

**CLAIMS**

1. A composition comprising a bacterial strain of the species *Enterococcus faecium*, for use in a method of treating or preventing a disease or condition mediated by IL-17 or the Th17 pathway.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is for use in a method of treating or  
5 preventing a disease or condition selected from the group consisting of uveitis; cancer, such as breast cancer, lung cancer, liver cancer, colon cancer, or ovarian cancer; multiple sclerosis; arthritis, such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, psoriatic arthritis, or juvenile idiopathic arthritis; neuromyelitis optica (Devic's disease); ankylosing spondylitis; spondyloarthritis; psoriasis; systemic lupus erythematosus; inflammatory bowel disease, such as Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis; celiac  
10 disease; asthma, such as allergic asthma or neutrophilic asthma; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); scleritis; vasculitis; Behcet's disease; atherosclerosis; atopic dermatitis; emphysema; periodontitis; allergic rhinitis; and allograft rejection.
3. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition is for use in a method of treating or preventing uveitis.
4. The composition of claim 3, wherein the composition is for use in a method of reducing or  
15 preventing retinal damage in uveitis.
5. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition is for use in a method of treating or preventing cancer, such as lung cancer, breast cancer or liver cancer.
6. The composition of claim 5, wherein the composition is for use in a method of reducing tumour  
20 size, reducing tumour growth, preventing metastasis or preventing angiogenesis.
7. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition is for use in in a method of treating or preventing asthma, such as neutrophilic asthma or allergic asthma.
8. The composition of claim 7, wherein the composition is for use in a method of reducing neutrophilia or eosinophilia in the treatment of asthma.
9. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition is for use in in a method of treating or  
25 preventing rheumatoid arthritis.
10. The composition of claim 9, wherein the composition is for use in a method of reducing joint swelling in rheumatoid arthritis.
11. The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition is for use in in a method of treating or  
30 preventing multiple sclerosis.
12. The composition of claim 11, wherein the composition is for use in a method of reducing disease incidence or disease severity.
13. The composition of any preceding claim, wherein the composition is for use in a method of reducing IL-17 production or reducing Th17 cell differentiation in the treatment or prevention of a  
35 disease or condition mediated by IL-17 or the Th17 pathway.
14. The composition of any preceding claim, wherein the composition is for use in a patient with elevated IL-17 levels or Th17 cells.

15. The composition of any of claims 1-14, wherein the bacterial strain has a 16s rRNA sequence that is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to the 16s rRNA sequence of a bacterial strain of *Enterococcus faecium*.
16. The composition of any of claims 1-14, wherein the bacterial strain has a 16s rRNA sequence that is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:1 or 2.
17. The composition of claim 16, wherein the bacterial strain has a 16s rRNA sequence that is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:2, or wherein the bacterial strain has the 16s rRNA sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:2.
18. The composition of any preceding claim, wherein the composition is for oral administration.
19. The composition of any preceding claim, wherein the composition comprises one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients or carriers.
20. The composition of any preceding claim, wherein the bacterial strain is lyophilised.
21. The composition of any preceding claim, wherein the bacterial strain is viable and capable of partially or totally colonising the intestine.
22. The composition of any preceding claim, wherein the composition comprises a single strain of *Enterococcus faecium*.
23. The composition of any preceding claim, which comprises the *Enterococcus faecium* bacterial strain as part of a microbial consortium.
24. A food product comprising the composition of any preceding claim, for the use of any preceding claim.
25. A vaccine composition comprising the composition of any preceding claim, for the use of any preceding claim.
26. A method of treating or preventing a disease or condition mediated by IL-17 or the Th17 pathway, comprising administering a composition comprising a bacterial strain of the species *Enterococcus faecium* to a patient in need thereof.
27. A cell of the *Enterococcus faecium* strain deposited under accession number NCIMB 42487, or a derivative thereof.
28. A composition comprising the cell of claim 27.
29. The composition of claim 28, comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
30. A biologically pure culture of the *Enterococcus faecium* strain deposited under accession number NCIMB 42487, or a derivative thereof.
31. A cell of the *Enterococcus faecium* strain deposited under accession number NCIMB 42487, or a derivative thereof, for use in therapy.
32. The cell of claim 31, wherein the cell is for use in a method defined in any of claims 1-14.
33. A composition comprising one or more bacterial strains of the species *Enterococcus faecium*, which does not contain bacteria from any other species or which comprises only *de minimis* or biologically irrelevant amounts of bacteria from another species, for use in therapy.