CLAIMS

1. An aqueous composition for ophthalmic use comprising
(i) a mixture M comprising or, alternatively, consisting of:
(a) a pepstatin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and
(b) an alginic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and
(ii) at least one ophthalmological grade additive and/or excipient.

2. The composition according to claim 1, wherein said mixture M further comprises (c) hyaluronic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. The composition according to claim 2 wherein said (i) mixture (M) comprises or, alternatively, consists of:
(a) a pepstatin;
(b) an alginate of an alkaline or alkaline-earth metal, preferably a magnesium alginate; and,
(c) a hyaluronate of an alkaline or alkaline-earth metal, preferably a sodium hyaluronate.

4. The composition according to any one of claims 1- 3, wherein the composition is formulated for ophthalmic use; preferably in liquid form for ophthalmic use, more preferably it is eye drops or aqueous-based eye drops; or, alternatively, in semi-solid form for ophthalmic use, preferably an ointment, a salve, a gel or a cream.

5. The composition according to any one of claims 1-4 for use as medicament.

6. The composition according to any one of claims 1- 4 for use in a method for preventive and/or curative treatment of a disease or symptom of the eyeball and/or periocular region related with or deriving from the presence of pepsin in the lacrimal fluid in a subject in need.

7. The composition for use according to claim 6, wherein said disease or symptom of the eyeball and/or periocular region is selected from the group comprising or, alternatively, consisting of: lacrimal dysfunction syndrome (LDS) or dry eye syndrome, conjunctivitis of the conjunctiva, conjunctivitis of the cornea, ocular inflammation, periocular inflammation, blepharitis, keratitis, and uveitis; preferably selected from the group comprising or, alternatively, consisting of: lacrimal dysfunction syndrome (LDS) or dry eye syndrome, conjunctivitis of the conjunctiva, conjunctivitis of the cornea, ocular inflammation, and periocular inflammation.

8. The composition for use according to claim 6 or 7, wherein said composition is for use in a method for the preventive and/or curative treatment of a disease or symptom of the eyeball and/or periocular region in: (i) a subject with a gastric reflux, which manifests itself from the stomach to an oesophageal and/or extra-oesophageal region, (ii) a subject with a disease or symptom related with or deriving from said gastric reflux.

9. The composition for use according to claim 8, wherein said diseases or symptoms related with or deriving from, said gastric reflux, which manifests itself from the stomach to an oesophageal and/or extra-oesophageal region, are selected from the group comprising or, alternatively, consisting of: gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), erosive or non-erosive, laryngopharyngeal reflux (LPR) or extra-oesophageal reflux, oesophagitis, oesophageal ulcers, oesophageal mucosal de-epithelialisation, acid regurgitation, heartburn, feeling of gastric fullness, epigastric pain, dyspepsia, nausea, chronic cough, bronchospasm, sore throat, laryngitis, globus sensation or hypopharyngeal bolus, pyrosis, dysphonia, and rhinopharyngeal phlogosis.

10. A process for the preparation of the composition according to any one of claims 1- 4, wherein said process comprises:

- the step 1) for dissolving the pepstatin in a solvent, preferably an alcoholic solvent or ethanol, at neutral pH to obtain an alcoholic solution of pepstatin, followed by
- the step 2) for diluting the alcoholic solution of pepstatin in an aqueous solution comprising an alginic acid salt, preferably an alginate of an alkaline or alkaline-earth metal, more preferably magnesium alginate.