THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A composition comprising an inactivated and/or killed *H. pylori* cell or a cell lysate thereof ~~and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier~~, wherein said composition is formulated to be administered to a subject for interrupting or slowing or attesting or preventing an atopic march or progression of an atopic march in a subject ~~*H. pylori* cell is incapable of colonizing the mucosa of a mammal~~.

2. The composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition comprises *H. pylori* whole cell lysate ~~composition is for mucosal delivery~~.

3. The composition according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the *H. pylori* cells are inactivated and/or killed by heat, chemical means or irradiation.

4. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3 comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4 formulated for mucosal delivery or ingestion or inhalation.

6. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein said composition is formulated as a foodstuff or dietary supplement.

7. The composition according to claim 6, wherein the foodstuff comprises an infant formula.

8. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the formulation is in a tablet form, powder form or liquid form.

9. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein a daily dosage of said composition comprises an amount of bacteria or lysate thereof in a range corresponding to between about 10^6 cells to about 10^{12} cells, or about 10^7 cells to about 10^{11} cells, or about 10^8 cells to about 10^{10} cells, or about 10^9 cells to about 10^{10} cells.

10. Use of the composition according to any one of claims 1 to 9 for the manufacture of a medicament for~~in~~ interrupting or slowing or arresting or preventing an atopic march or progression of an atopic march in the subject.

11. Use of a therapeutically effective amount of killed and/or inactivated *H. pylori* cells or a cell lysate thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for preventing an allergic immune response to an allergen in a subject or reducing severity or incidence of an allergic immune response to an allergen in a subject.

12. The use according to claim 11, wherein ~~said method comprises administering~~ a daily dosage of said medicament ~~the *H. pylori* cells or cell lysate wherein each dose~~ comprises an amount of bacteria or lysate thereof in a range corresponding to between about 10^6 cells to about 10^{12} cells.

13. The use according to claim 11 or claim 12, wherein ~~isolated and inactivated and/or killed *H. pylori* cells or cell lysate thereof~~said medicament is for ~~administered~~ administration to a juvenile subject to prevent eczema in the ~~infant~~ juvenile or a subsequent onset of allergy or asthma in later life.

14. The use according to any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein said ~~*H. pylori* cells or cell lysate thereof~~medicament is ~~to be administered~~for administration over a period of at least about 2 weeks or at least about 4 weeks or at least about 6 weeks or at least about 8 weeks or at least about 10 weeks or at least about 12 weeks.

15. The use according to any one of claims 11 to 14, wherein said ~~use~~ medicament is for ~~prevents~~ preventing or ~~delays~~ delaying an increase in a serum level of allergen-specific IgE antibody and/or ~~prevents~~ preventing or ~~delays~~ delaying an increase in a level of one or more inflammatory cytokines in bronchioalveolar lavage (BAL) and/or ~~prevents~~ preventing or ~~delays~~ delaying an increase in a level of cell infiltrate in lung in a subject exposed to an allergen.