CLAIMS

1. A product comprising a synergistically effective amount of an antibiotic agent and cysteamine and wherein the antibiotic agent: a) is a peptide antibiotic derived from a bacterial source or b) a non-peptide antibiotic.

2. The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the peptide antibiotic is colistin, bacitracin or polymyxin B.

3. The product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-peptide antibiotic is of the group consisting of aminoglycosides, ansamycins, carbacephem, carbapenems cephalosporins, lincosamides, macrolides, monobactams, nitrofurans, quinolones, penicillin, sulfonamides and tetracyclin.

4. The product as claimed in any of claims 1-3 for use as a medicament.

5. A substrate to which the product as claimed in any of claims 1-4 is applied or attached.

6. The substrate as claimed in claim 5, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of dressings, medical devices and indwelling devices.

7. The substrate as claimed in claim 6, wherein the indwelling device is selected from the group consisting of stents, catheters, peritoneal dialysis tubing, draining devices, joint prostheses and dental implants.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable diluents, excipients and/or carriers.

9. Use of the product as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a microbial infection or disease.

10. The use as claimed in claim 9, wherein the microbial infection or disease is selected from the group consisting of skin and wound infections, middle-ear infections, gastrointestinal tract infections, peritoneal membrane infections, urogenital tract infections, oral soft tissue infections, eye infections, endocarditis, infections in cystic fibrosis, and infections of indwelling medical devices.

11. The use as claimed in claim 9 or 10, wherein the infection is of a mucolytic environment.

12. The use as claimed in claim 11, wherein the infection is a bacterial infection in cystic fibrosis.

13. The use as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 12, wherein the infection is caused by a bacterium selected from the group consisting of *Pseudomonas* spp., *Staphylococcus* spp., *Haemophilus* spp., *Burkholderia* spp., *Streptococcus* spp. and *Propionibacterium* spp.

14. The use as claimed in claim 13, wherein the bacterium is *Pseudomonas* spp.

15. The use as claimed in claim 13, wherein the bacterium is *Burkholderia* spp.

16. The use as claimed in claim 13, wherein the bacterium is *Staphylococcus* spp.

17. The use as claimed in claims 9-16, wherein the treatment is to be administered separately, sequentially or in combination in a therapeutically effective amount of:

- the antibiotic agent; and
- cysteamine.

18. The use as claimed in claim 9, wherein the microbial infection is a topical infection or a systemic infection.

19. The use as claimed in claim 18, wherein the systemic infection is a mucosal infection.

20. The use as claimed in claim 19, wherein the mucosal infection is a gastrointestinal, urogenital or respiratory infection.

21. The use as claimed in claim 19 or 20, wherein the mucosa infection is cystic fibrosis or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).