

Claims

1. A method for the selection of an agent effective for the treatment of an intestinal motility disorder, wherein said method comprises:
 - a) a step of spatiotemporal (ST) mapping carried out on a gastrointestinal segment to analyse the effect of said agent on gastrointestinal motility; and
 - b) a step of ex vivo nerve bundle recording carried out on a gastrointestinal segment to analyse the effect of said agent on mesenteric afferent nerve firing.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein step a) comprises using an ST map to measure migrating motor complex (MMC) frequency and/or migrating motor complex (MMC) velocity in said gastrointestinal segment.
3. The method of any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein step a) further comprises the measurement of intraluminal pressure.
4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein step b) comprises measuring the spontaneous firing frequencies of mesenteric afferent nerve bundles.
5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said gastrointestinal segment is an ex vivo segment of jejunum or colon.
6. The method of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein said gastrointestinal segment is from a mouse.
7. The method of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said agent is a whole cell, microorganism, protein, peptide, enzyme, or other biological or chemical material.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein said agent is a microorganism, more preferably a bacterial strain.
9. The bacterial strain of claim 8, wherein said strain is LG345A (DSM 27123) or LG621A (DSM 27126).

- ~~10. A bacterial strain wherein said strain is LG345A (DSM 27123) or LG621A (DSM 27126).~~
- ~~11. The bacterial strain of claim 10 for use in therapy.~~
- ~~12. The bacterial strain of claim 10 for use in the treatment of an intestinal motility disorder.~~
- ~~13. The bacterial strain LG345A (DSM 27123) for use in the treatment of constipation or colic.~~
- ~~14. The bacterial strain for use of claim 13 wherein said constipation is in an elderly patient or a pregnant woman, or wherein said colic is infantile colic.~~
- ~~15. The bacterial strain LG621A (DSM 27126) for use in the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome.~~