CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of purifying a biological product solution of interest having an unidentified enveloped virus contaminant comprising:
   (a) incubating the biological product solution of interest with an *N*-methylglucamide solution, wherein the *N*-methylglucamide is selected from the group consisting of Mega 8, Mega 9, Mega 10, Mega 11, and Mega 12, wherein the incubating step takes place at a temperature of 1 to 37 °C;
   (b) inactivating any potential enveloped virus contaminant present in the biological product solution; and
   (c) purifying the biological product solution.

2. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the enveloped virus comprises an RNA or DNA virus, single stranded or double stranded virus.

3. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein an enveloped virus has been spiked into the biological product solution.

4. A method as recited in Claim 2, wherein the virus further comprises a retrovirus.

5. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the virus belongs within one or more of the following viral families selected from the group consisting of: Retroviridae, Flaviviridae, Togaviridae, Coronaviridae, Filoviridae, Rhabdoviridae, Bunyaviriae, Orthomyxoviridae, Paramyxoviridea, Arenaviridae, Hepadnaviridae, Herpesviridae, Baculoviridae and Poxviridae.

6. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the enveloped virus comprises a xenotropic leukemia virus, pseudorabies virus, or bovine viral diarrheal virus.

7. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the *N*-methylglucamide is composed of a fatty acid hydrophobic chain with carbon length of n ($n \geq 3$) linked by an amide bond to an acyclic, hydrophilic glucose sugar moiety.

8. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the biological product is selected from the group consisting of recombinant proteins, antibodies, cytokines, plasma proteins, vaccine solution, nucleic acid therapeutics and gene therapy products.

9. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the biological product was produced from a eukaryotic cell.

10. A method as recited in Claim 9, wherein the eukaryotic cell comprises a mammalian cell.

11. A method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the biological product was produced from a prokaryotic cell.

12. A method as recited in Claim 7, wherein the concentration of the *N*-methylglucamide solution is in a range of 0.5 to 10.0 times of critical micelle concentration (CMC).