WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An isolated polypeptide comprising a variant Protein A (SpA) having (a) at least one amino acid substitution that disrupts Fc binding and (b) at least a second amino acid substitution that disrupts VH3 binding and (c) an amino acid sequence that is at least 70% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the variant SpA comprises a variant domain D segment having a glycine residue amino acid substitution at amino acids corresponding to position 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

~~2. The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the variant SpA comprises a variant domain D segment~~.

~~3~~2. The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~2~~1, wherein the SpA variant has ~~one or more amino acid substitution at amino acid position 9 or 10 of SEQ ID NO:2 and having~~ an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~4. The isolated polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the amino acid subsitution is a lysine residue for a glutamine residue.~~

~~5~~3. The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~3~~2, further comprising an amino acid substitution at amino acids corresponding to positions 36 and 37 of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~6~~4. The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~5~~3, wherein the amino acid sequence of the domain D comprises ~~an alanine~~a serine residue substitution at amino acids corresponding to position 36 and 37 of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~7~~5. The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~2~~1, further comprising one or more variants of an SpA E domain, A domain, B domain, or C domain.

~~8~~6. The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~2~~1, comprising two or more D domain segments.

~~9~~7. The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, further comprising a non-Protein A segment.

~~10~~8. The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~9~~7, wherein the non-Protein A segment is a second antigen segment.

~~119~~. The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~108~~, wherein the second antigen segment is a staphylococcal antigen segment.

~~12~~10. The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~11~~9, wherein the staphylococcal antigen segment is an Emp, EsxA, EsxB, EsaC, Eap, Ebh, EsaB, Coa, vWbp, vWh, Hla, SdrC, SdrD, SdrE, IsdA, IsdB, IsdC, ClfA, ClfB, and/or SasF segment.

~~13~~11. A peptide composition comprising, in a pharmaceutically acceptable composition, a non-toxigenic variant Protein A (SpA) peptide having ~~one or more~~ mutations that attenuate the binding of the Protein A domain D to IgG, Fcγ, VH3 $F(ab)_2$, von Willebrand factor (vWF), and tumor necrosis factor α receptor 1 (TNFR1), wherein the composition is capable of stimulating an immune response in a subject in need thereof, wherein the SpA peptide comprises glycine residue amino acid substitutions at amino acids corresponding to position 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

~~14. The composition of claim 13, wherein the SpA variant comprises one or more amino acid substitutions at amino acid positions 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO:2.~~

~~15. The composition of claim 14, wherein the SpA variant comprises a substitution of lysine at amino acid positions 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO:2.~~

~~16~~12. The composition of claim ~~14~~11, further comprising amino acid substitutions at amino acids corresponding to positions 36 and 37 of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~17~~13. The composition of claim ~~15~~11, wherein the SpA variant comprises an amino acid sequence at least 70% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

~~18~~14. The composition of claim ~~13~~11, wherein the SpA variant comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

~~19~~15. The composition of claim ~~13~~11, further comprising at least a second staphylococcal antigen.

~~20~~16. The composition of claim ~~19~~15, wherein the second antigen selected from an EsaB, Emp, EsxA, EsxB, EsaC, Eap, Ebh, Coa, vWbp, vWh, Hla, SdrC, SdrD, SdrE, IsdA, IsdB, IsdC, ClfA, ClfB, and/or SasF peptide.

~~21~~17. The composition of claim ~~13~~11, wherein the composition contains less than 1% by weight of staphylococcal bacterial components other than the peptide comprising the Protein A domain D peptide.

~~22~~18. The composition of claim ~~13~~11, wherein the composition further comprises an adjuvant.

~~23~~19. The composition of claim ~~22~~18, wherein the SpA variant is coupled to an adjuvant.

~~24~~20. An immunogenic composition comprising an isolated peptide comprising a Protein A (SpA) variant having an amino acid substitution at amino acids corresponding to positions 9, 10, 36, and 37 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the substitutions at amino acids corresponding to positions 9 and 10 are with a glycine residue and the substitutions at amino acids corresponding to positions 36 and 37 are with a serine residue.

~~25~~21. The composition of any one of claims ~~1–24~~11-20, further comprising at least one other staphylococcal antigen or immunogenic fragment thereof selected from the group consisting of: Emp, EsxA, EsxB, EsaC, Eap, Ebh, EsaB, Coa, vWbp, vWh, Hla, SdrC, SdrD, SdrE, IsdA, IsdB, IsdC, ClfA, ClfB, and SasF.

~~26~~22. The composition of any one of claims ~~1–25~~11-21, further comprising a PIA polysaccharide or oligosaccharide.

~~27~~23. The composition of any one of claims ~~1–26~~11-22 further comprising a type V and/or type VIII capsular polysaccharide or oligosaccharide from *S. aureus*.

~~28~~24. The immunogenic composition of any one of claims ~~1–27~~ 11-23 wherein a staphylococcal capsular polysaccharide is conjugated to a protein carrier.

~~29~~25. The immunogenic composition of claim ~~28~~ 24 wherein the protein carrier is selected from the group consisting of tetanus toxoid, diphtheria toxoid, CRM197, *Haemophilus influenzae* protein D, pneumolysin and alpha toxoid.

~~30~~26. A vaccine comprising the composition of any one of claims ~~1–29~~11-25 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

~~31~~27. A method of making a vaccine comprising the steps of mixing antigens to make the composition of any one of claims ~~1–29~~11-25 and adding a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

~~32~~28. ~~A method of preventing or treating staphylococcal infection comprising the step of administering~~ Use of the vaccine of claim ~~30~~26 in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing or treating staphylococcal infection ~~to a patient in need thereof~~.

~~33~~29. A use of the composition of any one of claims ~~1-29~~11-25 in the manufacture of a vaccine for treatment or prevention of staphylococcal infection.

~~34~~30. A method of preparing an immunoglobulin for use in prevention or treatment of staphylococcal infection comprising the steps of immunizing a recipient with the vaccine of claim ~~30~~26 and isolating immunoglobulin from the recipient.

~~35. An immunoglobulin prepared by the method of claim 34.~~

~~36. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the immunoglobulin of claim 35 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.~~

~~37. A method for treatment or prevention of staphylococcal infection comprising a step of administering to a patient an effective amount of the pharmaceutical preparation of claim 36.~~

~~38. A use of the pharmaceutical preparation of claim 36 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of staphylococcal infection.~~

~~39~~31. ~~A method for eliciting an immune response against a staphylococcus bacterium in a subject comprising providing to the subject an effective amount of~~ Use of a composition comprising a Protein A (SpA) variant having ~~an~~ a glycine residue amino acid substitution at amino acids corresponding to positions 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO:2~~.~~, in the manufacture of a medicament for eliciting an immune response against a staphylococcus bacterium in a subject.

~~40~~32. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein the subject ~~is provided with an effective amount of an SpA variant by administering to the subject~~ is to be administered a composition comprising:

i) an isolated SpA variant having ~~an~~ a glycine residue amino acid substitution at amino acids corresponding to positions 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO:2, or

ii) at least one isolated recombinant nucleic acid molecule encoding a SpA variant having ~~an~~ a glycine residue amino acid substitution at amino acids corresponding to positions 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~41~~33. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~40~~32, wherein the ~~composition~~ medicament comprises an isolated SpA variant.

~~42~~34. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~39~~31, where the subject is also to be administered an adjuvant.

~~43~~35. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~41~~33, wherein the ~~composition~~ medicament comprises an adjuvant.

~~44~~36. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~41~~33, wherein the SpA variant is coupled to an adjuvant.

4537. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein the SpA variant is at least 70% identical to SEQ ID NO:2 and ~~having~~ has ~~an~~ a glycine residue amino acid substitution at amino acid position 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~46. The method of claim 41, wherein the composition is formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable composition.~~

4738. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein the staphylococcus bacterium is a *S. aureus* bacterium.

4839. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein the staphyococcus bacterium is resistant to one or more antibiotic treatments.

4940. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~48~~39, wherein the bacterium is methicillin resistant.

5041. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, ~~further comprising administering the composition~~wherein said medicament is to be administered more than one time to the subject.

5142. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein the medicament ~~composition~~ is to be administered orally, parenterally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or intravenously.

5243. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein said ~~further comprising administering to the subject a~~ medicament ~~composition comprising~~ comprises a second staphylococcal antigen.

5344. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~52~~43, wherein the second staphylococcal antigen is one or more of Emp, EsxA, EsxB, EsaC, Eap, Ebh, EsaB, Coa, vWbp, vWh, Hla, SdrC, SdrD, SdrE, IsdA, IsdB, IsdC, ClfA, ClfB, and SasF.

5445. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~40~~32, wherein the medicament ~~composition~~ comprises a recombinant nucleic acid molecule encoding the SpA variant.

5546. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~54~~45, wherein the medicament ~~composition~~ includes a recombinant, non-staphylococcus bacterium expressing the SpA variant.

5647. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~55~~46, wherein the recombinant non-staphylococcus bacterium is a Salmonella.

~~57~~48. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein the subject is a mammal.

~~58~~49. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein the subject is human.

~~59~~50. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~39~~31, wherein the immune response is a protective immune response.

~~60~~51. ~~A method for treating a staphylococcal infection in a subject comprising providing to a subject having, suspected of having or at risk of developing a staphylococcal infection an effective amount~~ Use of an isolated peptide comprising a Protein A variant having ~~an~~ a glycine residue amino acid substitution at amino acids corresponding to positions 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO:2~~.~~, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a staphylococcal infection in a subject having, suspected of having or at risk of developing a staphylococcal infection.

~~61~~52. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, wherein the subject is diagnosed with a persistent staphylococcal infection.

~~62~~53. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, wherein the SpA variant elicits production of an antibody that binds Protein A in the subject.

~~63~~54. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~62~~53, wherein the SpA variant is at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:2 and has ~~an~~ a glycine residue amino acid substitution at amino acid positions 9 and 10 of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~64~~55. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~62~~53, wherein the SpA variant has an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

~~65~~56. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~62~~53, wherein the SpA variant is to be administered with an adjuvant.

~~66~~57. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~65~~56, wherein the SpA variant is coupled to an adjuvant.

~~67~~58. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, wherein the SpA variant is formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable composition.

~~68~~59. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, ~~further comprising administering~~wherein said medicament comprises a second staphylococcal antigen.

~~69~~60. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~68~~59, wherein the second staphylococcal antigen is to be administered concurrently with the SpA variant.

~~70~~61. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~69~~60, wherein the second staphylococcal antigen and the SpA variant are to be administered in the same medicament~~composition~~.

~~71~~62. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~69~~60, wherein the second staphylococcal antigen is fused with the SpA variant.

~~72~~63. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~68~~59, wherein the second staphylococcal antigen is one or more of Emp, EsxA, EsxB, EsaC, Eap, Ebh, EsaB, Coa, vWbp, vWh, Hla, SdrC, SdrD, SdrE, IsdA, IsdB, IsdC, ClfA, ClfB, and SasF peptide.

~~73~~64. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, wherein the staphylococcal infection is a *Staphylococcus aureus* infection.

~~74~~65. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, wherein the peptide is to be administered orally, parenterally, transdermally, transmucosally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, or by inhalation.

~~75~~66. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, wherein said medicament is to be administered ~~further comprising administering the petpide~~ more than one time to the subject.

~~76~~67. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, wherein the subject is a mammal.

~~77~~68. The ~~method~~use of claim ~~60~~51, wherein the subject is human.