CLAIMS:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one sulfonated azo food dye for use in the prophylaxis or treatment of virus infection or virus-related disease, wherein the virus is EV71 and/or coxsackievirus, wherein the at least one azo food dye is selected from a group comprising:
E102 Tartrazine (Trisodium (4E)-5-oxo-1-(4-sulfonatophenyl)-4-[(4-sulfonatophenyl)hydrazono]-3-pyrazolecarboxylate),
E110 Sunset Yellow FCF (Disodium 6-hydroxy-5-[(4-sulfophenyl)azo]-2-naphthalenesulfonate),
E122 Carmoisine (disodium 4-hydroxy-2-[(*E*)-(4-sulfonato-1-naphthyl)diazenyl]naphthalene-1-sulfonate),
E123 Amaranth (Trisodium (4*E*)-3-oxo-4-[(4-sulfonato-1-naphthyl)hydrazono]naphthalene-2,7-disulfonate),
E124 Ponceau 4R (1-(4-sulpho-1-napthylazo)- 2-napthol- 6,8-disulphonic acid, trisodium salt),
E126 Ponceau 6R (disodium 7-hydroxy-8-(naphthalen-1-diazenyl)naphthalene-1,3-disulfonate),
E129 Allura Red (Disodium 6-hydroxy-5-[(2-methoxy-5-methyl-4-sulfophenyl)azo]-2-naphthalenesulfonate) and
E151 Brilliant Black BN (tetrasodium 4-acetamido-5-hydroxy-6-[7-sulphonato-4-(4-sulphonatophenylazo)-1-naphtylazo]naphthalene-1,7-disulphonate).

2. The composition for use according to claim 1, wherein the virus-related disease is selected from a group comprising hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD), polio, aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, acute flaccid paralysis and acute cardiopulmonary dysfunction.

3. The composition for use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the at least one food dye is selected from a group consisting of E122 Carmoisine, E123 Amaranth, E129 Allura Red and E151 Brilliant Black BN.

4. The composition for use according to any one of claims 1 to 3, comprising pharmaceutically acceptable salts or solvates, or pharmaceutically functional derivatives of said at least one food azo dye.

5. The composition for use according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the composition is formulated to be administered orally and/or or topically to a subject.

6. The composition for use according to claim 5, wherein the composition is formulated as a gel, cream, foam, lotion or ointment.

7. The composition for use according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the composition is formulated to be administered continuously to a subject for a period of 2 to 5 days, preferably a period of 3 to 4 days.

8. The composition for use according to claim 7, wherein the composition is formulated to be administered at up to a maximum dose of 4 mg/kg body weight/day (for E122); 15 mg/kg body weight/day (for E123); 7 mg/kg body weight/day (for E129) or 5 mg/kg body weight/day (for E151).

9. Use of the composition of any one of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of enterovirus infection or enterovirus-related disease, wherein the enterovirus is EV71 and/or coxsackievirus.

10. The use according to claim 9, wherein the enterovirus-related disease is hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD), polio, aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, acute flaccid paralysis, or acute cardiopulmonary dysfunction.

11. A kit to treat or prevent enterovirus infection or enterovirus-related disease, wherein the virus is EV71 and/or coxsackievirus, the kit comprising the composition of any one of claims 1 to 8.