CLAIMS

1. Use of a combination of a glycoprotein affecting protease and a sputum-degrading agent in the preparation of a medicament for treating a respiratory disease in a patient.

2. Use according to Claim 1, in which the glycoprotein affecting protease is a cysteine protease.

3. Use according to Claim 1 or 2, in which the glycoprotein affecting protease is selected from one or more of the group consisting of: bromelain, papain, ficain, actinidain, zingibain, fastuosain and ananain.

4. Use according to Claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the sputum-degrading agent comprises a disulphide bond breaking agent.

5. Use according to Claim 4, in which the disulphide bond breaking agent is acetylcysteine, nacystelyn, N-acystelyn, cysteamine, erdosteine, s-carboxymethylcysteine, glutathione, dithiothreitol, mercapto-ethanesulphonate, carbocysteine, dornase alfa, gelsolin, thymosin P4, dextran, dithiobutylamine (DTBA) and heparin.

6. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the sputum-degrading agent comprises one or more of the group consisting of: a mucolytic agent, DNase, a PNAG degrading agent, serratiopeptidase, amylase, hyaluronidase and elastase.

7. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the glycoprotein affecting protease and sputum-degrading agent are to be administered simultaneously or sequentially.

8. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the glycoprotein affecting protease and sputum-degrading agent are nebulized before administration.

9. Use according to any of Claims 1 to 7, in which the glycoprotein affecting protease and sputum-degrading agent are provided in the form of a powder for inhalation from a dry powder inhaler.

10. Use according to any preceding claim, in which one or more additional therapeutic agents are to be co-administered to the patient with the combination.

11. Use according to Claim 10, in which the one or more additional therapeutic agents are selected from the group consisting of antiviral agents, antibacterial agents, bronchodilators and expectorants.

12. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the respiratory disease is selected from the group consisting of cystic fibrosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), bronchiectasis, ventilator associated pneumonia, asthma, sputum retention, mucus plugging, ciliary disfunction such as primary ciliary dyskinesia and bacterial infections.

13. Use according to any preceding claim, where the respiratory disease is not a viral infection.

14. Use according to any of Claims 1 to 12, where the respiratory disease is not a bacterial infection involving biofilm.

15. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the combination is to be directly instilled into the patient's airway.

16. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the combination is to be directly instilled into the trachea, bronchi or lower airway of the patient.

17. Use according to any preceding claim, in which the combination is to be instilled by a direct injection to the site of the disease or mucus plug in the airway at the time of a bronchoscopy.

18. Use of a glycoprotein affecting protease in the preparation of an inhalable medicament for treating a disease or condition in a patient.

19. Use of a combination of a glycoprotein affecting protease and a sputum-degrading agent in the preparation of an inhalable medicament for inhibiting cytokine activity in a patient.

20. Use of a combination of a glycoprotein affecting protease and a sputum-degrading agent in the preparation of an inhalable medicament for reducing an inflammatory response in a patient.