suitable for purely preventative use on undamaged skin or skin which is at risk of developing damage.

[0014] Without wishing to be bound by any particular theory, it has been found that the use of lanolin and white paraffin create a matrix barrier which prevents the ingress of harmful substances and prevents the egress of moisture while also holding the metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate close to the skin along with the efficacious emu oil and jojoba oil which are allowed to pass through the matrix and penetrate the outer dermis to maintain suppleness of the skin while reducing infection, irritation, inflammation, swelling, itching and the like. The metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate provides pH buffering while imparting desirable physical characteristics to the composition. The composition has a number of advantageous physical properties in that it does not present with a greasy or oily feel; it stays on the skin and does not rub off onto clothing easily; it has a good degree of workability in the hands; and it can be formulated at room temperature i.e. heating during the blending process is not required.

[0015] In one example, there is described an emollient composition comprising emu oil, jojoba oil and a dermatological base.

[0016] In one aspect, the present invention refers to an emollient composition comprising in % by weight amounts of the composition: 2.5% to 15% emu oil; 4% to 25% jojoba oil; 25% to 75% of a dermatological base wherein the dermatological base comprises at least two emollients wherein one is a petrochemical emollient and one is a natural emollient and wherein the petrochemical emollient is selected from petroleum jelly and paraffin and the natural emollient is selected from shea butter, beeswax, lanolin and a lanolin-based emollient; and 10% to 40% of a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate. In one example, there is disclosed an emollient composition comprising in % by weight amounts of the composition: (a) about 2.5% to about 15% emu oil; (b) about 4% to about 25% jojoba oil; (c) about 25% to about 75% of a dermatological base; and (d) about 10% to about 40% of a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate. In one example, there is disclosed a composition comprising in % by weight amounts of the composition:

(a) about 2.5% to about 15% emu oil;

(b) about 4% to about 25% jojoba oil;

(c) about 25% to about 75% of a dermatological base; and

(d) about 10% to about 40% of a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate.

[0017] In another example, there is disclosed a method of treating and/or preventing a skin condition in a subject, the method including the step of administering to the skin of the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an emollient composition comprising, in % by weight amounts of the composition,:

(a) about 2.5% to about 15% emu oil;

(b) about 4% to about 25% jojoba oil;

(c) about 25% to about 75% of a dermatological base; and

(d) about 10% to about 40% of a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate.

[0018] In another aspect, the present invention refers to a method of formulating an emollient composition including the step of combining and mixing emu oil, jojoba oil, a dermatological base and a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate to form the emollient composition in the following % by weight amounts of the composition: 2.5% to 15% emu oil; 4% to 25% jojoba oil; 25% to 75% dermatological base wherein the dermatological base comprises at least two emollients wherein one is a petrochemical emollient and one is a natural emollient and wherein the petrochemical emollient is selected from petroleum jelly and paraffin and the natural emollient is selected from shea butter, beeswax, lanolin and a lanolin-based emollient; and 10% to 40% metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate. In another example, there is disclosed a method of formulating an emollient composition including the step of combining and mixing emu oil, jojoba oil, a dermatological base and a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate to form the emollient composition in the following % by weight amounts of the composition:

(a) about 2.5% to about 15% emu oil;

(b) about 4% to about 25% jojoba oil;

(c) about 25% to about 75% dermatological base; and

(d) about 10% to about 40% metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate.

[0019] In a further aspect, the present invention refers to Use of an emollient composition comprising, in % by weight amounts of the composition: 2.5% to 15% emu oil; 4% to 25% jojoba oil; 25% to 75% of a dermatological base wherein the

dermatological base comprises at least two emollients wherein one is a petrochemical emollient and one is a natural emollient and wherein the petrochemical emollient is selected from petroleum jelly and paraffin and the natural emollient is selected from shea butter, beeswax, lanolin and a lanolin-based emollient; and 10% to 40% of a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate, in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment and/or prevention of a skin condition selected from the group consisting of dry skin, nappy rash, inflammation, erythema, psoriasis rashes, bed sores, allergic rashes, acne, rosacea, minor skin infections, and skin irritation rashes in a subject. In a further example, there is disclosed the use of an emollient composition comprising, in % by weight amounts of the composition,:

(a) about 2.5% to about 15% emu oil;

(b) about 4% to about 25% jojoba oil;

(c) about 25% to about 75% of a dermatological base; and

(d) about 10% to about 40% of a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate,

in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment and/or prevention of a skin condition in a subject.

[0020] The medicament is as described herein for the emollient composition as disclosed herein.

[0021] The emollient composition is therefore a cream for topical administration.

[0022] The various features and embodiments of the present invention, referred to in individual sections above apply, as appropriate, to other sections, *mutatis mutandis*. Consequently features specified in one section may be combined with features specified in other sections as appropriate.

[0023] Further features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following detailed description.

CLAIMS

1. An emollient composition comprising in % by weight amounts of the composition:

(a) 2.5% to 15% emu oil;

(b) 4% to 25% jojoba oil;

(c) 25% to 75% of a dermatological base wherein the dermatological base comprises at least two emollients wherein one is a petrochemical emollient and one is a natural emollient and wherein the petrochemical emollient is selected from petroleum jelly and paraffin and the natural emollient is selected from shea butter, beeswax, lanolin and a lanolin-based emollient; and

(d) 10% to 40% of a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate.

2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the petrochemical emollient is white soft paraffin.

3. The composition of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the dermatological base comprises, in % by weight of the composition, between 20% to 30% petrochemical emollient and between 20% to 30% natural emollient.

4. The composition of any one of the preceding claims wherein the natural emollient is lanolin or a lanolin-based emollient.

5. The composition of any one of the preceding claims wherein the metal or metalloid is selected from the group consisting of aluminium, zinc, lead, iron, barium, tin, titanium, silicon, beryllium, magnesium and calcium.

6. The composition of any one of the preceding claims wherein the metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate is selected from the group consisting of aluminium oxide, tin oxide, zinc oxide, lead oxide, beryllium oxide, iron oxide, magnesium oxide, calcium oxide, titanium dioxide, silicon dioxide, aluminium hydroxide, zinc hydroxide, magnesium carbonate, calcium carbonate, aluminium carbonate, zinc carbonate, iron carbonate, and barium carbonate.

7. The composition of claim 6 wherein the metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate is selected from the group consisting of zinc oxide, zinc carbonate, titanium dioxide, and iron (III) oxide.

8. The composition of any one of the preceding claims wherein the metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate is present in the composition, at least in part, as calamine.

9. The composition of claim 8 wherein the composition comprises an amount of calamine and an amount of zinc oxide making up the % by weight amount of metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate.

10. The composition of claim 8 wherein the metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate in the composition comprises between 5% to 20% calamine and between 5% to 20% of a further metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate.

11. The composition of claim 10 wherein the calamine comprises zinc oxide and iron oxide.

12. The composition of claim 10 wherein the further metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate comprises zinc oxide.

13. The composition of any one of the preceding claims, further comprising at least one preservative.

14. The composition of claim 13 wherein the at least one preservative is selected from eucalyptus oil and a piroctone salt or derivative.

15. The composition of claim 14 wherein the eucalyptus oil is present, in % by weight of the composition, from 1.0% to 6%.

16. The composition of claim 1 comprising, in % by weight amounts of the composition, 10% to 15% jojoba oil, 5% to 10% emu oil, 2% to 5% eucalyptus oil, 10% to 15% zinc oxide, 10% to 15% calamine, 15% to 35% of a petrochemical emollient selected from petroleum jelly and paraffin and 15% to 35% of a natural emollient selected from shea butter, beeswax, lanolin and a lanolin-based emollient.

17. A method of formulating an emollient composition including the step of combining and mixing emu oil, jojoba oil, a dermatological base and a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate to form the emollient composition in the following % by weight amounts of the composition:

(a) 2.5% to 15% emu oil;

(b) 4% to 25% jojoba oil;

(c) 25% to 75% dermatological base wherein the dermatological base comprises at least two emollients wherein one is a petrochemical emollient and one is a natural emollient and wherein the petrochemical emollient is selected from petroleum jelly and paraffin and the natural emollient is selected from shea butter, beeswax, lanolin and a lanolin-based emollient; and

(d) 10% to 40% metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the combining and mixing are carried out at below 40°C.

19. Use of an emollient composition comprising, in % by weight amounts of the composition:

(a) 2.5% to 15% emu oil;

(b) 4% to 25% jojoba oil;

(c) 25% to 75% of a dermatological base wherein the dermatological base comprises at least two emollients wherein one is a petrochemical emollient and one is a natural emollient and wherein the petrochemical emollient is selected from petroleum jelly and paraffin and the natural emollient is selected from shea butter, beeswax, lanolin and a lanolin-based emollient; and

(d) 10% to 40% of a metal or metalloid oxide, hydroxide or carbonate,

in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment and/or prevention of a skin condition selected from the group consisting of dry skin, nappy rash, inflammation, erythema, psoriasis rashes, bed sores, allergic rashes, acne, rosacea, minor skin infections, and skin irritation rashes in a subject.

20. The use of claim 19 wherein the emollient composition is as defined in any one or more of claim 1 to claim 16.