[0104] A target of the pharmaceutical composition for treatment and/or prevention of cancer of the present invention is not particularly limited as long as the target is cancer (cells) expressing a CAPRIN-1 gene.

[0105] The terms "tumor" and "cancer" used herein mean malignant neoplasm and are used interchangeably with each other.

[0106] The cancer targeted in the present invention is cancer expressing a gene encoding a CAPRIN-1 protein and is preferably breast cancer, kidney cancer, pancreatic cancer, large intestinal cancer, lung cancer, brain tumor, gastric cancer, uterine cervix cancer, ovary cancer, prostate cancer, urinary bladder cancer, esophageal cancer, leukemia, lymphoma, fibrosarcoma,

mastocytoma, or melanoma.

[0107] Specific examples of these cancers include, but not limited to, breast adenocarcinoma, complex-type breast adenocarcinoma, malignant mixed tumor of mammary gland, intraductal papillary adenocarcinoma, lung adenocarcinoma, squamous cell cancer, small-cell cancer, large-cell cancer, glioma which is tumor of neuroepithelial tissue, ependymoma, neuronal tumor, embryonal neuroectodermal tumor, neurilemmoma, neurofibroma, meningioma, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, lymphoma, gastrointestinal lymphoma, alimentary lymphoma, small to medium cell-type lymphoma, cecal cancer, ascending colon cancer, descending colon cancer, transverse colon cancer, sigmoid colon cancer, rectal cancer, epithelial ovarian cancer, germ cell tumor, stromal cell tumor, pancreatic ductal carcinoma, invasive pancreatic ductal carcinoma, pancreatic adenocarcinoma, acinar cell carcinoma, adenosquamous carcinoma, giant cell tumor, intraductal papillary-mucinous neoplasm, mucinous cystic neoplasm, pancreatoblastoma, serous cystadenocarcinoma, solid-pseudopapillary tumor, gastrinoma, glucagonoma, insulinoma, multiple endocrine neoplasia type-1 (Wermer's syndrome), nonfunctional islet cell tumor, somatostatinoma, and VIPoma.

[0108] The recipient test subjects (patients) are preferably mammals, for example, mammals including primates, pet animals, livestock, and sport animals and are particularly preferably humans, dogs, and cats.

[0109] In the case of using the antibody of the present invention as a pharmaceutical composition, the pharmaceutical composition can be formulated by a method generally known to those skilled in the art. For example, the pharmaceutical composition can be used in the form of a parenteral injection of an aseptic solution or suspension with water or any other pharmaceutically acceptable liquid. For example, the pharmaceutical composition may be formulated with the antibody mixed in a unit dosage form required for generally accepted pharmaceutical practice, in appropriate combination with pharmacologically acceptable carriers or media, specifically, sterilized water, physiological saline, plant oil, an emulsifier, a suspending agent, a surfactant, a stabilizer, a flavoring agent, an excipient, a vehicle, a preservative, a binder, etc. The amount of the active ingredient in such a preparation is determined such that an appropriate dose within the prescribed range can be achieved.

[0110] An aseptic composition for injection can be formulated according to conventional pharmaceutical practice using a vehicle such as injectable distilled water.

[0111] Examples of aqueous solutions for injection include physiological saline, isotonic solutions containing glucose and other adjuvants, for example, D-sorbitol, D-mannose, D-mannitol, and sodium chloride. These solutions may be used in combination with an appropriate solubilizer, for example, an alcohol (specifically, ethanol) or a polyalcohol (e.g., propylene glycol and polyethylene glycol), or a nonionic surfactant, for example, polysorbate 80 (TM) or HCO-60.

[0112] Examples of oily solutions include sesame oil and soybean oil. These solutions may be used in combination with benzyl benzoate or benzyl alcohol as a solubilizer. The solutions may be further mixed with a buffer (e.g., a phosphate buffer solution and a sodium acetate buffer

solution), a soothing agent (e.g., procaine hydrochloride), a stabilizer (e.g., benzyl alcohol and phenol), and an antioxidant. The injection solutions thus prepared are usually charged into appropriate ampules.

[0113] The pharmaceutical composition of the present invention is administered orally or parenterally, preferably parenterally. Specific examples of its dosage forms include injections, intranasal administration agents, transpulmonary administration agents, and percutaneous administration agents. Examples of the injections include intravenous injection, intramuscular injection, intraperitoneal injection, and subcutaneous injection, through which the pharmaceutical composition can be administered systemically or locally.

[0114] Also, the administration method can be appropriately selected depending on the age, weight, sex, symptoms, etc. of a patient. The dose of a pharmaceutical composition containing the antibody or a polynucleotide encoding the antibody can be selected within a range of, for example, 0.0001 to 1000 mg/kg of body weight per dose. Alternatively, the dose can be selected within a range of, for example, 0.001 to 100000 mg/body of a patient, though the dose is not necessarily limited to these numeric values. Although the dose and the administration method vary depending on the weight, age, sex, symptoms, etc. of a patient, those skilled in the art can appropriately select the dose and the method.

[0115] The pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of the present invention or the fragment thereof can be administered to a test subject to treat and/or prevent cancer, preferably breast cancer, kidney cancer, pancreatic cancer, large intestinal cancer, lung cancer, brain tumor, gastric cancer, uterine cervix cancer, ovary cancer, prostate cancer, urinary bladder cancer, esophageal cancer, leukemia, lymphoma, fibrosarcoma, mastocytoma, or melanoma.

[0116] The present invention further encompasses a method for treating and/or preventing cancer, comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention in combination with the antitumor agent as exemplified above or a pharmaceutical composition comprising the antitumor agent to a test subject. The antibody of the present invention or the fragment thereof may be administered simultaneously with or separately from the antitumor agent to the test subject. In the case of separately administering these pharmaceutical compositions, either one may be administered first or later. Their dosing intervals, doses, administration routes, and the number of doses can be appropriately selected by a specialist. The dosage forms of separate drugs to be administered simultaneously also include, for example, pharmaceutical compositions each formulated by mixing the antibody of the present invention or the fragment thereof or the antitumor agent into a pharmacologically acceptable carrier (or medium). The above descriptions about prescription, formulation, administration routes, doses, cancer, etc. as to the pharmaceutical compositions and dosage forms containing the antibody of the present invention are also applicable to any of the above-described pharmaceutical compositions and dosage forms containing the antitumor agent.

[0117] Thus, the present invention also provides a combination drug for treatment and/or prevention of cancer, comprising the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention and a pharmaceutical composition comprising the antitumor agent as exemplified above, and a method

for treating and/or preventing cancer, comprising administering the combination drug. The present invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition for treatment and/or prevention of cancer, comprising the antibody of the present invention or the fragment thereof and the antitumor agent together with a pharmacologically acceptable carrier.

<Polypeptide and DNA>

[0118] The present invention further provides a DNA encoding the antibody of the present invention or the fragment (antibody-binding fragment) thereof. Such a DNA may be a DNA encoding the heavy and/or light chains of the antibody or may be a DNA encoding the heavy and/or light chain variable regions of the antibody. Such a DNA may also be a DNA encoding each or a combination of the complementarity determining regions of the antibody. Such a DNA includes, for example, a heavy chain variable region-encoding DNA comprising nucleotide sequences encoding the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 14 and a light chain variable region-encoding DNA comprising nucleotide sequences encoding the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13, in the case of the antibody (b).

[0119] The complementarity determining regions (CDRs) encoded by the DNA having these sequences serve as regions that determine the specificity of the antibody. Sequences encoding the other regions (i.e., constant regions and framework regions) of the antibody may therefore be sequences derived from other antibodies. In this context, "other antibodies" also include antibodies derived from non-human organisms and are preferably those derived from humans from the viewpoint of reducing adverse reactions. Specifically, in the DNA described above, regions encoding each framework region and each constant region in the heavy and light chains preferably comprise nucleotide sequences encoding corresponding amino acid sequences derived from a human antibody or a derivative thereof with a partial amino acid substitution.

[0120] Further examples of the DNA encoding the antibody of the present invention include a heavy chain variable region-encoding DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 16, and a light chain variable region-encoding DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18, in the case of the antibody (b). In this context, the nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 16 is, for example, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15. The nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18 is, for example, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17. When such a DNA comprises a region encoding each constant region in the heavy and light chains, this region preferably comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding a corresponding human antibody-derived amino acid sequence (amino acid sequence of each constant region in the heavy and light chains).

[0121] These antibody DNAs can be obtained, for example, by the methods described above or the following method: first, total RNAs are prepared from hybridomas producing the antibody of the present invention using a commercially available RNA extraction kit, and cDNAs are synthesized using reverse transcriptase and random primers or the like. Subsequently, the variable region-encoding cDNAs are amplified by PCR using oligonucleotide primers for

conserved sequences of each variable region in known mouse and rabbit antibody heavy and light chain genes. Sequences encoding the constant regions can be obtained by the PCR amplification of known sequences. The nucleotide sequence of the DNA can be incorporated into a plasmid or a phage for sequencing, for example, and determined according to a routine method.

[0122] The present invention further provides the following polypeptides and DNAs related to the antibody (a) or (i):

1. (i) a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 52 and 54, SEQ ID NOs: 16 and 18, SEQ ID NOs: 21 and 23, SEQ ID NOs: 25 and 23, SEQ ID NOs: 29 and 33, SEQ ID NOs: 39 and 43, and SEQ ID NOs: 49 and 43, and a DNA encoding the polypeptide;
2. (ii) a heavy chain CDR polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 10, SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 14, SEQ ID NOs: 26, 27, and 28, SEQ ID NOs: 36, 37, and 38, and SEQ ID NOs: 46, 47, and 48, and a DNA encoding the polypeptide; and
3. (iii) a light chain CDR polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequences shown in SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13, SEQ ID NOs: 30, 31, and 32, and SEQ ID NOs: 40, 41, and 42, and a DNA encoding the polypeptide.

[0123] These polypeptides and DNAs can be prepared using gene recombination techniques as described above.

<Summary of the present invention>

[0124] The aspects of the present invention described above are summarized below.

- (1) An antibody or a fragment thereof which has immunological reactivity with a partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5.
- (2) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (1), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof has cytotoxic activity against a cancer cell expressing a CAPRIN-1 protein.
- (3) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (1) or (2), wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.
- (4) The antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (3), wherein the antibody is a human antibody, a humanized antibody, a chimeric antibody, a single-chain antibody, or a multispecific antibody.
- (5) The antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (4), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 10 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3,

respectively) and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(6) The antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (4), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 14 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(7) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (5), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 52 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 54 and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(8) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (5), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 23 and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(9) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (5), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 25 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 23 and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(10) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (6), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 16 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 18 and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(11) The antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (4), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 26, 27, and 28 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 30, 31, and 32 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(12) The antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (4), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 36, 37, and 38 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 40, 41, and 42 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(13) The antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (4), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 46, 47, and 48 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and a light chain variable region comprising complementarity determining regions consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 40, 41, and 42 (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively) and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(14) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (11), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 29 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 33 and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(15) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (12), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 39 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43 and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(16) The antibody or fragment thereof according to (13), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 49 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43 and has immunological reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein.

(17) The antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (16), wherein the antibody or fragment thereof is conjugated with an antitumor agent.

(18) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (17) as an active ingredient.

(20) A combination drug for treatment and/or prevention of cancer, comprising a pharmaceutical composition according to (18) and a pharmaceutical composition comprising an antitumor agent.

(21) A DNA encoding an antibody or fragment thereof according to any of (1) to (16).

(22) The antibody, fragment, pharmaceutical composition or combination drug according to any one of (1) to (20), for use in a method of treating and/or preventing cancer, wherein the cancer is optionally breast cancer, kidney cancer, pancreatic cancer, large intestinal cancer, lung cancer, brain tumor, gastric cancer, uterine cervix cancer, ovary cancer, prostate cancer, urinary bladder cancer, esophageal cancer, leukemia, lymphoma, fibrosarcoma, mastocytoma, or melanoma.

Examples

[0125] Hereinafter, the present invention will be described more specifically with reference to Examples. However, the scope of the present invention is not intended to be limited by these specific examples.

Example 1 Analysis of CAPRIN-1 expression in each tissue

[0126] CAPRIN-1 gene expression in canine and human normal tissues and various cell lines was examined by RT-PCR according to Example 1(4) of WO2010/016526. As a result, its strong expression was seen in the testis among the healthy canine tissues, whereas the expression was

seen in canine breast cancer and adenocarcinoma tissues. As a result of also confirming the expression in human tissues, the expression was confirmed only in the testis among normal tissues, as with the canine CAPRIN-1 gene. By contrast, the expression was detected in many types of cancer cell lines, including 8 human breast cancer cell lines (ZR75-1, MCF7, T47D, SK-BR-3, MDA-MB-157, BT-20, MDA-MB-231V, and MRK-nu-1) and 4 pancreatic cancer cell lines (Capan-2, MIAPaCa-2, Panc-1, and BxPc-3), among cancer cells. These results demonstrated that CAPRIN-1 is expressed in the breast cancer cell lines and the pancreatic cancer cell lines, though its expression is not seen in normal tissues other than the testis.

Example 2 Preparation of mouse monoclonal antibody against CAPRIN-1

(1) Preparation of mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1

[0127] 100 µg of a human CAPRIN-1 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 as prepared in Example 3 of WO2010/016526 was mixed with an equal amount of MPL+TDM adjuvant (manufactured by Sigma-Aldrich Corp.). This mixture was used as an antigen solution per mouse. The antigen solution was intraperitoneally administered to each 6-week-old Balb/c mouse (manufactured by Japan SLC, Inc.). Then, 7 boosters were performed every 1 week to complete immunization. Three days after the final shot, the spleen of each mouse was excised and ground between two sterilized glass slides. Procedures of washing with PBS(-) (manufactured by Nissui Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.) and removing the supernatant by centrifugation at 1500 rpm for 10 minutes were repeated three times to obtain spleen cells. The obtained spleen cells were mixed with mouse myeloma cells SP2/0 (purchased from ATCC) at a ratio of 10:1. 200 µl of an RPMI1640 medium containing 10% FBS was heated to 37°C and mixed with 800 µl of PEG1500 (manufactured by Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH), and the PEG solution thus prepared was added to the cell mixture, which was then left standing for 5 minutes for cell fusion. After removal of the supernatant by centrifugation at 1700 rpm for 5 minutes, the cells were suspended in 150 ml of an RPMI1640 medium containing 15% FBS supplemented with 2% equivalent of a HAT solution (manufactured by Life Technologies, Inc./Gibco) (HAT selective medium). This suspension was inoculated to fifteen 96-well plates (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc./Nunc) at a concentration of 100 µl/well. The spleen cells and the myeloma cells were fused by culture at 37°C for 7 days under conditions of 5% CO₂ to obtain hybridomas.

[0128] The prepared hybridomas were screened for the binding affinity of antibodies produced by the hybridomas against CAPRIN-1 proteins as an index. A 1 µg/ml solution of the CAPRIN-1 proteins prepared by the approach described in Example 3 of WO2010/016526 was added to a 96-well plate at a concentration of 100 µl/well and left standing at 4°C for 18 hours. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, a 0.5% bovine serum albumin (BSA) solution (manufactured by Sigma-Aldrich Corp.) was added thereto at a concentration of 400 µl/well and left standing at room temperature for 3 hours. The solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed three times with 400 µl of PBS-T. Then, the culture supernatant of each

hybridoma obtained above was added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 2 hours. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, HRP-labeled anti-mouse IgG (H+L) antibodies (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) diluted 5000-fold with PBS were added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, a TMB substrate solution (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing for 15 to 30 minutes to cause color reaction. After the color development, the reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 N sulfuric acid at a concentration of 100 μ l/well. The absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 595 nm using an absorption spectrometer. As a result, several hybridomas producing antibodies having high absorbance were selected.

[0129] The selected hybridomas were added to a 96-well plate at a density of 0.5 cells/well and cultured in the plate. One week later, hybridomas forming single colonies in the wells were observed. The cells in these wells were further cultured, and the cloned hybridomas were screened for the binding affinity of antibodies produced by the hybridomas against CAPRIN-1 proteins as an index. A 1 μ g/ml solution of the CAPRIN-1 proteins prepared by the approach described in Example 3 of WO2010/016526 was added to a 96-well plate at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at 4°C for 18 hours. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, a 0.5% BSA solution was added thereto at a concentration of 400 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 3 hours. The solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed three times with 400 μ l of PBS-T. Then, the culture supernatant of each hybridoma obtained above was added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 2 hours. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, HRP-labeled anti-mouse IgG (H+L) antibodies (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) diluted 5000-fold with PBS were added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, a TMB substrate solution (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing for 15 to 30 minutes to cause color reaction. After the color development, the reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 N sulfuric acid at a concentration of 100 μ l/well. The absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 595 nm using an absorption spectrometer. As a result, 61 hybridoma lines producing monoclonal antibodies reactive with CAPRIN-1 proteins were obtained.

[0130] Next, these monoclonal antibodies were screened for antibodies reactive with the surface of breast cancer cells expressing CAPRIN-1. Specifically, 10⁶ cells of a human breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231V were centrifuged in a 1.5-ml microcentrifuge tube. 100 μ l of the culture supernatant of each hybridoma obtained above was added thereto and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, FITC-labeled goat anti-mouse IgG antibodies (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) diluted 500-fold with PBS containing 0.1% FBS were added thereto and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, the fluorescence intensity was measured using FACSCalibur (Becton, Dickinson and Company). On the other hand, the same operation as above was performed using the serum of each untreated 6-week-old Balb/c mouse diluted 500-fold with a medium for hybridoma culture, instead of the antibodies, to prepare a control. As a result, one mouse monoclonal antibody (mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody

#1) having stronger fluorescence intensity than that of the control, i.e., reactive with the surface of breast cancer cells, was selected.

(2) Identification of CAPRIN-1 epitope recognized by mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1

[0131] The cancer cell surface-reactive monoclonal antibody against CAPRIN-1 (mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1) obtained in the paragraph (1) was used to identify a CAPRIN-1 epitope region recognized thereby. 93 candidate peptides each consisting of 12 to 16 amino acids in the amino acid sequence of the human CAPRIN-1 protein were synthesized and each dissolved at a concentration of 1 mg/ml in DMSO.

[0132] Each peptide was dissolved at a concentration of 30 µg/ml in a 0.1 M sodium carbonate buffer solution (pH 9.6). The solution was added at a concentration of 100 µl/well to a 96-well plate (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc./Nunc, product No.: 436006) and left standing overnight at 4°C. The solution in each well was discarded, and 10 mM ethanolamine/0.1 M sodium carbonate buffer solution (PH 9.6) was added thereto at a concentration of 200 µl/well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. Then, the solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed twice with PBS containing 0.5% Tween 20 (PBST) to prepare a peptide-immobilized plate.

[0133] The cell culture supernatant containing the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 was added at a concentration of 50 µl/well to each plate thus obtained. After shaking at room temperature for 1 hour, the solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed three times with PBST. Next, a secondary antibody solution containing HRP-labeled anti-mouse IgG (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) antibodies diluted 3000- to 4000-fold with PBST was added thereto at a concentration of 50 µl/well. Then, the solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed six times with PBST.

[0134] A TMB substrate solution (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was added thereto at a concentration of 100 µl/well and left standing for 15 to 30 minutes to cause color reaction. After the color development, the reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 N sulfuric acid at a concentration of 100 µl/well. The absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 595 nm using an absorption spectrometer.

[0135] As a result, the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5 was identified as a partial sequence of CAPRIN-1 recognized by the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 obtained in Example 2(1).

(3) Preparation of mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 and #3

[0136] In the same way as in the preceding paragraph (1), a fusion protein of a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 identified in the paragraph (2) and a carrier protein KLH (keyhole limpet haemocyanin) was mixed as an immunogen with an equal amount

of an adjuvant TiterMax Gold (registered trademark) (CytRx Corp.), and this mixture was intraperitoneally administered at a dose of 100 µg per shot to each mouse at 7-day intervals. After a total of 4 shots, spleen cells were obtained from the mouse 3 days after the final immunization and fused with mouse myeloma cells in the same way as in the paragraph (1) to prepare hybridomas. Then, antibodies contained in the culture supernatants of the prepared hybridomas were screened using, as an index, their reactivity with a 1 µg/ml CAPRIN-1 protein solution prepared in Example 3 of WO2010/016526 and the fusion protein of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 and a carrier protein BSA used as an immunogen. A 1 µg/ml CAPRIN-1 protein solution prepared in Example 3 of WO2010/016526 and a 30 µg/ml fusion protein of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 and a carrier protein BSA were each added to a 96-well plate at a concentration of 100 µl/well and left standing at 4°C for 18 hours. Each well was washed with PBS-T. Then, a Block Ace (DS Pharma Biomedical Co., Ltd) solution was added thereto at a concentration of 400 µl/well and left standing at room temperature for 3 hours. The solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed with PBS-T. Then, the culture supernatant of each hybridoma obtained above was added thereto at a concentration of 100 µl/well and left standing at room temperature for 2 hours. Each well was washed with PBS-T. Then, HRP-labeled anti-mouse IgG (H+L) antibodies (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) diluted 5000-fold with PBS were added thereto at a concentration of 100 µl/well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. Each well was washed with PBS-T. Then, a TMB substrate solution (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was added thereto at a concentration of 100 µl/well and left standing for 5 to 30 minutes to cause color reaction. After the color development, the reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 N sulfuric acid at a concentration of 100 µl/well. The absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 595 nm using an absorption spectrometer. As a result, hybridomas producing antibodies having high absorbance were selected.

[0137] The selected hybridomas were added to a 96-well plate at a density of 0.3 cells/well and cultured in the plate. One week later, hybridomas forming single colonies in the wells were observed. The cells in these wells were further cultured. Hybridomas producing antibodies against the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 were obtained in the same way as above with the binding affinity of antibodies produced by the cloned hybridomas against the partial CAPRIN-1 sequence (amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5) as an index.

[0138] The monoclonal antibodies produced by the obtained hybridomas were screened for antibodies reactive with the surface of breast cancer cells expressing CAPRIN-1. Specifically, 10⁶ cells of a human breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231V were centrifuged in a 1.5-ml microcentrifuge tube. 100 µl of the culture supernatant of each hybridoma obtained above was added thereto and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, FITC-labeled goat anti-mouse IgG antibodies (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) diluted 500-fold with PBS containing 0.1% FBS were added thereto and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, the fluorescence intensity was measured using FACSCalibur (Becton, Dickinson and Company). On the other hand, the same operation as above was performed using, instead of the antibodies, a sample containing the serum of each untreated 6-week-old Balb/c mouse diluted 500-fold with a medium for hybridoma culture and a sample reacted only with secondary antibodies as a negative control. As a result, two mouse monoclonal antibodies (mouse anti-

CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 and #3) having stronger fluorescence intensity than that of the negative control, i.e., reactive with the surface of breast cancer cells, were obtained.

[0139] The obtained mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 and #3 were examined for their specific reactivity with the immunogenic polypeptide having the partial CAPRIN-1 sequence (amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5). A solution containing the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 adjusted to 30 µg/ml with a 0.1 M aqueous sodium carbonate solution and a partial CAPRIN-1 sequence free from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 were each added to a 96-well plate Immobilizer Amino for ELISA (Nunc/Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) at a concentration of 100 µg/ml and reacted at 4°C all night and all day to bind the peptides to the wells. A 0.1 M aqueous sodium carbonate solution containing 10 mM ethanolamine was added to each peptide-bound well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. The solution in each well was discarded, and each well was then washed with PBS-T. Then, a Block Ace solution was added thereto at a concentration of 400 µl/well and left standing at room temperature for 3 hours. The solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed with PBS-T. Then, the culture supernatant containing the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 or #3 was added thereto at a concentration of 50 µl/well and reacted at room temperature for 1 hour. Then, each well was washed with PBS-T. HRP-labeled anti-mouse IgG (H+L) antibodies (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) diluted 5000-fold with a Block Ace solution were added thereto at a concentration of 50 µl/well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. Each well was thoroughly washed with PBS-T. Then, a TMB substrate solution (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was added thereto at a concentration of 100 µl/well and left standing for 5 to 30 minutes to cause color reaction. After the color development, the reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 N sulfuric acid at a concentration of 100 µl/well. The absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 595 nm using an absorption spectrometer. As a result, the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 and #3 did not react with the partial CAPRIN-1 sequence free from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 and specifically reacted only with the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5. Thus, the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5 was confirmed to contain an epitope region for the mouse monoclonal antibodies #2 and #3.

(4) Characterization of mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2, and #3

[0140] Amplified fragments of variable region-encoding genes were obtained from the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2, and #3 obtained in Examples 2(1) and 2(3) and analyzed for their gene sequences and amino acid sequences thereof according to the method described in Example 5 of WO2010/016526. The resulting gene sequence encoding the heavy chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 34, and the amino acid sequence thereof is shown in SEQ ID NO: 29. The gene sequence encoding the light chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 is also shown in SEQ ID NO: 35, and the amino acid sequence thereof is shown in SEQ ID NO: 33. The resulting gene sequence encoding the heavy chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #2 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 44, and the amino acid sequence thereof is shown in SEQ ID NO: 39. The gene sequence encoding the light chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #2 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 45, and the amino acid sequence thereof is shown in SEQ ID NO: 43. The

resulting gene sequence encoding the heavy chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #3 is further shown in SEQ ID NO: 50, and the amino acid sequence thereof is shown in SEQ ID NO: 49. The gene sequence encoding the light chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #3 is shown in SEQ ID NO: 45, and the amino acid sequence thereof is shown in SEQ ID NO: 43.

[0141] Specifically, it was confirmed that the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 29 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 33, wherein CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in the heavy chain variable region consist of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 26, 27, and 28, respectively, and CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in the light chain variable region consist of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 30, 31, and 32, respectively. It was also confirmed that the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #2 comprises a heavy chain variable region of SEQ ID NO: 39 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43, wherein CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in the heavy chain variable region consist of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 36, 37, and 38, respectively, and CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in the light chain variable region consist of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 40, 41, and 42, respectively. It was further confirmed that the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #3 comprises a heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 49 and a light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43, wherein CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in the heavy chain variable region consist of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 46, 47, and 48, respectively, and CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in the light chain variable region consist of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 40, 41, and 42, respectively.

Example 3 Preparation of polyclonal antibody against partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptide present on cancer cell surface

[0142] In order to obtain polyclonal antibodies against partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptides present on cancer cell surface, a polypeptide (CAPRIN-1-derived peptide shown in SEQ ID NO: 5) comprising the epitope region for the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 obtained in Example 1 (1), a polypeptide having a region of amino acid residue numbers 50 to 98 in the human CAPRIN-1 amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, and a polypeptide having a region of amino acid residue numbers 233 to 305 of SEQ ID NO: 2 were synthesized. 1 mg each of these peptides was mixed as an antigen with an equal volume of an incomplete Freund's adjuvant (IFA) solution. This mixture was subcutaneously administered to each rabbit four times every two weeks. Then, blood was collected to obtain antiserum containing each polyclonal antibody. This antiserum was further purified using a protein G carrier (manufactured by GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences Ltd.) and replaced with PBS to obtain polyclonal antibodies against partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptides present on cancer cell surface. In addition, the serum of a rabbit that received no antigen was purified using a protein G carrier in the same way as above and used as control antibodies.

Example 4 Analysis of CAPRIN-1 protein expression on cancer cell membrane surface using polyclonal antibodies against partial CAPRIN-1 polypeptides

[0143] Next, 8 human breast cancer cell lines (ZR75-1, MCF7, T47D, SK-BR-3, MDA-MB-157, BT-20, MDA-MB-231V, and MRK-nu-1) confirmed to have a large level of CAPRIN-1 gene expression were examined for their expression of CAPRIN-1 proteins on the cell surface. 5×10^5 cells of each human breast cancer cell line thus confirmed to have gene expression were centrifuged in a 1.5-ml microcentrifuge tube. 2 μg (5 μl) each of the polyclonal antibodies against CAPRIN-1-derived peptides (SEQ ID NO: 5) prepared as described above in Example 3 and 95 μl of PBS containing 0.1% fetal bovine serum were added thereto and mixed, and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, the resulting solution was mixed by the addition of 1 μl of Alexa 488-labeled goat anti-rabbit IgG antibodies (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) and 98 μl of PBS containing 0.1% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and left standing for 30 hours on ice. After washing with PBS, the fluorescence intensity was measured using FACSCalibur (Becton, Dickinson and Company). On the other hand, the same operation as above was performed using the control antibodies prepared as described above in Example 3 instead of the polyclonal antibodies against CAPRIN-1-derived peptides to prepare a control. As a result, the cancer cells supplemented with the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies all exhibited fluorescence intensity at least 35% stronger than that of the control. This demonstrated that CAPRIN-1 proteins are expressed on the cell membrane surface of the human cancer cell lines. The above rate of enhancement in fluorescence intensity was indicated by the rate of increase in mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) in each cell line and calculated according to the following expression:

$$\text{Rate of increase in mean fluorescence intensity (Rate of enhancement in fluorescence intensity) (\%)} = \frac{((\text{MFI of cells reacted with the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies}) - (\text{Control MFI}))}{(\text{Control MFI})} \times 100.$$

[0144] Also, the fluorescence intensity was measured in 2 kidney cancer cell lines (Caki-1 and Caki-2), a urinary bladder cancer cell line (T24), an ovary cancer cell line (SKOV3), 2 lung cancer cell lines (QG56 and A549), a prostate cancer cell line (PC3), a uterine cervix cancer cell line (SW756), a fibrosarcoma cell line (HT1080), 2 brain tumor cell lines (T98G and U87MG), a gastric cancer cell line (MNK28), 3 large intestinal cancer cell lines (Lovo, DLD-1, and HCT-116), and 4 pancreatic cancer cell lines (Capan-2, MIAPaCa-2, Panc-1, and BxPC-3) using the same approach as above. As a result, all the cancer cells had fluorescence intensity at least 35% stronger than that of the control.

[0145] As with the results obtained above, CAPRIN-1 protein expression on cancer cell membrane surface was also confirmed using the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 obtained in Example 2.

Example 5 Preparation of human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody

[0146] The gene amplification fragment comprising the gene of the heavy chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 obtained in Example 2 was treated at both ends with

restriction enzymes, then purified, and inserted according to a routine method into a pcDNA4/myc-His (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) vector already having gene inserts of a mouse antibody-derived leader sequence and a human IgG₁ H chain constant region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6. Also, the gene amplification fragment comprising the gene of the light chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 was treated at both ends with restriction enzymes, then purified, and inserted according to a routine method into a pcDNA3.1/myc-His (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) vector already having gene inserts of a mouse antibody-derived leader sequence and a human IgG₁ L chain constant region comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.

[0147] Next, the recombinant vector having the gene insert of the heavy chain variable region of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 and the recombinant vector having the gene insert of the light chain variable region were introduced into CHO-K1 cells (obtained from Riken Cell Bank). Specifically, 2×10^5 CHO-K1 cells were cultured in 1 ml of a Ham's F12 medium (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) containing 10% FBS per well of a 12-well culture plate, and washed with PBS(-). Then, 1 ml of a fresh Ham's F12 medium containing 10% FBS per well was added thereto. 250 ng each of the vectors lysed in 30 μ l of OptiMEM (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) was mixed with 30 μ l of Polyfect transfection reagent (manufactured by Qiagen N.V.), and this mixture was added to each well. The CHO-K1 cells cotransfected with the recombinant vectors were cultured in a Ham's F12 medium containing 10% FBS supplemented with 200 μ g/ml Zeocin (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) and 200 μ g/ml Geneticin (manufactured by Roche Diagnostics K.K.) and then inoculated to a 96-well plate at a density of 0.5 cells/well to prepare cell lines stably producing human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 having the variable regions of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 obtained in Example 2. The same operation as above was performed using the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 and #3 instead of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 to prepare cell lines stably producing any of human-mouse chimeric monoclonal antibodies #2 and #3 having the variable regions of the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 and #3, respectively, obtained in Example 2.

[0148] Prepared cell line was cultured for 5 days in a 150-cm² flask at a density of 5×10^5 cells/ml using 30 ml of a serum-free OptiCHO medium (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) to obtain culture supernatants containing the human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1. Culture supernatants containing any of the human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 and #3 were also obtained by the same approach as above.

[0149] Also, cell lines stably producing human-mouse chimeric comparative antibodies 1 to 26 were prepared as comparative samples in the same way as above respectively using the following comparative antibodies: anti-CAPRIN-1 mouse-derived monoclonal antibodies described in WO2010/016526 [a comparative antibody 1 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 26 (described therein; the same holds true for the description below) and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 27; a comparative antibody 2 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 28 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 29; a comparative antibody 3 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 30 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31; a

comparative antibody 4 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 32 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 33; a comparative antibody 5 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 34 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 35; a comparative antibody 6 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 36 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 37; a comparative antibody 7 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 38 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 39; a comparative antibody 8 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 40 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 41; a comparative antibody 9 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 42 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43; a comparative antibody 10 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 44 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 45; and a comparative antibody 11 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 46 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 47], anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibodies described in WO2011/096517 [a comparative antibody 12 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43 (described therein; the same holds true for the description below) and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 47; and a comparative antibody 13 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 47], anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibodies described in WO2011/096528 [a comparative antibody 14 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43 (described therein; the same holds true for the description below) and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 47; a comparative antibody 15 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 51 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 55; a comparative antibody 16 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 59 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 63; a comparative antibody 17 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 76 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 80; a comparative antibody 18 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 84 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 88; and a comparative antibody 19 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 92 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 96], an anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody described in WO2011/096519 [a comparative antibody 20 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 42 (described therein; the same holds true for the description below) and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 46], anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibodies described in WO2011/096533 [a comparative antibody 21 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43 (described therein; the same holds true for the description below) and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 51; a comparative antibody 22 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 47 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 51; and a comparative antibody 23 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 63 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 67], and anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibodies described in WO2011/096534 [a comparative antibody 24 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43 (described therein; the same holds true for the description below) and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 47; a comparative antibody 25 having the heavy chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 43 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 51; and a comparative antibody 26 having the heavy chain variable region

consisting of SEQ ID NO: 63 and the light chain variable region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 67]. Each prepared cell line was cultured for 5 days in a 150-cm² flask at a density of 5×10^5 cells/ml using 30 ml of a serum-free OptiCHO medium (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) to obtain culture supernatants containing any of the human-mouse chimeric comparative monoclonal antibodies 1 to 26.

Example 6 Evaluation of expression of CAPRIN-1 on surface of various cancer cells using anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody

[0150] Next, the 8 human breast cancer cell lines (ZR75-1, MCF7, T47D, SK-BR-3, MDA-MB-157, BT-20, MDA-MB-231V, and MRK-nu-1), the 2 kidney cancer cell lines (Caki-1 and Caki-2), the urinary bladder cancer cell line (T24), the ovary cancer cell line (SKOV3), the 2 lung cancer cell lines (QG56 and A549), the prostate cancer cell line (PC3), the uterine cervix cancer cell line (SW756), the fibrosarcoma cell line (HT1080), the 2 brain tumor cell lines (T98G and U87MG), the gastric cancer cell line (MNK28), the 3 large intestinal cancer cell lines (Lovo, DLD-1, and HCT-116), and the 4 pancreatic cancer cell lines (Capan-2, MIAPaCa-2, Panc-1, and BxPC-3) confirmed to have CAPRIN-1 gene expression were examined for their expression of CAPRIN-1 proteins on the cell surface using the culture supernatant containing the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 obtained in Example 2. 10^6 cells of each cell line were centrifuged in each 1.5-ml microcentrifuge tube. Each culture supernatant (100 μ l) containing the antibody was added to the tube and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, FITC-labeled goat anti-mouse IgG (H+L) antibodies (manufactured by Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories, Inc.) diluted with PBS containing 0.1% FBS were added thereto and left standing at 4°C for 30 minutes. After washing with PBS, the fluorescence intensity was measured using FACSCalibur (Becton, Dickinson and Company). The negative control used was cells reacted only with secondary antibodies. As a result, the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 exhibited reactivity with fluorescence intensity at least 30% stronger than that of the negative control. The mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #2 and #3 also produced the same results as those of the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1. In addition, the human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2, and #3 prepared in Example 5 were purified according to a routine method using Hitrap Protein A Sepharose FF (manufactured by GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences Ltd.). After replacement with PBS(-), each solution was filtered through a 0.22- μ m filter (manufactured by Millipore Corp.) and then evaluated for its reactivity with the cancer cell lines. The results were the same as those obtained above. In the evaluation of the human-mouse chimeric antibodies, FITC-labeled goat anti-human IgG (H+L) antibodies were used as secondary antibodies. This demonstrated that CAPRIN-1 proteins are expressed on the cell membrane surface of the human cancer cell lines. The above rate of enhancement in fluorescence intensity was indicated by the rate of increase in mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) in each cell line and calculated according to the following expression:

$$\text{Rate of increase in mean fluorescence intensity (Rate of enhancement in fluorescence intensity) (\%)} = \frac{((\text{MFI of cells reacted with the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies}) - (\text{Control MFI}))}{(\text{Control MFI})} \times 100.$$

Example 7 Antitumor activity against cancer cell of anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody

[0151] In order to evaluate each antibody against the CAPRIN-1-derived peptide (SEQ ID NO: 5) for the strength of its cytotoxicity against cancer cells expressing CAPRIN-1, ADCC activity was determined. The rabbit polyclonal antibodies against the peptide (SEQ ID NO: 5) prepared in Example 3 were used in this evaluation. Similar evaluation was conducted using rabbit polyclonal antibodies against other human CAPRIN-1-derived peptides (polyclonal antibodies against amino acid residue numbers 50 to 98 in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 of human CAPRIN-1 and rabbit polyclonal antibodies against amino acid residue numbers 233 to 305, which were prepared in Example 3) as antibodies to be compared and the normal rabbit serum-derived control antibodies without treatment prepared in Example 3 as a negative control.

[0152] 10^6 cells each of the human breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231V, the human large intestinal cancer cell line DLD-1, the human pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, and the human lung cancer cell line QG56 confirmed to have CAPRIN-1 expression were collected into a 50-ml centrifuge tube, to which 100 μ Ci of chromium 51 was then added, followed by incubation at 37°C for 2 hours. Then, the cells were washed three times with an RPMI1640 medium containing 10% fetal calf serum and added at a density of 2×10^3 cells/well to each 96-well V-bottom plate. The rabbit polyclonal antibodies against the human CAPRIN-1-derived peptide (SEQ ID NO: 5) and two types of rabbit polyclonal antibodies against other human CAPRIN-1-derived peptides (rabbit polyclonal antibodies against amino acid residue numbers 50 to 98 in SEQ ID NO: 2 of human CAPRIN-1 and rabbit polyclonal antibodies against amino acid residue numbers 233 to 305) as described above were separately added thereto at a concentration of 1 μ g/well. Lymphocytes separated from human or rabbit peripheral blood according to a routine method were further added thereto at a density of 4×10^5 cells/well and cultured at 37°C for 4 hours under conditions of 5% CO₂. After the culture, the amount of chromium (Cr) 51 released from damaged cancer cells was measured in the culture supernatant to calculate the ADCC activity against the cancer cells of the rabbit polyclonal antibodies against each human CAPRIN-1-derived peptide. As a result, all the rabbit polyclonal antibodies obtained by immunization with the partial peptides of human CAPRIN-1 having an amino acid sequence of amino acid residue numbers 50 to 98 or amino acid residue numbers 233 to 305 of SEQ ID NO: 2 of human CAPRIN-1 had activity less than 8% against the human breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231V, the human large intestinal cancer cell line DLD-1, the human pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, and the human lung cancer cell line QG56. By contrast, the groups supplemented with the rabbit polyclonal antibodies against the human CAPRIN-1-derived peptide (SEQ ID NO: 5) were confirmed to have 28% or higher cytotoxic activity against all the cancer cell lines. The negative control antibodies had activity less than 5% against all the cancer cells. These results demonstrated that the antibody against CAPRIN-1 shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 exerts strong cytotoxic activity against cancer cells expressing CAPRIN-1.

[0153] These results about cytotoxic activity were obtained by: mixing the antibody against

CAPRIN-1 used in the present invention, lymphocytes, and 2×10^3 cells of each cancer cell line with incorporated chromium 51, as described above: culturing the cells for 4 hours; after the culture, measuring the amount of chromium 51 released into the medium; and calculating the cytotoxic activity against each cancer cell line according to the following expression*:

*Expression: Cytotoxic activity (%) = Amount of chromium 51 released from the target cells supplemented with the antibody against CAPRIN-1 and lymphocytes / Amount of chromium 51 released from target cells supplemented with 1 N hydrochloric acid $\times 100$.

[0154] Similarly, the human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2 and #3 against a partial sequence (SEQ ID NO: 5) of CAPRIN-1 obtained in Example 5 were evaluated for their cytotoxic activity against human cancer cells. The culture supernatant of each cell line producing any of the antibodies was purified using Hitrap Protein A Sepharose FF (manufactured by GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences Ltd.) according to a routine method. After replacement with PBS(-), the solution was filtered through a 0.22- μ m filter (manufactured by Millipore Corp.). The resulting antibody was used for activity assay. 10^6 cells each of the human breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231V, the human large intestinal cancer cell line DLD-1, the human pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, and the human lung cancer cell line QG56 were collected into a 50-ml centrifuge tube, to which 100 μ Ci of chromium 51 was then added, followed by incubation at 37°C for 2 hours. Then, the cells were washed three times with an RPMI1640 medium containing 10% FBS and added at a density of 2×10^3 cells/well to each 96-well V-bottom plate to prepare target cells. The purified antibodies (human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2 and #3) and the human-mouse chimeric comparative monoclonal antibodies 1 to 26 obtained in Example 5 were each added thereto at a concentration of 0.75 μ g/well. A cell population containing human NK cells was separated using a routine method from human peripheral blood lymphocytes prepared according to a routine method. The cell population containing human NK cells that was used in this evaluation was prepared as follows: human peripheral blood mononuclear cells separated using a specific gravity separation solution Histopaque for peripheral blood mononuclear cell separation (Sigma-Aldrich Corp.) were reacted with FITC fluorescent dye-labeled antibodies (anti-human CD3 antibody, anti-human CD20 antibody, anti-human CD19 antibody, anti-human CD11c antibody, or anti-HLA-DR antibody (Becton, and Dickinson and Company)), and a cell population containing NK cells unstained with the antibodies was separated as effector cells using a cell sorter (FACS Vantage SE (Becton, and Dickinson and Company)) or human NK cell separation kit (manufactured by Miltenyi Biotec K.K.). The separated cell population containing NK cells was added to the plate at a density of 2×10^5 cells/well and cultured at 37°C for 4 hours under conditions of 5% CO₂. After the culture, the amount of chromium 51 released from damaged tumor cells was measured in the culture supernatant to calculate the cytotoxic activity of each anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody against the cancer cells. The negative control used was cells supplemented with isotype control antibodies. As a result, the isotype control antibodies used had cytotoxic activity of less than 5% against all of the cancer cell lines, and the human-mouse chimeric comparative monoclonal antibodies 1 to 26 used had cytotoxic activity of less than 5% against MDA-MB-231V, less than 10% against DLD-1, less than 10% against Capan-2, and less than 10% against QG56. By contrast, the human-

mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2 and #3 had cytotoxic activity of 20% or higher against MDA-MB-231V, 25% or higher against DLD-1, 35% or higher against Capan-2, and 30% or higher against QG56. Likewise, the isotype control antibodies used and the comparative antibodies 1 to 26 used had cytotoxic activity less than 4% against all of other cancer cells, breast cancer cell lines T47D, Hs578T, BT-20, SK-BR-3, MCF7, and MRK-nu-1, a glioma cell line T98G, a lung cancer cell line A549, a kidney cancer cell line Caki-1, a uterine cervix cancer cell line SW756, a urinary bladder cancer cell line T24, a gastric cancer cell line MKN28, a large intestinal cancer cell line SW480, a leukemia cell line AML5, and a lymphoma cell line Ramos. By contrast, the human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2 and #3 were confirmed to have 12% or higher cytotoxic activity against these cell lines. These results showed that the antibodies against the CAPRIN-1-derived peptide shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 damage CAPRIN-1-expressing cancer cells through their ADCC activity, and demonstrated that the human-mouse chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2 and #3 exhibit stronger cytotoxic activity against human cancer cells than that of the comparative antibodies 1 to 26.

[0155] These results about cytotoxic activity were obtained by: mixing the antibody against CAPRIN-1 used in the present invention, lymphocytes (cell population containing NK cells), and 2×10^3 cells of each cancer cell line with incorporated chromium 51, as described above: culturing the cells for 4 hours; after the culture, measuring the amount of chromium 51 released into the medium; and calculating the cytotoxic activity against each cancer cell line according to the following expression*:

*Expression: Cytotoxic activity (%) = Amount of chromium 51 released from the target cells supplemented with the antibody against CAPRIN-1 and lymphocytes (cell population containing NK cells) / Amount of chromium 51 released from target cells supplemented with 1 N hydrochloric acid $\times 100$.

Example 8 The number of CAPRIN-1 molecules on surface of various cancer cells recognized by anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1

[0156] A human breast cancer cell line (MDA-MB-231V), a kidney cancer cell line (Caki-1), a urinary bladder cancer cell line (T24), an ovary cancer cell line (SKOV3), lung cancer cell lines (QG56 and A549), a pancreatic cancer cell line (Capan-2), a prostate cancer cell line (PC3), a uterine cervix cancer cell line (SW756), a fibrosarcoma cell line (HT1080), a brain tumor cell line (T98G), a gastric cancer cell line (MKN28), large intestinal cancer cell lines (Lovo and DLD-1), a leukemia cell line (AML5), and a lymphoma cell line (Ramos) were examined using an assay kit "QIFIKIT" for the number of molecules (manufactured by Dako Japan Inc.) for the number of CAPRIN-1 molecules on their cell surface recognized by the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2 and #3. Similarly, the number of CAPRIN-1 molecules on the surface of these various cancer cells was also examined using the anti-CAPRIN-1 comparative monoclonal antibodies 1 to 26 prepared in Example 5.

[0157] According to the protocol attached to the kit, each antibody (anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1

and comparative antibodies 1 to 26) was diluted into 5 µg/ml (in terms of final concentration) with PBS, and this dilution was added to each cell line and reacted for 30 minutes. After washing with PBS, fluorescently labeled anti-mouse IgG antibodies attached to the kit were added as secondary antibodies, together with calibration beads attached to the kit, to each cell line and left standing for 45 minutes on ice. Each cell line and the calibration beads were washed with PBS. Then, the fluorescence intensity was measured using FACSCalibur (Becton, Dickinson and Company) to obtain a mean fluorescence intensity value (mean). Also, a mean fluorescence intensity value (mean) was obtained by the same assay as above for the comparative antibodies. The negative control used was cells reacted with isotype control antibodies, and a mean was also obtained. Each mean fluorescence intensity value (mean) was used to calculate the number of molecules according to the protocol attached to the kit. As a result, the number of CAPRIN-1 molecules on the surface of various cancer cells recognized by the mouse anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2, #3, and the comparative antibodies 12 to 26 was 10^5 or more per cell for all the examined human cancer cell lines. On the other hand, the number of molecules recognized by the comparative antibodies 1 to 11 was less than 10^5 per cell.

Example 9 Preparation of anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody using rabbit

(1) Preparation of rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1

[0158] 300 µg of an antigenic protein (human CAPRIN-1 protein) was mixed with an equal amount of a complete Freund's adjuvant. This mixture was used as an antigen solution per rabbit. A mixture of the antigen with an incomplete Freund's adjuvant was used for boosters. The antigen solution was intraperitoneally administered to each 7-week-old rabbit. Then, 7 boosters were performed every 4 weeks to complete immunization. Four days after the final shot, the spleen of each rabbit was excised and ground between two sterilized glass slides. Procedures of washing with PBS(-) (manufactured by Nissui Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.) and removing the supernatant by centrifugation at 1500 rpm for 10 minutes were repeated three times to obtain spleen cells. The obtained spleen cells were mixed with rabbit myeloma cells at a ratio of 5:1. 200 µl of an IMDM medium containing 10% FBS was heated to 37°C and mixed with 800 µl of PEG1500 (manufactured by Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH), and the PEG solution thus prepared was added to the cell mixture, which was then left standing for 5 minutes for cell fusion. After removal of the supernatant by centrifugation at 1700 rpm for 5 minutes, the cells were suspended in 300 ml of an IMDM medium containing 10% FBS supplemented with 2% equivalent of a HAT solution (manufactured by Life Technologies, Inc./Gibco) (HAT selective medium). This suspension was inoculated to thirty 96-well plates (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc./Nunc) at a concentration of 100 µl/well. The spleen cells and the rabbit myeloma cells were fused by culture at 37°C for 7 days under conditions of 5% CO₂ to obtain hybridomas.

[0159] The prepared hybridomas were screened with the reactivity of antibodies produced by the hybridomas with CAPRIN-1 proteins as an index. A 1 µg/ml CAPRIN-1 protein solution was added to a 96-well plate at a concentration of 100 µl/well and left standing at 4°C for 18 hours.

Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, a 0.5% bovine serum albumin (BSA) solution (manufactured by Sigma-Aldrich Corp.) was added thereto at a concentration of 400 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 3 hours. The solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed three times with 400 μ l of PBS-T. Then, the culture supernatant of each hybridoma obtained above was added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 2 hours. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, HRP-labeled anti-rabbit antibodies diluted 5000-fold with PBS were added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, a TMB substrate solution (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing for 15 to 30 minutes to cause color reaction. After the color development, the reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 N sulfuric acid at a concentration of 100 μ l/well. The absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 595 nm using an absorption spectrometer. As a result, several hybridomas producing antibodies having high absorbance were selected.

[0160] The selected hybridomas were added to a 96-well plate at a density of 0.5 cells/well and cultured in the plate. One week later, hybridomas forming single colonies in the wells were observed. The cells in these wells were further cultured, and the cloned hybridomas were screened for the reactivity of antibodies produced by the hybridomas with CAPRIN-1 proteins as an index. A 1 μ g/ml CAPRIN-1 protein solution was added to a 96-well plate at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at 4°C for 18 hours. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, a 0.5% BSA solution was added thereto at a concentration of 400 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 3 hours. The solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed three times with 400 μ l of PBS-T. Then, the culture supernatant of each hybridoma obtained above was added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 2 hours. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, HRP-labeled anti-rabbit IgG antibodies diluted 5000-fold with PBS were added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. Each well was washed three times with PBS-T. Then, a TMB substrate solution (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was added thereto at a concentration of 100 μ l/well and left standing for 15 to 30 minutes to cause color reaction. After the color development, the reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 N sulfuric acid at a concentration of 100 μ l/well. The absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 595 nm using an absorption spectrometer. As a result, several hybridoma lines producing rabbit monoclonal antibodies reactive with CAPRIN-1 proteins were obtained.

[0161] Next, these rabbit monoclonal antibodies reactive with CAPRIN-1 proteins were screened for antibodies reactive with the surface of cancer cells expressing CAPRIN-1. Specifically, 2×10^5 cells each of a human breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231V and a human lung cancer cell line QG56 were centrifuged in a 1.5-ml microcentrifuge tube. 100 μ l of the culture supernatant of each hybridoma obtained above was added thereto and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, FITC-labeled anti-rabbit IgG (H+L) antibodies or Alexa 488-labeled anti-rabbit IgG (H+L) diluted 100-fold with PBS(-) containing 0.05% FBS were added thereto and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, the fluorescence intensity was measured using FACSCalibur (Becton, Dickinson and Company). On the other hand, the same operation as above was performed using a medium for hybridoma culture to prepare a negative control

sample. As a result, one rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody (rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1) having stronger fluorescence intensity than that of the negative control, i.e., reactive with the surface of the cancer cells MDA-MB-231 and QG56 expressing CAPRIN-1, was selected.

[0162] Next, a CAPRIN-1 epitope recognized by the selected rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 was identified. 93 candidate peptides each consisting of 12 to 16 amino acids in the amino acid sequence of the human CAPRIN-1 protein were synthesized and each dissolved at a concentration of 1 mg/ml in DMSO. Each peptide was dissolved at a concentration of 30 µg/ml in a 0.1 M sodium carbonate buffer solution (pH 9.6). The solution was added at a concentration of 100 µl/well to a 96-well plate (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc./Nunc, product No.: 436006) and left standing overnight at 4°C. The solution in each well was discarded, and 10 mM ethanolamine/0.1 M sodium carbonate buffer solution (PH 9.6) was added thereto at a concentration of 200 µL/well and left standing at room temperature for 1 hour. Then, the solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed twice with PBS containing 0.5% Tween 20 (PBST) to prepare a peptide-immobilized plate. For verification, CAPRIN-1 proteins were immobilized on wells of this plate to prepare another plate according to the method described above. The rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 with a concentration of 0.1 µg/mL purified by a routine method was added at 50 µL/well to each plate. After shaking at room temperature for 1 hour, the solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed three times with PBST. Next, a secondary antibody solution containing HRP-labeled anti-rabbit IgG antibodies diluted 3000- to 4000-fold with PBST was added thereto at a concentration of 50 µL/well. Then, the solution in each well was discarded, and each well was washed six times with PBST. A TMB substrate solution (manufactured by Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.) was added thereto at a concentration of 100 µL/well and left standing for 15 to 30 minutes to cause color reaction. After the color development, the reaction was terminated by the addition of 1 N sulfuric acid at a concentration of 100 µL/well. The absorbance was measured at 450 nm and 595 nm using an absorption spectrometer. As a result, the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody (rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1) exhibited reactivity only with a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 5, among the 93 peptides synthesized as partial CAPRIN-1 sequences, and did not exhibit reactivity with any of the other polypeptides. Also, the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 specifically exhibited reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein. This result demonstrated that the epitope for the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 is contained in the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5.

[0163] Next, amplified fragments of variable region-encoding genes were obtained from the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 obtained above and analyzed for their gene sequences and amino acid sequences thereof according to the method described in Example 5 of WO2010/016526. Specifically, mRNA was extracted from the hybridoma producing the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1. Heavy chain variable (VH) region and light chain variable (VL) region genes of this antibody were obtained by RT-PCR using primers specific for rabbit variable region sequences. For sequencing, these genes were cloned into pCR2.1 vectors (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.). The gene sequences of the VH and VL regions in each plasmid obtained by cloning were each determined using an M13 forward primer and an M13 reverse primer, and a fluorescence sequencer.

[0164] As a result, it was confirmed that the obtained rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 comprises a heavy chain variable region shown in SEQ ID NO: 52, wherein CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in the heavy chain variable region consist of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 10, respectively, and a light chain variable region shown in SEQ ID NO: 54, wherein CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 in the light chain variable region consist of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13, respectively.

(2) Preparation of human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1

[0165] A gene shown in SEQ ID NO: 51 for the expression of the heavy chain variable region of the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 obtained above and a gene shown in SEQ ID NO: 53 for the expression of the light chain variable region thereof were inserted to a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a human IgG1 heavy chain constant region and a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a human IgG1 light chain constant region, respectively. These two prepared recombinant expression vectors were introduced to mammalian cells according to a routine method to obtain a culture supernatant containing a humanized rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody (human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1).

(3) Antigen specificity, reactivity with cancer cell, and antitumor activity of human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1

[0166] The culture supernatant of the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 obtained in Example 9(2) was purified according to a routine method using Hitrap Protein A Sepharose FF (manufactured by GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences Ltd.). After replacement with PBS(-), the solution was filtered through a 0.22- μ m filter (manufactured by Millipore Corp.) and then evaluated for its antigen specificity, reactivity with cancer cells, and antitumor effect.

[0167] First, the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 was examined in the same way as in Example 9(1) for its reaction specificity for the CAPRIN-1 protein and a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 as an epitope for the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1. As a result, the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 was confirmed to have reaction specificity for the CAPRIN-1 protein and the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5, as with the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1.

[0168] Next, the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 was examined for its reactivity with CAPRIN-1 proteins on the cell surface of the 9 human breast cancer cell lines (ZR75-1, MCF7, T47D, SK-BR-3, MDA-MB-157, BT-20, MDA-MB-231, MRK-nu-1, and MDA-MB-468), the 3 kidney cancer cell lines (Caki-1, Caki-2, and ACHN), the urinary bladder cancer cell line (T24), the 3 ovary cancer cell lines (SKOV3, IGROV1, and OVCAR3), the 2 lung cancer cell

lines (QG56 and A549), the prostate cancer cell lines (PC3 and DU-145), the uterine cervix cancer cell line (SW756), the fibrosarcoma cell line (HT1080), the 2 brain tumor cell lines (T98G and U87MG), the gastric cancer cell line (MNK28), the 3 large intestinal cancer cell lines (Lovo, DLD-1, and HCT-116), the 4 pancreatic cancer cell lines (Capan-2, MIAPaCa-2, Panc-1, and BxPC-3), the leukemia cell line AML5, and the lymphoma cell line Ramos confirmed to have CAPRIN-1 gene expression. 10^6 cells of each cell line were centrifuged in a 1.5-ml microcentrifuge tube. Each cell culture supernatant (100 μ l) containing the antibody was added to the tube and left standing for 1 hour on ice. After washing with PBS, Alexa 488-labeled goat anti-human IgG (H+L) antibodies (manufactured by Invitrogen Corp.) diluted 100-fold with PBS containing 0.1% FBS were added thereto and left standing at 4°C for 60 minutes. After washing with PBS(-), the fluorescence intensity was measured using FACSCalibur (Becton, Dickinson and Company). The negative control used was cells reacted only with secondary antibodies. As a result, the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 exhibited reactivity with fluorescence intensity at least 30% stronger than that of the negative control. This demonstrated that a portion of the CAPRIN-1 protein shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 is expressed on the cell membrane surface of the human cancer cell lines. The above rate of enhancement in fluorescence intensity was indicated by the rate of increase in mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) in each cell line and calculated according to the following expression: Rate of increase in mean fluorescence intensity (Rate of enhancement in fluorescence intensity) (%) = ((MFI of cells reacted with the anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies) - (Control MFI)) / (Control MFI) \times 100.

[0169] Next, a gene shown in SEQ ID NO: 51 for the expression of the heavy chain variable region of the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 and a gene shown in SEQ ID NO: 53 for the expression of the light chain variable region thereof were inserted to a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a mouse IgG1 heavy chain constant region and a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a mouse IgG1 light chain constant region, respectively. These two prepared recombinant expression vectors were introduced to mammalian cells according to a routine method to obtain a culture supernatant containing a mouse-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1, which was then purified in the same way as above to obtain a purified mouse-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1. The obtained mouse-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 was used to measure the number of molecules of SEQ ID NO: 5 on the human cancer cells recognized by the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 using a commercially available assay kit "QIFIKIT" (manufactured by Dako Japan Inc.). As a result, the leukemia cell line AML5 and the lymphoma cell line Ramos had 10^5 molecules per cell. The other human cancer cell lines had 10^5 or more molecules per cell.

[0170] Next, the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 was evaluated for its antitumor activity against human cancer cells expressing CAPRIN-1. 10^6 cells each of the human breast cancer cell lines MDA-MB-231, MCF7, and SK-Br-3, the human large intestinal cancer cell line DLD-1, the human pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, the human lung cancer cell line QG56, the kidney cancer cell line Caki-2, the ovary cancer cell line SKOV3, the prostate cancer cell lines PC3 and DU-145, the brain tumor cell line T98G, the gastric cancer cell line MKN28, the leukemia cell line AML5, and the lymphoma cell line Ramos were collected into a 50-ml

centrifuge tube, to which 100 μ Ci of chromium 51 was then added, followed by incubation at 37°C for 2 hours. Then, the cells were washed three times with an RPMI1640 medium containing 10% FBS to prepare target cells. The purified human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 and the human-mouse chimeric comparative monoclonal antibodies 1 to 26 obtained in Example 5 were each added to a 96-well V-bottom plate at a final concentration of 5 μ g/ml. Subsequently, human NK cells were separated from human peripheral blood lymphocytes prepared according to a routine method, and added thereto at a density of 2×10^5 cells/well. The human NK cells used were separated using an NK cell separation kit (manufactured by Miltenyi Biotec K.K.) from human peripheral blood mononuclear cells separated using a specific gravity separation solution Histopaque for peripheral blood mononuclear cell separation (Sigma-Aldrich Corp.). The NK cells were mixed at a density of 2×10^3 cells/well with the target and each antibody added to the 96-well V-bottom plate, and cultured at 37°C for 4 hours under conditions of 5% CO₂. After the culture, the amount of chromium 51 released from damaged tumor cells was measured in the culture supernatant to calculate the cytotoxic activity of each anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody against the cancer cells. The negative control used was cells supplemented with isotype control antibodies. As a result, the isotype control antibodies used had cytotoxic activity of less than 6% against all of the cancer cell lines, and the human-mouse chimeric comparative monoclonal antibodies 1 to 26 used had cytotoxic activity of less than 5% against MDA-MB-231V, less than 8% against MCF7 and SK-Br-3, less than 10% against the human large intestinal cancer cell line DLD-1, less than 8% against the human pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, less than 5% against the human lung cancer cell line QG56, less than 11% against the kidney cancer cell line Caki-2, less than 12% against the ovary cancer cell line SKOV3, less than 10% against the prostate cancer cell lines PC3 and DU-145, less than 7% against the brain tumor cell line T98G, less than 12% against the gastric cancer cell line MKN28, and less than 3% against the leukemia cell line AML5 and the lymphoma cell line Ramos. By contrast, the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 exhibited antitumor activity of 23% against MDA-MB-231V, 38% against MCF7, 23% against SK-Br-3, 28% against the human large intestinal cancer cell line DLD-1, 35% against the human pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, 25% against the human lung cancer cell line QG56, 23% against the kidney cancer cell line Caki-2, 24% against the ovary cancer cell line SKOV3, 18% against the prostate cancer cell line PC3, 20% against DU-145, 15% against the brain tumor cell line T98G, 20% against the gastric cancer cell line MKN28, and 9% against the leukemia cell line AML5 and the lymphoma cell line Ramos. These results demonstrated that the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 against the CAPRIN-1-derived peptide shown in SEQ ID NO: 5 exerts antitumor activity against CAPRIN-1-expressing cancer cells through its ADCC activity, and also demonstrated that the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 exhibits stronger cytotoxic activity against human cancer cells than that of the comparative antibodies 1 to 26.

[0171] These results about cytotoxic activity were obtained by: mixing the antibody against CAPRIN-1 used in the present invention, NK cells, and 2×10^3 cells of each cancer cell line with incorporated chromium 51, as described above: culturing the cells for 4 hours; after the culture, measuring the amount of chromium 51 released into the medium; and calculating the cytotoxic activity against each cancer cell line according to the following expression*:

*Expression: Cytotoxic activity (%) = Amount of chromium 51 released from the target

cells supplemented with the antibody against CAPRIN-1 and lymphocytes (NK cells) / Amount of chromium 51 released from target cells supplemented with 1 N hydrochloric acid × 100 (these amounts of chromium 51 all exclude the amount of an spontaneously released chromium 51).

(4) Antitumor activity of anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 conjugated with antitumor agent

[0172] An anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody conjugated with an antitumor agent was examined for its effect by the following study: an anti-human IgG antibody bound with saporin as a model drug of an antitumor agent (Hum-ZAP (Advanced Targeting Systems, Inc.)) was used to evaluate whether a conjugate of the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 and Hum-ZAP could exert an antitumor effect on cancer cell lines. Saporin exerts a cell-killing effect only when incorporated into cells.

[0173] A human breast cancer cell line SK-BR-3, a human pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, and human prostate cancer cells PC-3 were each inoculated to an RPMI medium containing 10% FBS in a 96-well plate at a density of 5×10^2 cells/well. At the same time, the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 or an isotype control human IgG1 antibody was added thereto as a primary antibody at a final concentration of 300 ng/ml. Subsequently, Hum-ZAP was added thereto as a secondary antibody at a final concentration of 300 ng/ml, and the cells were cultured at 37°C for 5 days. After the 5-day culture, the absorbance was measured using Cell counting Kit-8 (Dojindo Laboratories) and a microplate reader to evaluate cell growth.

[0174] As a result, the mean of the absorbance (O.D.) obtained using the isotype control antibody was 0.77 for SK-Br-3, 1.93 for Capan-2, and 2.01 for PC-3, whereas the mean of the absorbance obtained using the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 was 0.34 for SK-Br-3, 1.62 for Capan-2, and 1.62 for PC-3. These results demonstrated that the conjugate of the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 and the saporin-bound anti-human IgG antibody is incorporated into cancer cells upon binding of the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 to CAPRIN-1 on cancer cell membrane surface to exhibit saporin-mediated antitumor activity.

(5) Preparation of humanized anti-CAPRIN-1 antibodies #1, #2, and #3

[0175] Next, a humanized antibody of the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1 was prepared. On the basis of amino acid sequence information about the heavy chain variable region of the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 confirmed in Example 9(2), the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15 was designed so as to be capable of expressing a heavy chain variable region (SEQ ID NO: 16) containing CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 consisting of the amino acids of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 14, respectively, and framework regions derived from human antibody

sequences. This nucleotide sequence was inserted to a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a human IgG1 heavy chain constant region. Likewise, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 17 was designed so as to be capable of expressing a light chain variable region (SEQ ID NO: 18) containing CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 consisting of the amino acids of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13, respectively, and framework regions derived from human antibody sequences. This nucleotide sequence was inserted to a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a human IgG1 light chain constant region. These two recombinant expression vectors were introduced to mammalian cells according to a routine method to obtain a culture supernatant containing a humanized rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1 (humanized anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #1).

[0176] On the basis of amino sequence information about the heavy chain variable region of the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 20 was also designed so as to be capable of expressing a heavy chain variable region (SEQ ID NO: 21) containing CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 consisting of the amino acids of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 10, respectively, and framework regions derived from human antibody sequences. This nucleotide sequence was inserted to a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a human IgG1 heavy chain constant region. Likewise, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 22 was designed so as to be capable of expressing a light chain variable region (SEQ ID NO: 23) containing CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 consisting of the amino acids of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13, respectively, and framework regions derived from human antibody sequences. This nucleotide sequence was inserted to a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a human IgG1 light chain constant region. These two recombinant expression vectors were introduced to mammalian cells according to a routine method to obtain a culture supernatant containing a humanized rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #2 (humanized anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #2).

[0177] On the basis of amino sequence information about the heavy chain variable region of the rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24 was further designed so as to be capable of expressing a heavy chain variable region (SEQ ID NO: 25) containing CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 consisting of the amino acids of SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9, and 10, respectively, and framework regions derived from human antibody sequences. This nucleotide sequence was inserted to a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a human IgG1 heavy chain constant region. Likewise, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 22 was designed so as to be capable of expressing a light chain variable region (SEQ ID NO: 23) containing CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 consisting of the amino acids of SEQ ID NOs: 11, 12, and 13, respectively, and framework regions derived from human antibody sequences. This nucleotide sequence was inserted to a vector for expression in mammalian cells having a gene insert of a human IgG1 light chain constant region. These two recombinant expression vectors were introduced to mammalian cells according to a routine method to obtain a culture supernatant containing a humanized rabbit anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #3 (humanized anti-CAPRIN-1 antibody #3).

(6) Antigen specificity, reactivity with cancer cell, and antitumor activity of humanized anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody

[0178] These 3 humanized antibodies (humanized anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibodies #1 to #3) thus obtained were evaluated for their reactivity with CAPRIN-1 in the same way as in Example 9(3). As a result, these antibodies had reactivity with the CAPRIN-1 protein, the epitope peptide shown in SEQ ID NO: 5, and various cancer cells at the same level as that of the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1. These 3 humanized anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibodies were further evaluated for their antitumor activity against various cancer cells (human breast cancer cell lines MDA-MB-231, MCF7, and SK-Br-3, human large intestinal cancer cell line DLD-1, human pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, human lung cancer cell line QG56, kidney cancer cell line Caki-2, ovary cancer cell line SKOV3, prostate cancer cell lines PC3 and DU-145, brain tumor cell line T98G, gastric cancer cell line MKN28, pancreatic cancer cell line Capan-2, leukemia cell line AML5, and lymphoma cell line Ramos) in the same way as in Example 9(3). As a result, all the antibodies exhibited antitumor activity at the same level as that of the human-rabbit chimeric anti-CAPRIN-1 monoclonal antibody #1.

Industrial Applicability

[0179] The antibody of the present invention is useful for the treatment and/or prevention of cancer.

SEQUENCE LISTING

[0180]

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<120> Pharmaceutical Composition for Treatment and Prevention of Cancer

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<150> JP 2012-035238

<151> 2012-02-21

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        010          000          000
cca cga ggt aat att ttg tgg tgg tga tcctagctcc taagtggagc      2294
Pro Arg Gly Asn Ile Leu Trp Trp
        690

ttctgttctg gccttgggaag agctgttaat agtctgcatg ttaggaatac atttatecct 2354
tccagacttg ttgctagggga ttaaatgaaa tgctctgttt ctaaaactta atcttggacc 2414
caaattttaa tttttgaatg atttaatttt ccctgttact atataaactg tcttgaaaac 2474
tagaacatat tctcttctca gaaaaagtgt ttttccaact gaaaattatt tttcaggtcc 2534
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gaatgagatt gaacatttat ataaatttat tattcctctt tcattttttt gaaacatgcc 2654
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<210> 4

<211> 694

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 4

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Met Pro Ser Ala Thr Ser His Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Lys Ser Ser Gly
1          5          10          15

Pro Pro Pro Pro Ser Gly Ser Ser Gly Ser Glu Ala Ala Ala Gly Ala

        20          25          30

Gly Ala Ala Ala Pro Ala Ser Gln His Pro Ala Thr Gly Thr Gly Ala
        35          40          45

Val Gln Thr Glu Ala Met Lys Gln Ile Leu Gly Val Ile Asp Lys Lys
        50          55          60

```

- - - - -

Leu Arg Asn Leu Glu Lys Lys Lys Gly Lys Leu Asp Asp Tyr Gln Glu
 65 70 75 80

Arg Met Asn Lys Gly Glu Arg Leu Asn Gln Asp Gln Leu Asp Ala Val
 85 90 95

Ser Lys Tyr Gln Glu Val Thr Asn Asn Leu Glu Phe Ala Lys Glu Leu
 100 105 110

Gln Arg Ser Phe Met Ala Leu Ser Gln Asp Ile Gln Lys Thr Ile Lys
 115 120 125

Lys Thr Ala Arg Arg Glu Gln Leu Met Arg Glu Glu Ala Glu Gln Lys
 130 135 140

Arg Leu Lys Thr Val Leu Glu Leu Gln Tyr Val Leu Asp Lys Leu Gly
 145 150 155 160

Asp Asp Glu Val Arg Thr Asp Leu Lys Gln Gly Leu Asn Gly Val Pro
 165 170 175

Ile Leu Ser Glu Glu Glu Leu Ser Leu Leu Asp Glu Phe Tyr Lys Leu
 180 185 190

Val Asp Pro Glu Arg Asp Met Ser Leu Arg Leu Asn Glu Gln Tyr Glu
 195 200 205

His Ala Ser Ile His Leu Trp Asp Leu Leu Glu Gly Lys Glu Lys Pro
 210 215 220

Val Cys Gly Thr Thr Tyr Lys Val Leu Lys Glu Ile Val Glu Arg Val
 225 230 235 240

Phe Gln Ser Asn Tyr Phe Asp Ser Thr His Asn His Gln Asn Gly Leu
 245 250 255

Cys Glu Glu Glu Glu Ala Ala Ser Ala Pro Ala Val Glu Asp Gln Val
 260 265 270

Pro Glu Ala Glu Pro Glu Pro Ala Glu Glu Tyr Thr Glu Gln Ser Glu
 275 280 285

Val Glu Ser Thr Glu Tyr Val Asn Arg Gln Phe Met Ala Glu Thr Gln
 290 295 300

Phe Thr Ser Gly Glu Lys Glu Gln Val Asp Glu Trp Thr Val Glu Thr
 305 310 315 320

Val Glu Val Val Asn Ser Leu Gln Gln Gln Pro Gln Ala Ala Ser Pro
 325 330 335

Ser Val Pro Glu Pro His Ser Leu Thr Pro Val Ala Gln Ala Asp Pro
 340 345 350

Leu Val Arg Arg Gln Arg Val Gln Asp Leu Met Ala Gln Met Gln Gly
 355 360 365

Pro Tyr Asn Phe Ile Gln Asp Ser Met Leu Asp Phe Glu Asn Gln Thr
 370 375 380

370 375 380
 Leu Asp Pro Ala Ile Val Ser Ala Gln Pro Met Asn Pro Thr Gln Asn
 385 390 395 400

 Met Asp Met Pro Gln Leu Val Cys Pro Pro Val His Ser Glu Ser Arg
 405 410 415

 Leu Ala Gln Pro Asn Gln Val Pro Val Gln Pro Glu Ala Thr Gln Val
 420 425 430

 Pro Leu Val Ser Ser Thr Ser Glu Gly Tyr Thr Ala Ser Gln Pro Leu
 435 440 445

 Tyr Gln Pro Ser His Ala Thr Glu Gln Arg Pro Gln Lys Glu Pro Ile
 450 455 460

 Asp Gln Ile Gln Ala Thr Ile Ser Leu Asn Thr Asp Gln Thr Thr Ala
 465 470 475 480

 Ser Ser Ser Leu Pro Ala Ala Ser Gln Pro Gln Val Phe Gln Ala Gly
 485 490 495

 Thr Ser Lys Pro Leu His Ser Ser Gly Ile Asn Val Asn Ala Ala Pro
 500 505 510

 Phe Gln Ser Met Gln Thr Val Phe Asn Met Asn Ala Pro Val Pro Pro
 515 520 525

 Val Asn Glu Pro Glu Thr Leu Lys Gln Gln Asn Gln Tyr Gln Ala Ser
 530 535 540

 Tyr Asn Gln Ser Phe Ser Ser Gln Pro His Gln Val Glu Gln Thr Glu
 545 550 555 560

 Leu Gln Gln Glu Gln Leu Gln Thr Val Val Gly Thr Tyr His Gly Ser
 565 570 575

 Pro Asp Gln Ser His Gln Val Thr Gly Asn His Gln Gln Pro Pro Gln
 580 585 590

 Gln Asn Thr Gly Phe Pro Arg Ser Asn Gln Pro Tyr Tyr Asn Ser Arg
 595 600 605

 Gly Val Ser Arg Gly Gly Ser Arg Gly Ala Arg Gly Leu Met Asn Gly
 610 615 620

 Tyr Arg Gly Pro Ala Asn Gly Phe Arg Gly Gly Tyr Asp Gly Tyr Arg
 625 630 635 640

 Pro Ser Phe Ser Asn Thr Pro Asn Ser Gly Tyr Thr Gln Ser Gln Phe
 645 650 655

 Ser Ala Pro Arg Asp Tyr Ser Gly Tyr Gln Arg Asp Gly Tyr Gln Gln
 660 665 670

 Asn Phe Lys Arg Gly Ser Gly Gln Ser Gly Pro Arg Gly Ala Pro Arg
 675 680 685

Gly Asn Ile Leu Trp Trp
690

<210> 5

<211> 16

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 5

Ala Thr Gln Val Pro Leu Val Ser Ser Thr Ser Glu Gly Tyr Thr Ala
1 5 10 15

<210> 6

<211> 330

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 6

Ala Ser Thr Lys Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Pro Leu Ala Pro Ser Ser Lys
1 5 10 15

Ser Thr Ser Gly Gly Thr Ala Ala Leu Gly Cys Leu Val Lys Asp Tyr
20 25 30

Phe Pro Glu Pro Val Thr Val Ser Trp Asn Ser Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser
35 40 45

Gly Val His Thr Phe Pro Ala Val Leu Gln Ser Ser Gly Leu Tyr Ser
50 55 60

Leu Ser Ser Val Val Thr Val Pro Ser Ser Ser Leu Gly Thr Gln Thr
65 70 75 80

Tyr Ile Cys Asn Val Asn His Lys Pro Ser Asn Thr Lys Val Asp Lys
85 90 95

Lys Val Glu Pro Lys Ser Cys Asp Lys Thr His Thr Cys Pro Pro Cys
100 105 110

Pro Ala Pro Glu Leu Leu Gly Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Leu Phe Pro Pro
115 120 125

Lys Pro Lys Asp Thr Leu Met Ile Ser Arg Thr Pro Glu Val Thr Cys
130 135 140

Val Val Val Asp Val Ser His Glu Asp Pro Glu Val Lys Phe Asn Trp
145 150 155 160

Tyr Val Asp Gly Val Glu Val His Asn Ala Lys Thr Lys Pro Arg Glu
165 170 175

Glu Gln Tyr Asn Ser Thr Tyr Arg Val Val Ser Val Leu Thr Val Leu
180 185 190

His Gln Asp Trp Leu Asn Gly Lys Glu Tyr Lys Cys Lys Val Ser Asn
195 200 205

Lys Ala Leu Pro Ala Pro Ile Glu Lys Thr Ile Ser Lys Ala Lys Gly
 210 215 220

Gln Pro Arg Glu Pro Gln Val Tyr Thr Leu Pro Pro Ser Arg Glu Glu
 225 230 235 240

Met Thr Lys Asn Gln Val Ser Leu Thr Cys Leu Val Lys Gly Phe Tyr
 245 250 255

Pro Ser Asp Ile Ala Val Glu Trp Glu Ser Asn Gly Gln Pro Glu Asn
 260 265 270

Asn Tyr Lys Thr Thr Pro Pro Val Leu Asp Ser Asp Gly Ser Phe Phe
 275 280 285

Leu Tyr Ser Lys Leu Thr Val Asp Lys Ser Arg Trp Gln Gln Gly Asn
 290 295 300

Val Phe Ser Cys Ser Val Met His Glu Ala Leu His Asn His Tyr Thr
 305 310 315 320

Gln Lys Ser Leu Ser Leu Ser Pro Gly Lys
 325 330

<210> 7

<211> 106

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 7

Thr Val Ala Ala Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu Gln
 1 5 10 15

Leu Lys Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe Tyr
 20 25 30

Pro Arg Glu Ala Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln Ser
 35 40 45

Gly Asn Ser Gln Glu Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser Thr
 50 55 60

Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu Lys
 65 70 75 80

His Lys Val Tyr Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser Pro
 85 90 95

Val Thr Lys Ser Phe Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys
 100 105

<210> 8

<211> 6

<212> PRT

<213> Oryctolagus cuniculus

<400> 8

Gly Ser Tyr Tyr Met Ser
1 5

<210> 9

<211> 17

<212> PRT

<213> Oryctolagus cuniculus

<400> 9

Tyr Ile Tyr Ile Gly Asp Gly Val Thr Ala Tyr Ala Asn Trp Ala Lys
1 5 10 15

Gly

<210> 10

<211> 4

<212> PRT

<213> Oryctolagus cuniculus

<400> 10

Gly Asn Lys Leu
1

<210> 11

<211> 11

<212> PRT

<213> Oryctolagus cuniculus

<400> 11

Gln Ala Ser Gln Ser Ile Ser Ser Tyr Leu Ala
1 5 10

<210> 12

<211> 7

<212> PRT

<213> Oryctolagus cuniculus

<400> 12

Asp Ala Ser Asn Leu Asp Ser
1 5

<210> 13

<211> 14

<212> PRT

<213> Oryctolagus cuniculus

<400> 13

Gln Cys Thr Ala Val Ser Ser Ala Thr Ile Tyr Gly Asn Ala
1 5 10

<210> 14

<211> 4

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<400> 14

Gly Asn Arg Leu
1

<210> 15

<211> 399

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<220>

<221> signal_sequence

<222> (1)..(57)

<223>

<220>

<221> CDS

<222> (58)..(399)

<223>

<400> 15

atggagttcgg ggctgagctg ggtctttctg gtcgctatta tcaaaggtgt ccagtggt	57
cag gtg cag ttg gtc gag tcc ggg gga ggc ctg gtc aag cct ggg gga	105
Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly	
1 5 10 15	
tcc ctg aga ctc tct tgc gct gcc tct gga ttc tcc ttc agt ggc agc	153
Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Ser Phe Ser Gly Ser	
20 25 30	
tac tac atg tcc tgg gtc cgc cag gct cca ggg aag ggg ctg gag tgg	201
Tyr Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp	
35 40 45	
atc gca tac att tat att ggt gac ggt gtc act gcc tac gcg aac tgg	249
Ile Ala Tyr Ile Tyr Ile Gly Asp Gly Val Thr Ala Tyr Ala Asn Trp	
50 55 60	
gcg aaa ggc cga ttc acc atc tcc aga gat aac gca aag aat agc ctg	297
Ala Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu	
65 70 75 80	
tac cta caa atg aac agt ctg cgc gcc gag gac acg gcc gtt tat ttc	345
Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Phe	
85 90 95	
tgt gcg agg ggt aat agg ttg tgg ggc cag ggc acc ctg gtc acc gtc	393
Cys Ala Arg Gly Asn Arg Leu Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val	
100 105 110	

tcc tca
Ser Ser

399

<210> 16

<211> 114

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<400> 16

Gln Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Gly
1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Ser Phe Ser Gly Ser
20 25 30

Tyr Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp
35 40 45

Ile Ala Tyr Ile Tyr Ile Gly Asp Gly Val Thr Ala Tyr Ala Asn Trp
50 55 60

Ala Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ala Lys Asn Ser Leu
65 70 75 80

Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Phe
85 90 95

Cys Ala Arg Gly Asn Arg Leu Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val
100 105 110

Ser Ser

<210> 17

<211> 402

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<220>

<221> signal_sequence

<222> (1)..(66)

<223>

<220>

<221> CDS

<222> (67)..(402)

<223>

<400> 17

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atggacatga gggtgcccgc acagctgctg gggctcctgc tgctctggct ctctggtgcc      60
agatgt gat att cag atg acc cag agc cca agc tcc ctc agc gca gct      108
    Asp Ile Gln Met Thr Gln Ser Pro Ser Ser Leu Ser Ala Ala
    1             5             10
gtg gga gac cgc gtc acc atc aag tgc cag gcc agt cag agc att agt      156
Val Gly Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Lys Cys Gln Ala Ser Gln Ser Ile Ser
15             20             25             30
agc tac tta gcc tgg tat cag cag aaa cca ggg aag cct ccc aag cgc      204
Ser Tyr Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Lys Pro Pro Lys Arg
35             40             45
ctg atc tat gat gca tcc aat ctg gat tct ggg gtc cca tcg cgg ttc      252
Leu Ile Tyr Asp Ala Ser Asn Leu Asp Ser Gly Val Pro Ser Arg Phe
50             55             60
tcc ggc agt gga tct ggg aca gac ttc act ttt acc atc agc agc ctg      300
Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Phe Thr Ile Ser Ser Leu
65             70             75
cag cct gag gat atc gcc act tac tac tgt caa tgc act gct gtt agt      348
Gln Pro Glu Asp Ile Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Cys Thr Ala Val Ser
80             85             90
agt got act att tat gga aat gct ttc ggc gga ggg acc aag gtg gag      396
Ser Ala Thr Ile Tyr Gly Asn Ala Phe Gly Gly Gly Thr Lys Val Glu
95             100             105             110
atc aaa
Ile Lys
402

```

<210> 18

<211> 112

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<400> 18

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Asp Ile Gln Met Thr Gln Ser Pro Ser Ser Leu Ser Ala Ala Val Gly
1             5             10             15
Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Lys Cys Gln Ala Ser Gln Ser Ile Ser Ser Tyr
20             25             30
Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Lys Pro Pro Lys Arg Leu Ile
35             40             45
Tyr Asp Ala Ser Asn Leu Asp Ser Gly Val Pro Ser Arg Phe Ser Gly
50             55             60
Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Phe Thr Ile Ser Ser Leu Gln Pro
65             70             75             80
Glu Asp Ile Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Cys Thr Ala Val Ser Ser Ala
85             90             95
Thr Ile Tyr Gly Asn Ala Phe Gly Gly Gly Thr Lys Val Glu Ile Lys
100             105             110

```

<210> 19

<211> 17

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<400> 19

Ile Ser Gln Ala Val His Ala Ala His Ala Glu Ile Asn Glu Ala Gly
 1 5 10 15

Arg

<210> 20

<211> 399

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<220>

<221> signal_sequence

<222> (1)..(57)

<223>

<220>

<221> CDS

<222> (58)..(399)

<223>

<400> 20

atggagtttg ggctgagctg ggttttcctt gttgctatatt taaaaggtgt ccagtgt 57

gag gtg cag ctc gtg gaa tcc gga ggc ggc ctc gtg cag cct ggc ggc 105
 Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly
 1 5 10 15

agc ctg agg ctc tcc tgc gcc gct tcc ggc ttc tcc ttc agc ggc agc 153
 Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Ser Phe Ser Gly Ser
 20 25 30

tac tac atg agc tgg gtg agg cag gct ccc gga aag ggc ctc gag tgg 201
 Tyr Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp
 35 40 45

att gcc tac att tac atc gcc gac ggc gtc acc gcc tac gct aac tgg 249
 Ile Ala Tyr Ile Tyr Ile Gly Asp Gly Val Thr Ala Tyr Ala Asn Trp
 50 55 60

gcc aaa ggc agg ttc aca atc agc aag gat aac agc aag aat acc ctc 297
 Ala Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Lys Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu
 65 70 75 80

tac ctg cag atg aac tcc ctg agg gcc gaa gac aca gcc gtc tac ttt 345
 Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Phe
 85 90 95

```

tgc gct cgg ggc aac aaa ctg tgg ggc cct ggc aca ctg gtg aca gtg      393
Cys Ala Arg Gly Asn Lys Leu Trp Gly Pro Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val
                100                105                110

```

```

agc tcc      399
Ser Ser

```

<210> 21

<211> 114

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<400> 21

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Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly
1                5                10                15

```

```

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Ser Phe Ser Gly Ser
                20                25                30

```

```

Tyr Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp
                35                40                45

```

```

Ile Ala Tyr Ile Tyr Ile Gly Asp Gly Val Thr Ala Tyr Ala Asn Trp
50                55                60

```

```

Ala Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Lys Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu
65                70                75                80

```

```

Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Phe
                85                90                95

```

```

Cys Ala Arg Gly Asn Lys Leu Trp Gly Pro Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val
100                105                110

```

Ser Ser

<210> 22

<211> 402

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<220>

<221> signal_sequence

<222> (1)..(66)

<223>

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<222> (67)..(402)

<223>

<400> 22

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atggacatga gggccccgc tcagctctg gggctcctgc tactctggct ccgaggtgcc      60
agatgt gac atc cag atg acc cag agc ccc agc agc ctg agc gcc agc      108
      Asp Ile Gln Met Thr Gln Ser Pro Ser Ser Leu Ser Ala Ser
      1          5          10
gtg ggc gac aga gtg acc atc aag tgc cag gcc agc cag agc atc agc      156
Val Gly Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Lys Cys Gln Ala Ser Gln Ser Ile Ser
15          20          25          30
agc tac ctg gcc tgg tac cag cag aag ccc gcc aag gcc ccc aag aga      204
Ser Tyr Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Lys Ala Pro Lys Arg
          35          40          45
ctg atc tac gac gcc agc aac ctg gac agc gcc gtg ccc agc aga ttc      252
Leu Ile Tyr Asp Ala Ser Asn Leu Asp Ser Gly Val Pro Ser Arg Phe
          50          55          60
agc gcc agc gcc agc gcc acc gac ttc acc ttc acc atc agc agc ctg      300
Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Phe Thr Ile Ser Ser Leu
          65          70          75
cag ccc gag gac atc gcc acc tac tac tgc cag tgc acc gcc gtg agc      348
Gln Pro Glu Asp Ile Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Cys Thr Ala Val Ser
          80          85          90
agc gcc acc atc tac gcc aac gcc ttc gcc gcc gcc acc aag gtg gag      396
Ser Ala Thr Ile Tyr Gly Asn Ala Phe Gly Gly Gly Thr Lys Val Glu
          95          100          105          110
atc aag      402
Ile Lys

```

<210> 23

<211> 112

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<400> 23

```

Asp Ile Gln Met Thr Gln Ser Pro Ser Ser Leu Ser Ala Ser Val Gly
1          5          10          15
Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Lys Cys Gln Ala Ser Gln Ser Ile Ser Ser Tyr
          20          25          30
Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Lys Ala Pro Lys Arg Leu Ile
          35          40          45
Tyr Asp Ala Ser Asn Leu Asp Ser Gly Val Pro Ser Arg Phe Ser Gly
          50          55          60
Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Phe Thr Ile Ser Ser Leu Gln Pro
          65          70          75          80
Glu Asp Ile Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Cys Thr Ala Val Ser Ser Ala
          85          90          95

```

Thr Ile Tyr Gly Asn Ala Phe Gly Gly Gly Thr Lys Val Glu Ile Lys
 100 105 110

<210> 24

<211> 399

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<220>

<221> signal_sequence

<222> (1)..(57)

<223>

<220>

<221> CDS

<222> (58)..(399)

<223>

<400> 24

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atggagtttg ggctgagctg ggttttcctt gttgctatth taaaaggtgt ccagtgt      57
gag gtg cag ctc gtg gaa tcc gga ggc ggc ctc gtg cag cct ggc ggc      105
Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly
1          5          10          15
agc ctg agg ctc tcc tgc gcc gct tcc ggc ttc tcc ttc agc ggc agc      153
Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Ser Phe Ser Gly Ser
20          25          30
tac tac atg agc tgg gtg agg cag gct ccc gga aag ggc ctc gag tgg      201
Tyr Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp
35          40          45
att gcc tac att tac atc gcc gac ggc gtc acc gcc tac gct aac tgg      249
Ile Ala Tyr Ile Tyr Ile Gly Asp Gly Val Thr Ala Tyr Ala Asn Trp
50          55          60
gcc aaa ggc agg ttc aca atc agc agg gat aac agc aag aat acc ctc      297
Ala Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu
65          70          75          80
tac ctg cag atg aac tcc ctg agg gcc gaa gac aca gcc gtc tac tac      345
Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr
85          90          95
tgc gct cgg ggc aac aaa ctg tgg ggc cct gcc aca ctg gtg aca gtg      393
Cys Ala Arg Gly Asn Lys Leu Trp Gly Pro Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val
100          105          110
agc tcc      399
Ser Ser
    
```

<210> 25

<211> 114

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial

<220>

<223> humanized

<400> 25

Glu Val Gln Leu Val Glu Ser Gly Gly Gly Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Gly
1 5 10 15

Ser Leu Arg Leu Ser Cys Ala Ala Ser Gly Phe Ser Phe Ser Gly Ser
20 25 30

Tyr Tyr Met Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Ala Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp
35 40 45

Ile Ala Tyr Ile Tyr Ile Gly Asp Gly Val Thr Ala Tyr Ala Asn Trp
50 55 60

Ala Lys Gly Arg Phe Thr Ile Ser Arg Asp Asn Ser Lys Asn Thr Leu
65 70 75 80

Tyr Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr
85 90 95

Cys Ala Arg Gly Asn Lys Leu Trp Gly Pro Gly Thr Leu Val Thr Val
100 105 110

Ser Ser

<210> 26

<211> 5

<212> PRT

<213> Mus musculus

<400> 26

Gly Tyr Phe Met Asn
1 5

<210> 27

<211> 17

<212> PRT

<213> Mus musculus

<400> 27

Arg Ile Asn Pro Tyr Asn Gly Asp Thr Phe Tyr Asn Gln Lys Phe Lys
1 5 10 15
Gly

<210> 28

<211> 11

<212> PRT

<213> Mus musculus

<400> 28

Arg Ile His Tyr Tyr Tyr Gly Ser Ser Tyr Tyr
1 5 10

<210> 29

<211> 113

<212> PRT

<213> Mus musculus

<400> 29

Gly Pro Glu Leu Val Lys Pro Gly Ala Ser Val Lys Ile Ser Cys Lys
 1 5 10 15

Ala Ser Gly Tyr Ser Phe Thr Gly Tyr Phe Met Asn Trp Val Met Gln
 20 25 30

Ser His Gly Lys Ser Leu Glu Trp Ile Gly Arg Ile Asn Pro Tyr Asn
 35 40 45

Gly Asp Thr Phe Tyr Asn Gln Lys Phe Lys Gly Lys Ala Thr Leu Thr
 50 55 60

Val Asp Lys Ser Ser Ser Thr Ala His Met Glu Leu Arg Ser Leu Ala
 65 70 75 80

Ser Glu Asp Ser Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Ala Arg Arg Ile His Tyr Tyr
 85 90 95

Tyr Gly Ser Ser Tyr Tyr Ala Met Asp Tyr Trp Gly Gln Glu Pro His
 100 105 110

His

<210> 30

<211> 15

<212> PRT

<213> Mus musculus

<400> 30

Arg Ala Ser Lys Ser Ile Ser Lys Tyr Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln Glu
 1 5 10 15

<210> 31

<211> 7

<212> PRT

<213> Mus musculus

<400> 31

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Leu Thr Leu Thr Cys Thr Ala Ser Gly Phe Ser Phe Ser Gly Ser Tyr	
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Glu Cys Ala Asp Ala Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Cys Thr Ala Val Ser
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agt gct act att tat gga aat gct ttc ggc gga ggg acc gag gtg gtg      396
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Tyr Asp Ala Ser Asn Leu Asp Ser Gly Val Pro Ser Arg Phe Lys Gly
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Patentkrav

1. Antistof eller fragment deraf, som har immunologisk reaktivitet med et delvist CAPRIN-1-polypeptid bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 5.
- 5
2. Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge krav 1, hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf har cytotoxisk aktivitet mod en cancer-celle, der udviser et CAPRIN-1-protein.
- 10
3. Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge krav 1 eller 2, hvor antistoffet er et monoklonalt antistof eller et polyklonalt antistof.
4. Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge et af kravene 1 til 3, hvor antistoffet er et humant antistof, et humaniseret antistof, et kimærisk antistof, et enkeltkædet antistof eller et multispecifikt antistof.
- 15
5. Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge et af kravene 1 til 4, hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf omfatter:
- (i) en variabel region med tung kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 8, 9 og 10 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og en variabel region med let kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 11, 12 og 13 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet; eller
- 20
- (ii) en variabel region med tung kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 8, 9 og 14 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og en variabel region med let kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 11, 12 og 13 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet; eller
- 25
- (iii) en variabel region med tung kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner med aminosyresekvenserne, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 26, 27 og 28 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og en variabel region med let kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner med aminosyre-
- 30
- 35

sekvenserne, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 30, 31 og 32 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet; eller

(iv) en variabel region med tung kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner med aminosyresekvenserne, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 36, 37 og 38 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og en variabel region med let kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner med aminosyresekvenserne, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 40, 41 og 42 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet; eller

(v) en variabel region med tung kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner med aminosyresekvenserne, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 46, 47 og 48 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og en variabel region med let kæde omfattende komplementaritetsbestemmende regioner med aminosyresekvenserne, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 40, 41 og 42 (hhv. CDR1, CDR2 og CDR3) og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet.

15

6. Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge krav 5 del (i), hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf omfatter:

(i) en variabel region med tung kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 52 og en variabel region med let kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 54 og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet; eller

20

(ii) en variabel region med tung kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 21 og en variabel region med let kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 23 og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet; eller

25

(iii) en variabel region med tung kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 25 og en variabel region med let kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 23 og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet.

30

7. Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge krav 5 del (ii), hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf omfatter en variabel region med tung kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 16 og en variabel region med let kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 18 og har

35

immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet.

- 5 **8.** Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge krav 5 del (iii), hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf omfatter en variabel region med tung kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 29 og en variabel region med let kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 33 og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet.
- 10 **9.** Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge krav 5 del (iv), hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf omfatter en variabel region med tung kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 39 og en variabel region med let kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 43 og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet.
- 15 **10.** Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge krav 5 del (v), hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf omfatter en variabel region med tung kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 49 og en variabel region med let kæde bestående af aminosyresekvensen, der er vist i SEQ ID NO: 43 og har immunologisk reaktivitet med CAPRIN-1-proteinet.
- 20 **11.** Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge et af kravene 1 til 10, hvor antistoffet eller fragmentet deraf er konjugeret med et antitumormiddel.
- 25 **12.** Farmaceutisk sammensætning omfattende et antistof eller et fragment deraf ifølge et af kravene 1 til 11 som en aktiv bestanddel.
- 30 **13.** Kombinationslægemiddel omfattende en farmaceutisk sammensætning ifølge krav 12 og en farmaceutisk sammensætning, der omfatter et antitumormiddel.
- 35 **14.** Antistof eller fragment deraf ifølge et af kravene 1 til 11 eller farmaceutisk sammensætning ifølge krav 12 eller kombinationslægemiddel ifølge krav 13 til anvendelse i en fremgangsmåde til behandling og/eller forebyggelse af cancer.

5 **15.** Antistof, fragment, farmaceutisk sammensætning eller kombinationslægemiddel til anvendelse i en fremgangsmåde til behandling og/eller forebyggelse af cancer ifølge krav 14, hvor cancertypen er brystcancer, nyrecancer, pankreascancer, tyktarmscancer, lungecancer, hjernetumor, mavecancer, livmoderhalscancer, æggestokcancer, prostatacancer, urinblærecancer, spiserørscancer, leukæmi, lymfom, fibrosarkom, mastocytom eller melanom.

10 **16.** DNA, der koder for et antistof eller fragmentet deraf ifølge et af kravene 1 til 10.