CLAIMS

1. A stannous-associated casein-phosphopeptide (CPP) stabilized amorphous calcium phosphate (CPP-ACP) or amorphous calcium fluoride phosphate (CPP-ACFP) complex having a stannous ion content of equal to, or greater than, 1 mole of stannous per mole of CPP but less than 4 moles of stannous per mole of CPP.

2. The complex according to claim 1, wherein the stannous ion content is between about 1 mole of stannous per mole of CPP and about 3 moles of stannous per mole of CPP.

3. The complex according to claim 1, wherein the stannous ion content is between about 1 mole of stannous per mole of CPP and about 2 moles of stannous per mole of CPP.

4. The complex according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the stannous ion content is about 1 mole of stannous per mole of CPP.

5. The complex according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the stannous ion content is about 2 moles of stannous per mole of CPP.

6. The complex according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the stannous ion content is between about 1.2 moles of stannous per mole of CPP and about 1.8 moles of stannous per mole of CPP.

7. The complex according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the stannous ion content is between about 1.4 moles of stannous per mole of CPP and about 1.8 moles of stannous per mole of CPP.

8. The complex according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the stannous ion content is about 1.6 moles of stannous per mole of CPP.

9. A composition comprising a complex according to any one of claims 1 to 8, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

10. The oral care composition comprising a complex according to any one of claims 1 to 8.

11. The oral care composition according to claim 10, wherein the formulation is selected from a dentifrice including toothpastes, toothpowders and liquid dentifrices, mouthwashes, mouthrinses, mouth sprays, varnish, dental cement, troches, chewing gums, dental pastes, gingival massage creams, gargle tablets, dairy products and other foodstuffs.

12. Use of a complex according to any one of claims 1 to 8, or a composition according to any one of claims 9 to 11, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of dentinal hypersensitivity.

13. The use or according to claim 12, wherein the medicament is formulated for administration directly to an oral site in need of treatment.

14. The use according to claim 13, wherein the oral site in need of treatment is dentine.

15. The use according to claim 14, wherein the dentine is exposed by lost cementum.

16. The use according to claim 15, wherein the dentine is exposed by lost enamel.

17. The use according to any one of claims 13 to 16, wherein the oral site in need of treatment is contacted for a period of about 10 to 60 minutes.

18. The use according to any one of claims 13 to 16, wherein the oral site in need of treatment is contacted for about 20 to 30 minutes.

19. The use according to any one of claims 13 to 16, wherein the oral site in need of treatment is contacted for about 20 minutes.

20. A kit for the treatment or prevention of dental hypersensitivity comprising:

(a) a composition according to any one of claims 9 to 11, and/or

(b) a complex according to any one of claims 1 to 8.

21. A method or process for forming a stannous-associated CPP stabilized ACP according to any one of claims 1 to 8, the method or process comprising the steps of:

(i) obtaining a solution comprising at least one casein-phosphopeptide and;

(ii) admixing solutions comprising calcium ions and phosphate ions, while maintaining the pH at about 7.3 or below; and

(iii) admixing a stannous compound;

or

(i) providing a solution of casein-phosphopeptide stabilized ACP; and

(ii) admixing a stannous compound.

22. A method or process for forming a casein-stannous-associated CPP stabilised ACFP according to any one of claims 1 to 8, the method or process comprising the steps of:

(i) obtaining a solution comprising at least one casein-phosphopeptide and;

(ii) admixing solutions comprising calcium ions, phosphate ions and fluoride ions, while maintaining the pH at about 7.3 or below; and

(iii) admixing a stannous compound;

or

(i) providing a solution of casein-phosphopeptide stabilized CPP-ACFP; and

(ii) admixing a stannous compound.

23. A method or process according to claim 21 or 22, wherein method or process does not involve the addition of any base or acid.

24. A method or process according to claim 21 or 22, wherein no hydroxide ions are added separately to the solution comprising calcium ions, phosphate ions, fluoride ions or stannous compound.