CLAIMS

1. The use of a Plasmodium antigen CS or an immunogenic fragment thereof which is expressed at the pre-erythrocytic stage, in the manufacture of a medicament for vaccinating against severe malarial disease, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant or carrier, wherein the target population is children under 5 years of age.

2 The use according to claim 1 wherein the target population is children between 1 and 4.

3 The use according to any one of claims 1or claim 2, wherein the antigen is a sporozoite antigen fused to the surface antigen from hepatitis B (HBsAg).

4 The use according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the sporozoite antigen is circumsporozoite protein (CS) or an immunogenic fragment thereof.

5 The use according to claim 4 wherein the CS protein or fragment is in the form of a hybrid protein comprising substantially all the C-terminal portion of the CS protein of Plasmodium, four or more tandem repeats of the CS protein immunodominant region, and the surface antigen from hepatitis B (HBsAg).

6 The use according to claim 5 wherein the hybrid protein comprises a sequence of CS protein of P. falciparum substantially as corresponding to amino acids 207-395 of P.falciparum NF54 strain 3D7 clone CS protein fused in frame via a linear linker to the N-terminal of HBsAg.

~~7 The use according to claim 6 wherein the hybrid protein is RTS.~~

8 The use according to claim 7 wherein the RTS is in the form of mixed particles RTS,S.

9 The use according to claim 8 wherein the amount of RTS, S is 25 µg per dose.

10 The use according to any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the antigen is used in combination with an adjuvant which is a preferential stimulator of a Thl cell response.

11 The use according to claim 10 wherein the adjuvant comprises 3D-MPL, QS21 or a combination of 3D-MPL and QS21.

12. The use according to claim 11 wherein the adjuvant further comprises an oil in water emulsion.

13. The use according to claim 11 wherein the adjuvant further comprises liposomes.

CLAIMS

1. Use of RTS,S in the manufacture of a medicament for vaccination against severe malarial disease, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, wherein the target population is children of between 1 and 5 years of age and wherein the adjuvant is a preferential stimulator of a Th1 cell response and comprises 3D-MPL and QS21.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the target population is children between 1 and 4.

3. The use of any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein the adjuvant further comprises an oil in water emulsion.

4. The use of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the adjuvant further comprises liposomes.

5. The use of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the amount of RTS,S is 25 micrograms per dose.

6. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the amount of each of 3D-MPL and QS21 is 25 micrograms per dose.