CLAIMS:

1. Use of a parenteral composition of pentosan polysulfate or a salt thereof in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of alphavirus induced inflammation and/or to reduce alphavirus induced cartilage damage in a subject having an alphavirus infection.

2. The use of claim 1 wherein the inflammation is in the joints and/or muscles.

3. The use of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the joints.

4. The use of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the muscles.

5. The use of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the joints and the muscles.

6. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the alphavirus is selected from the group consisting of Ross River virus, chikungunya virus and Barmah Forest virus.

7. The use of claim 6 wherein the virus is Ross River virus.

8. The use of claim 6 wherein the virus is chikungunya virus.

9. The use of claim 6 wherein the virus is Barmah Forest virus.

10. The use of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the medicament is to be administered intra-articularly.

11. The use of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the medicament is to be administered intra-muscularly.

12. The use of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the pentosan polysulfate is the sodium salt.

13. The use of any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the medicament is to be administered daily.

14. The use of any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the medicament is to be administered twice daily.

15. The use of any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein the amount of the medicament to be administered is within the range of from 0.5 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.

16. The use of claim 15 wherein the amount is within the range of from 1.0 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.

17. The use of claim 16 wherein the amount is within the range of from 2.0 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.

18. The use of any one of claims 1 to 17 wherein the medicament is to be administered to a human subject.