WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Use of a composition comprising about 0.01% atropine for the manufacture of a medicament for delaying the onset of myopia in an eye of a subject; wherein, before administration of the composition, the Spherical Equivalent (SE) of the eye is a positive value or a negative value less than –0.5D and the subject has no astigmatism or has astigmatism of not more than 1.50D as measured by cycloplegic or non-cycloplegic autorefraction.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the atropine is present in the form of atropine salt.

3. The use of claim 2, wherein the atropine salt is atropine sulfate or atropine acetate.

4. The use of claim 1, wherein the composition is to be administered every other day, or at least once daily, or at least twice daily.

5. The use of claim 1, wherein each administration is to be performed by instilling at least one drop, at least two drops, or at least three drops to the eye, wherein each drop contains 20-100 microliter liquid.

6. The use of claim 1, wherein the administration is to be continued for the period of at least six months, one year, two years, three years, four years, five years, six years, seven years, ten years or longer.

7. The use of claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

8. The use of claim 1, wherein the at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient is selected from the group consisting of benzalkonium chloride and hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

9. The use of claim 8, wherein the benzalkonium chloride is present in the composition at a concentration of about 0.01% or wherein the hydroxypropyl methylcellulose is present in the composition at a concentration of about 1%.

10. The use of claim 1, wherein the composition contains no preservatives.

11. The use of claim 1, wherein the subject is at least 5 years old.

12. The use according to claim 1, wherein the Spherical Equivalent (SE) of the eye is within the range of from +1.00D to -0.49D before administration of the composition.

13. The use of claim 1,

wherein the pupil of the eye has no dilation or a dilation of no greater than 2 mm during the period of administration of the composition, or

wherein the eye has no loss of accommodation or a loss of accommodation of no greater than 9D.

14. The use of claim 1, wherein the subject has at least one myopic parent.

15. The use of claim 1, wherein the onset of myopia is delayed for greater than 6 months, 12 months, 18 months, two years, three years, five years, six years, eight years, or longer.

16. The use of claim 1, wherein no preservative excipients are present in the composition.