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(54) Title: ANTIGENIC COMPOSITIONS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to novel antigenic compositions suitable for parenteral and mucosal administration, comprising an antigen within an aqueous medium and a carbohydrate, wherein the carbohydrate is in the form of a derivative which exhibit acidic moieties, preferably in the form of its carboxylic acid derivative. The antigenic compositions are in a stable solid form and, after reconstitution with a liquid excipient or adjuvant followed by administration through the parenteral or mucosal route, rapidly dissolve in the body fluids, thereby releasing the reconstituted vaccine into the body. Specifically, the lyophilised form may consist of a powder or a cake containing the antigen, preferably in an amorphous (glassy) state, which is formed from a liquid solution or suspension by drying or sublimation, preferably sublimation by lyophilisation.