CLAIMS

1. An indwelling medical device which is a joint implant having a surface with a coating thereon in which coating chlorhexidine gluconate is incorporated such that, when implanted, chlorhexidine gluconate, at a concentration of 1% or less, is present at the surface of the implant.

2. The indwelling medical device, according to claim 1, wherein the chlorhexidine gluconate is present at a concentration of 0.05% or less.

3. The indwelling medical device, according to claim 2, wherein the device is a shoulder, hip, knee, or vertebrae implant.

4. The indwelling medical device, according to claim 3, which is a vertebrae implant.

5. The indwelling medical device, according to claim 2, wherein the coating is a polymer.

6. The indwelling medical device, according to claim 5, wherein the polymer is a hydrogel.