Claims

1. An oral care composition comprising L-serine amino acid, wherein L-serine amino acid is present in an amount effective to reduce oral malodor caused by hydrogen sulfide and indole; and

wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.3 to 10% w/w.

~~2. The oral care composition of claim 1, wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.01 to 10% w/w.~~

~~3~~2. The oral care composition of claim ~~2~~1, wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.~~1~~3 to 5% w/w.

4~~3~~. The oral care composition of claim ~~3~~2, wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.4~~-3~~ to 1% w/w.

~~5~~4. The oral care composition of ~~claim 1~~any one of the preceding claims, wherein the composition further comprises one or more agents selected from oxidizing agents, metal-chelating agents, and antimicrobial agents.

~~6~~5. The oral care composition of claim ~~5~~4, wherein one or more oxidizing agents are selected from H_2O_2 and ClO_2.

~~7~~6. The oral care composition of claim ~~5~~4, wherein one or more metal-chelating agents are selected from Zn^{2+} and Sn^{2+}- containing compounds.

~~8~~7. The oral care composition of claim ~~7~~6, wherein the Zn^{2+} - containing compounds are selected from a group consisting of zinc lactate, zinc citrate, zinc oxide, and zinc chloride.

~~9~~8. The oral care composition of claim ~~8~~7, wherein the Zn^{2+} - containing compound is zinc lactate in which the zinc lactate is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.1 to 0.5 % w/w.

109. The oral care composition of claim ~~54~~, wherein one or more antimicrobial agents are selected from a group consisting of triclosan, cetylpyridinium chloride, chlorhexidine, botanical extracts, and one or more essential oils.

~~11~~10. The oral care composition of ~~claim 1~~any one of the preceding claims, further comprising one or more agents selected from anti-plaque agents, whitening agents, sweetening agents, cleaning agents and flavoring agents.

~~12~~11. The oral care composition of ~~claim 1~~any one of the preceding claims, further comprising an orally acceptable carrier for a toothpaste, a dental cream, a mouthwash, a chewing gum or a denture adhesive.

~~13~~12. ~~A method of treatment or prevention of oral malodor, comprising applying to an oral cavity~~Use of an oral care composition comprising L-serine amino acid, wherein L-serine amino acid is present in an amount effective to reduce oral malodor caused by hydrogen sulfide and indole;

wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.3 to 10% w/w, in the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of oral malador.

~~14. The method of claim 13, wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.01 to 10% w/w.~~

~~15~~13. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~14~~12, wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.~~1~~3 to 5% w/w.

~~16~~14. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~15~~13, wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.~~4~~3 to 1% w/w.

~~17~~15. The ~~method~~ use of ~~claim 13~~any one of claims 12 to 24, wherein the composition further comprises one or more agents selected from oxidizing agents, metal-chelating agents, and antimicrobial agents.

~~18~~16. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~17~~15, wherein one or more oxidizing agents are selected from a group consisting of H_2O_2 and ClO_2.

~~19~~17. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~17~~15, wherein one or more metal-chelating agents are selected from a group consisting of Zn^{2+} and Sn^{2+}- containing compounds.

~~20~~18. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~19~~17, wherein Zn^{2+} - containing compounds are selected from a group consisting of zinc lactate, zinc citrate, zinc oxide, and zinc chloride.

~~21~~19. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~20~~18, wherein the Zn^{2+} - containing compound is zinc lactate in which the zinc lactate is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.1 to 0.5 % w/w.

~~22~~20. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~17~~15, wherein one or more antimicrobial agents are selected from a group consisting of triclosan, cetylpyridinium chloride, chlorhexidine, botanical extracts, and one or more essential oils.

~~23~~21. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~13~~12, wherein the composition further comprises one or more agents selected from anti-plaque agents, whitening agents, sweetening agents, cleaning agents and flavoring agents.

~~24~~22. The ~~method~~ use of claim ~~13~~12, wherein the composition comprises an orally acceptable carrier for a toothpaste, a dental cream, a mouthwash, a chewing gum or a denture adhesive.

~~25~~23. An oral care composition for use in a method of treatment or prevention of oral malodor, the composition comprising L-serine amino acid present in an amount effective to reduce oral malodor caused by hydrogen sulfide and indole, the method comprising applying the oral care composition to an oral cavity; and wherein L-serine amino acid is present in the composition at a concentration of 0.3 to 10% w/w.