ANTIBACTERIAL ANTIPLAQUE, ANTICALCULUS ORAL COMPOSITION

The present invention relates to an antibacterial antiplaque anticalculus oral composition. More particularly, it relates to an oral composition containing a polyphosphate anticalculus (that is, antitartar) agent and a compatible antibacterial agent effective to inhibit plaque.

In U.S. Patent 4,627,977 to Gaffar et al; 4,515,772 to Parran et al; and 4,323,551 to Parran, oral compositions are described which include various polyphosphate compounds. In the patent to Gaffar et al, a linear molecular dehydrated polyphosphate salt is employed in conjunction with a fluoride ion-providing source and a synthetic linear polymeric polycarboxylate to inhibit calculus formation.

In the patents to Parran et al and to Parran water soluble dialkali metal pyrophosphate alone or mixed with tetraalkali metal pyrophosphate is employed.

Oral compositions which inhibit calculus formation on dental surfaces are highly desirable since calculus is one of the causitive factors in periodontal conditions. Thus, its reduction promotes oral hygiene.

Dental plaque is a precursor of calculus. Unlike calculus, however, plaque may form on any part of the tooth surface, particularly including at the gingival margin. Hence, besides being unsightly, it is implicated in the occurrence of gingivitis.

Accordingly, it would be highly desirable to include antimicrobial agents which have been known to reduce plaque in oral compositions containing

anticalculus agents. Indeed, this has been described in U.S. Patent 4,022,880 to Vinson et al, wherein a compound providing zinc ions as an anticalculus agent is admixed with an antibacterial agent effective to retard the growth of plaque bacteria. A wide variety of antibacterial agents are described with the zinc compounds including cationic materials such as guanides and quaternary ammonium compounds as well as non-cationic compounds such as halogenated salicylanilides and halogenated hydroxydiphenyl ethers.

Hitherto, the cationic antibacterial materials such as chlorhexidine, benzethonium chloride and cetyl pyridinium chloride have been the subject of greatest investigation as antibacterial antiplaque agents. However, in spite of their being used in conjunction with zinc anticalculus agent, they are not effective when used with anionic materials such as polyphosphate anticalculus agent. This ineffectiveness is considered to be quite surprising as polyphosphates are chelating agents and the chelating effect has previously been known to increase the efficacy of cationic antibacterial agents. (see e.g. Disinfection, Sterilization and Preservation, 2nd Ed., Black, 1977, page 915 and Inhibition and Destruction of the Microbial Cell, Hugo, 1971, page 215). Indeed, quaternary ammonium compound is present in the plaque control mouthwash containing pyrophosphate of U.S. Patent 4,323,551 and bis-biguanide antiplaque agent is suggested in the anticalculus pyrophosphate oral composition of U.S. patent 4,515,772.

In view of the surprising incompatibility of cationic antibacterial agents with polyphosphates present as anticalculus agents, it was quite unexpected

that other antibacterial agents would be effective.

It is an advantage of this invention that certain antibacterial agents are effective in anticalculus oral compositions to inhibit plaque formation.

It is a further advantage of this invention that a composition is provided which is effective to reduce plaque and calculus formation.

It is a further advantage of this invention that an antiplaque, anticalculus oral composition is provided which is effective to reduce the occurrence of gingivitis.

According to the present invention an oral composition comprises in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an effective antibacterial agent selected from the group consisting of halogenated diphenyl ethers, phenolic compounds, halogenated salicylanilides, and halogenated carbanilides.

According to another aspect of the invention an oral composition comprises in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate, the amount of tetraalkali metal pyrophosphate being 0.1 to 7% by weight, and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent selected from the group consisting of halogenated diphenyl ethers, phenolic compounds, halogenated salicylanilides, and halogenated carbanilides.

According to a further aspect of the present invention an oral composition in the form of a dental gel, toothpaste, toothcream, toothpowder, or dental tablet comprises in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent selected from the group consisting of halogenated diphenyl ethers, phenolic compounds, halogenated salicylanilides, and halogenated carbanilides.

The invention also extends to an oral composition comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent which is a benzoate ester.

In another embodiment the invention also extends to an oral composition comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate, the amount of tetraalkali metal pyrophosphate being 0.1 to 7% by weight, and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent which is a benzoate ester.

In a further embodiment the invention extends to an oral composition in the form of a dental gel, toothpaste, toothcream, toothpowder, or dental table comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an

effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comrising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent which is a benzoate ester.

The mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate is preferably present in an amount of 2 to 7% by weight.

The mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate is preferably present in an amount of 4.3 to 7% by weight in a weight ratio of 4.3:2.7 to 6:1.

Typical examples of antibacterial agents which are particularly desirable from considerations of antiplaque effectiveness, safety and formulation are:

Halogenated Diphenyl Ethers

2',4,4'-trichloro-2-hydroxy-diphenyl ether (Triclosan)
2,2'-dihydroxy-5,5'-dibromo-diphenyl ether.

Phenolic Compounds (including phenol and its homologs, mono- and poly-alkyl and aromatic halophenols, resorcinol and its derivatives, and bisphenolic compounds)

Phenol and its Homologs

Phenol
2 Methyl - Phenol
3 Methyl - Phenol
4 Methyl - Phenol
4 Ethyl - Phenol
2,4-Dimethyl - Phenol
2,5-Dimethyl - Phenol
3,4-Dimethyl - Phenol
2,6-Dimethyl - Phenol
4-n-Propyl - Phenol
4-n-Butyl - Phenol
4-n-Amyl - Phenol
4-tert-Amyl - Phenol
4-n-Hexyl - Phenol
4-n-Heptyl - Phenol

Mono- and Poly-Alkyl and Aromatic Halophenols

p-Chlorophenol
Methyl - p-Chlorophenol
Ethyl - p-Chlorophenol
n-Propyl - p-Chlorophenol
n-Butyl - p-Chlorophenol
n-Amyl - p-Chlorophenol
sec-Amyl - p-Chlorophenol
n-Hexyl - p-Chlorophenol
Cyclohexyl - p-Chlorophenol
n-Heptyl - p-Chlorophenol
n-Octyl - p-Chlorophenol
o-Chlorophenol
Methyl - o-Chlorophenol
Ethyl - o-Chlorophenol
n-Propyl - o-Chlorophenol

n-Butyl - o-Chlorophenol
n-Amyl - o-Chlorophenol
tert-Amyl - o-Chlorophenol
n-Hexyl - o-Chlorophenol
n-Heptyl - o-Chlorophenol
o-Benzyl - p-Chlorophenol
o-Benzyl-m-methyl - p-Chlorophenol
o-Benzyl-m, m-dimethyl - p-Chlorophenol
o-Phenylethyl - p-Chlorophenol
o-Phenylethyl-m-methyl - p-Chlorophenol
3-Methyl - p-Chlorophenol
3,5-Dimethyl - p-Chlorophenol
6-Ethyl-3-methyl - p-Chlorophenol
6-n-Propyl-3-methyl - p-Chlorophenol
6-iso-Propyl-3-methyl - p-Chlorophenol
2-Ethyl-3,5-dimethyl - p-Chlorophenol
6-sec-Butyl-3-methyl - p-Chlorophenol
2-iso-Propyl-3,5-dimethyl - p-Chlorophenol
6-Diethylmethyl-3-methyl - p-Chlorophenol
6-iso-Propyl-2-ethyl-3-methyl - p-Chlorophenol
2-sec-Amyl-3,5-dimethyl - p-Chlorophenol
2-Diethylmethyl-3,5-dimethyl - p-Chlorophenol
6-sec-Octyl-3-methyl - p-Chlorophenol

p-Bromophenol

Methyl - p-Bromophenol
Ethyl - p-Bromophenol
n-Propyl - p-Bromophenol
n-Butyl - p-Bromophenol
n-Amyl - p-Bromophenol
sec-Amyl - p-Bromophenol
n-Hexyl - p-Bromophenol
cyclohexyl - p-Bromophenol

o-Bromophenol

tert-Amyl - o-Bromophenol

n-Hexyl - o-Bromophenol

n-Propyl-m,mDimethyl - o-Bromophenol

2-Phenyl Phenol

4-chloro-2-methyl phenol

4-chloro-3-methyl phenol

4-chloro-3,5-dimethyl phenol

2,4-dichloro-3,5-dimethylphenol

3,4,5,6-terabromo-2-methylphenol

5-methyl-2-pentylphenol

4-isopropyl-3-methylphenol

5-chloro-2-hydroxydiphenylmethane

Resorcinol and its Derivatives

Resorcinol

Methyl - Resorcinol

Ethyl - Resorcinol

n-Propyl - Resorcinol

n-Butyl - Resorcinol

n-Amyl - Resorcinol

n-Hexyl - Resorcinol

n-Heptyl - Resorcinol

n-Octyl - Resorcinol

n-Nonyl - Resorcinol

Phenyl - Resorcinol

Benzyl - Resorcinol

Phenylethyl - Resorcinol

Phenylpropyl - Resorcinol

p-Chlorobenzyl - Resorcinol

5-Chloro -2,4-Dihydroxydiphenyl Methane

4'-Chloro -2,4-Dihydroxydiphenyl Methane

5-Bromo -2,4-Dihydroxydiphenyl Methane

4'-Bromo -2,4-Dihydroxydiphenyl Methane

Bisphenolic Compounds

2,2'-methylene bis (4-chlorophenol)
2,2'-methylene bis (3,4,6-trichlorophenol)
2,2'-methylene bis (4-chloro-6-bromophenol)
bis (2-hydroxy-3,5-dichlorophenyl) sulphide
bis (2-hydroxy-5-chlorobenzyl) sulphide

Halogenated Salicylanilides

4',5-dibromosalicylanilide
3,4',5-trichlorosalcylanilide
3,4',5-tribromosalicylanilide
2,3,3',5-tetrachlorosalicylanilide
3,3',5-trichlorosalicylanilide
3,5-dibromo-3'-trifluoromethyl salicylanilide
5-n-octanoyl-3'-trifluoromethyl salicylanilide
3,5-dibromo-4'-trifluoromethyl salicylanilide
3,5-dibromo-3'-trifluoromethyl salicylanilide
(Fluorophene)

Benzoic Esters

Methyl - p-Hydroxybenzoic Acid
Ethyl - p-Hydroxybenzoic Acid
Propyl - p-Hydroxybenzoic Acid
Butyl - p-Hydroxybenzoic Acid

Halogenated Carbanilides

3,4,4'-trichlorocarbanilide
3-trifluoromethyl-4,4'-dichlorocarbanilide
3,3',4-trichlorocarbanilide

The antibacterial agent is present in the oral composition in an effective antiplaque amount,

typically about 0.01-5% by weight, preferably about 0.03-1%. The antibacterial agent is substantially water-insoluble, meaning that its solubility is less than about 1% by weight in water at 25°C and may be even less than about 0.1%. If anionizable group is present solubility is determined at a pH at which ionization does not occur.

The preferred halogenated diphenyl ether is Triclosan. The preferred phenolic compounds are hexyl resorcinol, 2,2'-methylene bis(4-chloro-6-bromophenol) and Fluorophene. The most preferred antibacterial antiplaque compound is Triclosan. Triclosan is disclosed in aforementioned U.S. Patent 4,022,880 as an antibacterial agent in combination with an anticalculus agent which provides zinc ions. It is also disclosed as an antiplaque agent in a dentifrice formulated to contain a lamellar liquid crystal surfctant phase having a lamellar spacing of less than 6.0 mm and which may optionally contain a zinc salt in published European Patent application 0161898 of Lane et al and in a dentifrice containing zinc citrate trihydrate in published European Patent Application 0161899 to Saxton.

Tetrasodium and tetrapotassium pyrophophates are generally employed in the oral compositions of the present invention in approximate weight amounts of 0.1 to 7%, more preferably 2 to 7%.

In order to optimize the anticalculus effectiveness of the oral composition, inhibitors against enzymatic hydrolysis of the polyphosphate are desirably present. Such agents are an amount of a

fluoride ion source sufficient to supply 25 ppm. to 5,000 ppm. of fluoride ions.

In a preferred form of an oral composition in accordance with the present invention there is present for the purpose of inhibiting hydrolysis of P-O-P bonds in the said tetraalkali metal pyrophosphates which are relatively ineffective as inhibitors of hydroxyapatite formation, up to 3% by weight of a synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate having a molecular weight of about 1,000 to about 1,000,000.

The synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate may be a water-soluble alkali metal or ammonium synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate salt.

The oral composition preferably contains 0.05% to 3% of the said synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate.

In one form of the oral composition the said polycarboxylate salt is 0.1 to 2% of a water soluble alkali metal or ammonium salt of a copolymer of vinyl methyl ether and maleic acid or anhydride having a molecular weight of about 30,000 to about 500,000.

The sources of fluoride ions, or fluorine-providing component, as acid phosphatase and pyrophosphatase enzyme inhibitor component, are well known in the art as anti-caries agents. These compounds may be slightly soluble in water or may be fully water-soluble. They are characterized by their ability to release fluoride ions in water and by freedom from undesired reaction with other compounds of the oral preparation. Among these materials are inorganic fluoride salts, such as soluble alkali metal, and alkaline earth metal salts, for example, sodium fluoride, potassium fluoride, ammonium fluoride, calcium fluoride, copper fluorides such as cuprous fluoride, zinc fluoride, barium fluoride, sodium fluorosilicate, ammonium fluorosilicate, sodium fluorozirconate, sodium fluorozirconate, sodium monofluorophosphate, aluminium mono- and di-fluorophosphate, and fluorinated sodium calcium pyrophosphate. Alkali metal and tin fluorides, such as sodium and stannous fluorides, sodium monofluorophosphate (MFP) and mixtures thereof, are preferred.

The amount of fluorine-providing compound is dependent to some extent upon the type of compound, its solubility, and the type of oral preparation, but it must be a non-toxic amount, generally about 0.005 to about 3.0% of the composition. In a dentifrice composition e.g. dental gel, toothpaste (including

cream), toothpowder, or dental tablet, an amount of such compound which releases up to about 5,000 ppm of fluoride ion by weight of the composition is considered satisfactory. Any suitable minimum amount of such compound may be used, but it is preferable to employ sufficient compound to release about 300 to 2,000 ppm, more preferable about 800 to about 1,500 ppm of fluoride ion.

Typically, in the cases of alkali metal fluorides, this component is present in an amount up to about 2% by weight, based on the weight of the composition and preferably in the range of about 0.05% to 1%. In the case of sodium monofluorophosphate, the compound may be

present in an amount of about 0.1-3%, more typically about 0.76%.

In dentifrice compositions such as lozenges and chewing gum, the fluorine-providing compound is typically present in an amount sufficient to release up to about 500 ppm, preferably about 25 to 300 ppm by weight of fluoride ion. Generally about 0.0005 to about 1.0 wt. % of such compound is present.

The synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate is an inhibitor of alkaline phosphatase enzyme. Synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylates and their complexes with various cationic germicides, zinc and magnesium have been previously disclosed as anticalculus agents per se in, for example U.S. Patent No. 3,429,963 to Shedlovsky; U.S. Patent No. 4,152,420 to Gaffar; U.S. Patent No. 3,956,480 to Dichter et al; U.S. Patent No. 4,138,477 to Gaffar; and U.S. Patent No. 4,183,914 to Gaffar et al. However, only in aforementioned U.S. patent 4,627,977 to Gaffar et al is there disclosed use of such polycarboxylates alone for inhibiting salivary hydrolysis of pyrophosphate anticalculus agents, much less in combination with a compound providing a source of fluoride ion. The synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylates so disclosed in these several patents may be used in the compositions and methods of this invention.

The synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylates optionally but preferably employed herein are, as indicated above, well known, being often employed in the form of their free acids or preferably partially or more preferably fully neutralized water soluble alkali metal (e.g. potassium and preferably sodium) or ammonium salts. Preferred are 1:4 to 4:1 copolymers of

maleic anhydride or acid with another polymerizable ethylenically unsaturated monomer, preferably methyl vinyl ether (maleic anhydride) having a molecular weight (M.W.) of about 30,000 to about 1,000,000. These copolymers are available for example as Gantrez (AN 139 (M.W. 500,000), A.N. 119 (M.W. 250,000); and preferably S-97 pharmaceutical Grade (M.W. 70,000), of GAF Corporation. The term "synthetic" is intended to exclude known thickening or gelling agents comprising carboxymethylcellulose and other derivatives of cellulose and natural gums.

Other operative polymeric polycarboxylates include those disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 3,956,480 referred to above, such as the 1:1 copolymers of maleic anhydride with ethyl acrylate, hydroxyethyl methacrylate, N-vinyl-2-pyrollidone, or ethylene, the latter being available for example as Monsanto EMA No. 1103, M.W. 10,000 and EMA Grade 61, and 1:1 copolymers of acrylic acid with methyl or hydroxyethyl methacrylate, methyl or ethyl acrylate, isobutyl vinyl ether or N-vinyl-2-pyrrolidone.

Additional operative polymeric polycarboxylates disclosed in above referred to U.S. Patents No. 4,138,477 and 4,183,914 include copolymers of maleic anhydride with styrene, isobutylene or ethyl vinyl ether, polyacrylic, polyitaconic and polymaleic acids, and sulphoacrylic oligomers of M.W. as low as 1,000, available as Uniroyal ND-2.

Suitable generally are polymerized olefinically or ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acids containing an activated carbon-to-carbon olefinic double bond and at least one carboxyl group, that is, an acid

containing an olefinic double bond which readily functions in polymerization because of its presence in the monomer molecule either in the alpha-beta position with respect to a carboxyl group or as part of a terminal methylene grouping. Illustrative of such acids are acrylic, methacrylic, ethacrylic, alpha-chloroacrylic, crotonic, beta-acryloxy propionic, sorbic, alpha-chlorosorbic, cinnamic, beta-styrilacrylic, muconic, itaconic, citraconic, mesaconic, glutaconic, aconitic, alpha-phenylacrylic, 2-benzyl acrylic, 2-cyclohexylacrylic, angelic, umbellic, fumaric and maleic acids and anhydrides. Other different olefinic monomers copolymerizable with such carboxylic monomers include vinylacetate, vinyl chloride, dimethyl maleate and the like. Copolymers contain sufficient carboxylic salt groups for water-solubility.

Also useful herein are so-called carboxyvinyl polymers disclosed as toothpaste components in U.S. 3,980,767 to Chown et al; U.S. 3,935,306 to Roberts et al; U.S. 3,919,409 to Perla et al; U.S. 3,911,904 to Harrison, and U.S. 3,711,604 to Colodney et al. They are commercially available for example under the trademarks Carbopol 934, 940 and 941 of B.F. Goodrich, these products consisting essentially of a colloidally water-soluble polymer of polyacrylic acid crosslinked with from about 0.75% to about 2.0% of polyallyl sucrose or polyallyl pentaerythritol as cross linking agent.

The synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate component is mainly a hydrocarbon with optional halogen and O-containing substituents and linkages as present in for example ester, ether and OH groups, and when

present is generally employed in the compositions of the present invention in approximate weight amounts of 0.05 to 3%, preferably 0.05 to 2%, more preferably 0.1 to 2%. Amounts in the upper portions of these ranges are typically employed in dentifrice compositions typically containing a dental abrasive and used in conjunction with brushing of the teeth, e.g. tooth pastes (including creams), gels, powders and tablets. Amounts in excess of these ranges may be employed for thickening or gelling purposes.

As indicated above, these polymeric polycarboxylates have been found to be effective inhibitors of alkaline phosphatase enzyme. Since this enzyme has little activity (for hydrolyzing pyrophosphate) at about pH 7.0 or below, the polymeric polycarboxylate component may, if desired, be omitted from oral preparations formulated to operate at such pH of 7.0 or below. Such omission however could reduce the versatility and anticalculus effectiveness of the present oral compositions over the broad pH range of about 4.5 to about 10.

In oral compositions such as mouthwashes, lozenges and chewing gum, the fluorine-providing compound may be typically present in an amount sufficient to release up to about 500 ppm, preferably about 25 to about 300 ppm by weight of fluoride ion. Generally about 0.005 to about 1.0 wt.% of such compound is present.

In certain highly preferred forms of the invention the oral composition may be substantially liquid in character, such as a mouthwash or rinse. In such a preparation the vehicle is typically a water-alcohol mixture desirably including a humectant as described below. Generally, the weight ratio of water to alcohol

is in the range of from about 1:1 to about 20:1, preferably about 3:1 to 10:1 and more preferably about 4:1 to about 6:1. The total amount of water-alcohol mixture in this type of preparation is typically in the range of from about 70 to about 99.9% by weight of the preparation. The alcohol is typically ethanol or isopropanol. Ethanol is preferred.

The pH of such liquid and other preparations of the invention is generally in the range of from about 4.5 to about 9 and typically from about 5.5 to 8. The pH is preferably in the range of from about 6 to about 8.0. It is noteworthy that the compositions of the present invention may be applied orally at a pH below 5 without substantially decalcifying or otherwise damaging dental enamel. The pH can be controlled with acid (e.g. citric acid or benzoic acid) or base (e.g. sodium hydroxide) or buffered (e.g. with sodium citrate, benzoate, carbonate, or bicarbonate, disodium hydrogen phosphate or sodium dihydrogen phosphate).

In certain other desirable forms of this present invention, the oral composition may be substantially solid or pasty in character, such as toothpowder, a dental tablet or a dentifrice, that is a toothpaste (dental cream) or gel dentifrice. The vehicle of such solid or pasty oral preparations generally contains dentally acceptable polishing material. Examples of polishing materials are water-insoluble sodium metaphosphate, potassium metaphosphate, tricalcium phosphate, dihydrated calcium phosphate, anhydrous dicalcium phosphate, calcium pyrophosphate, magnesium orthophosphate, trimagnesium phosphate, calcium carbonate, aluminium silicate, zirconium silicate, silica, bentonite, and mixtures thereof. Other

suitable polishing material include the particulate thermosetting resins described in U.S. Pat. No. 3,070,510 of December 15, 1962 such as melamine-, phenolic, and urea-formaldehydes, and cross-linked polyepoxides and polyesters. Preferred polishing materials include crystalline silica having particle sizes of up to about 5 microns a mean particle size of up to about 1.1 microns, and a surface area of up to about 50,000 $cm.^2/gm.$, silica gel or colloidal silica, and complex amorphous alkali metal aluminosilicate.

When visually clear gels are employed, a polishing agent of colloidal silica, such as those sold under the trademark SYLOID as Syloid 72 and Syloid 74 or under the trademark SANTOCEL as Santocel 100 alkali metal alumino-silicate complexes are particularly useful, since they have refractive indices close to the refractive indices of gelling agent-liquid (including water and/or humectant) systems commonly used in dentifrices.

Many of the so-called "water-insoluble" polishing materials are anionic in character and also include small amounts of soluble material. Thus, insoluble sodium metaphosphate may be formed in any suitable manner as illustrated by Thorpe's Dictionary of Applied Chemistry, Volume 9, 4th Edition, pp. 510-511. The forms of insoluble sodium metaphosphate known as Madrell's salt and Kurrol's salt are further examples of suitable materials. These metaphosphate salts exhibit only a minute solubility in water, and therefore are commonly referred to as insoluble metaphosphates (IMP). There is present therein a minor amount of soluble phosphate material as impurities, usually a few percent such as up to 4% by weight. The

amount of soluble phosphate material, which is believed to include a soluble sodium trimetaphosphate in the case of insoluble metaphosphate, may be reduced or eliminated by washing with water if desired. The insoluble alkali metal metaphosphate is typically employed in powder form of a particle size such that no more than 1% of the material is larger than 37 microns.

The polishing material is generally present in the solid or pasty compositions in weight concentrations of about 10% to about 99%. Preferably, it is present in amounts ranging from about 10% to about 75% in toothpaste, and from about 70% to about 99% in toothpowder.

In a toothpaste, the liquid vehicle may comprise water and humectant typically in an amount ranging from about 10% to about 80% by weight of the composition. Glycerine, propylene glycol, sorbitol, polypropylene glycol and/or polyethylene glycol (e.g. 400-600) exemplify suitable humectants/carriers. Also advantageous are liquid mixtures of water, glycerine and sorbitol. In clear gels where the refractive index is an important consideration, about 3-30 wt.% of water, 0 to about 70 wt.% of glycerine and about 20-80 wt.% of sorbitol based on the total weight of the composition are preferably employed.

Toothpastes, creams and gels typically contain a natural or synthetic thickener or gelling agent in proportions of about 0.1 to about 10, preferably about 0.5 to about 5 wt.%. A suitable thickener is synthetic hectorite, a synthetic colloidal magnesium alkali metal silicate complex clay available for example as Laponite (e.g. CP, SP 2002,D) marketed by Laporte Industries Limited. Laponite D analysis shows, approximately by

weight, 58.00% SiO_2, 25.40% MgO, 3.05% Na_2O, 0.98% Li_2O, and some water and trace metals. Its true specific gravity is 2.53 and it has an apparent bulk density (g./ml. at 8% moisture) of 1.0.

Other suitable thickeners include Irish moss, gum tragacanth, starch, polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxyethypropylcellulose, hydroxbutyl methyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose (e.g. available as Natrosol), sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, and colloidal silica such as finely ground Syloid (e.g. 244).

It will be understood that, as is conventional, the oral preparations are to be sold or otherwise distributed in suitable labelled packages. Thus a jar of mouthrinse will have a label describing it, in substance, as a mouthrinse or mouthwash and having directions for its use; and a toothpaste, cream or gel will usually be in a collapsible tube, typically aluminium, lined lead or plastic, or other squeeze, pump or pressurized dispenser for metering out the contents, having a label describing it, in substance, as a toothpaste gel or dental cream.

Organic surface-active agents are used in the compositions of the present invention to achieve increased prophylactic action, assist in achieving thorough and complete dispersion of the anticalculus agent throughout the oral cavity, and render the compositions of the present invention more cosmetically acceptable. The organic surface-active material is preferably anionic, nonionic or ampholytic in nature, and it is preferred to employ as the surface-active agent a detersive material which imparts to the composition detersive and foaming properties. Suitable

examples of anionic surfactants are water-soluble salts of higher fatty acid monoglyceride monosulphates, such as the sodium salt of the monosulphated monoglyceride of hydrogenated coconut oil fatty acids, higher alkyl sulphates such as sodium lauryl sulphate, alkyl aryl sulphonates such as sodium dodecyl benzene sulphonate, higher alkyl sulphoacetates, higher fatty acid esters of 1,2-dihydroxy propane sulphonate, and the subtantially saturated higher aliphatic acyl amides of lower aliphatic amino carboxylic acid compounds, such as those having 12 to 16 carbons in the fatty acid, alkyl or acyl radicals, and the like. Examples of the last mentioned amides are N-lauroyl sarcosine, and the sodium, potassium, and ethanolamine salts of N-lauroyl, N-myristoyl, or N-palmitoyl sarcosine which should be substantially free from soap or similar higher fatty acid material. The use of these sarcosinate compounds in the oral compositions of the present invention is particularly advantageous since these materials exhibit a prolonged and marked effect in the inhibition of acid formation in the oral cavity due to carbohydrate breakdown in addition to exerting some reduction in the solubility of tooth enamel in acid solutions. Examples of water-soluble nonionic surfactants are condensation products of ethylene oxide with various reactive hydrogen-containing compounds reactive therewith having long hydrophobic chains (e.g. aliphatic chains of about 12 to 20 carbon atoms), which condensation products ("ethoxamers") contain hydrophilic polyoxyethylene moieties, such as condensation products of poly(ethylene oxide) with fatty acids, fatty alcohols, fatty amides, polyhydric alcohols (e.g. sorbitan monostearate) and polypropyleneoxide (e.g. Pluronic

materials). It is preferred to use from about 0.05 to 5% by weight and preferably about 0.5 to 5% of the foregoing surface active materials in the instant compositions.

Various other materials may be incorporated in the oral preparations of the present invention such as whitening agents, preservatives, silicones, chlorophyll compounds and/or ammoniated material such as urea, diammonium phosphate, and mixtures thereof. These adjuvants, where present, are incorported in the preparations in amounts which do not substantially adversely affect the properties and characteristics desired. Significant amounts of zinc, magnesium and other metal salts and materials, generally soluble, which would complex with active components of the compositions of the present invention are to be avoided.

Any suitable flavouring or sweetening material may also be employed. Examples of suitable flavouring constituents are flavouring oils, e.g. oil of spearmint, peppermint, wintergreen, sassafras, clove, sage, eucalyptus, marjoram, cinnamon, lemon and orange, and methyl salicylate. Suitable sweetening agents include sucrose, lactose, maltose, sorbitol, xylitol, sodium cyclamate, perillartine, AMP (aspartyl phenyl alanine, methyl ester), saccharine and the like. Suitably, flavour and sweetening agents may together comprise from about 0.1% to 5% more of the preparation.

In the preferred practice of the present invention an oral composition according to this invention such as a mouthwash or dentifrice containing the composition of the present invention is preferably applied regularly to dental enamel, such as every day or every second or

third day or preferably from 1 to 3 times daily, at a pH of about 4.5 to about 9, generally about 5.5 to about 8, preferably about 6 to 8, for at least 2 weeks up to 8 weeks or more up to lifetime.

The compositions of the present invention can be incorporated in lozenges, or in chewing gum or other products, e.g. by stirring into a warm gum base or coating the outer surface of a gum base, illustrative of which may be mentioned jelutone, rubber latex, vinylite resins, etc., desirably with conventional plasticizers or softeners, sugar or other sweeteners or carbohydrates such as glucose, sorbitol and the like.

The invention may be put into practice in various ways and a number of specific embodiments will be described to illustrate the invention with reference to the accompanying examples. All amounts and proportions referred to herein and in the appended claims are by weight.

In the Tables, the following disclosure and the following Examples, the agent Triclosan, 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether is indicated as "TCHE"; the copolymer of maleic anhydride and methyl vinyl ether available from GAF corporation as "Gantrez S-97" is identified as "Gantrez"; and sodium fluoride is identified as "NaF".

Examples 1A to 1C

A number of dentifrice compositions having the ingredients and proportions set out in Table 1 below are made up.

TABLE 1

	Proportions		
	1A	1B	1C
Ingredients	Parts	Parts	Parts
Glycerine	15.00	10.20	15.00
Polyethylene Glycol 600	5.00	3.00	5.00
Iota Carrageenan	0.60	-	0.60
Sodium Carboxymethyl Cellulose	-	1.00	-
Sodium Saccharin	0.40	-	0.40
Sodium Cyclamate	-	3.00	-
Sodium Fluoride	0.243	0.243	0.243
Deionized water	15.08	29.907	23.657
Titanium Dioxide	-	-	0.50
Sodium Benzoate	-	0.50	-
FD&C Blue No. 1(1% Solution)	0.400	-	-
Sorbitol (70% ag solution)	19.807	22.50	22.50
Gantrez S-97	8.330(*)	1.00(**)	1.00(**)
Tetrasodium Pyrophosphate	1.50	1.50	1.50
Tetrapotassium Pyrophos-			

phate	4.50	4.50	4.50
Precipitated Amorph. Hydrated Silica	16.00	19.50	-
Precipitated Amorp. Silica containing combined alumina	-	-	16.00
Silica Thickener	7.00	-	5.50
Flavour	1.10	0.95	1.10
Sodium Lauryl Sulphate	1.20	1.20	1.20
TCHE	0.50	0.50	0.50

Notes on Table 1

* liquid
** powder

Example 2

The dentifrice described in Example 1A is compared with the same composition except without any TCHE and with added 0.50 parts of water. Aqueous extracts of each dentifrice are prepared as follows: 50 ml of distilled water is added to 1.0 gm of each dentifrice, mixed well for a couple of hours with a stirring bar and centrifuged, after which the supernatant is collected as aqueous extract. Antibacterial activity of the dentifrice extracts are evaluated on Bacteriodes gingivalis. Results are summarized below in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Treatment	Inhibition of Growth of Bacteriodes Gingivalis %
Extract from dentifrice containing TCHE (1:500) (Example 1A)	100.0

Extract from dentifrice without TCHE (1:500) (Example 2)	0.0
TCHE (5.0 mcg/ml) by itself	100.0

These results indicate that TCHE antibacterial antiplaque agent is compatible in a dentifrice composition containing anionic surfactant plus pyrophosphate anticalculus ingredients with enzyme inhibitors Gantrez and NaF. Similar comparable effects prevail when each of hexyl resorcinol, 2,2'-methylene bis(4-chloro-6-bromphenol) and Fluorophene replace TCHE.

The present invention has been described with respect to certain preferred embodiments and it will be understood that modifications and variations thereof obvious to those skilled in the art are to be included within the purview of this application and the scope of the appended claims.

We are aware of EP 236827A which forms part of the state of the art under Section 2(3) and discloses in Example 4 a dentifrice composition containing the sodium salt of a benzoate ester, a fluoride ion source and a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate.

We make no claim to the composition set out in Example 4 of EP 236827A.

Attention is directed to our copending applications no. 8801773, Serial No. 2200551, No. 9007573, Serial No. 2230187, No. 9007574, Serial No. 2230188.

No. 8801773 is directed to oral compositions comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising at least one linear molecularly dehydrated

polyphosphate salt and an effective antiplaque amount of specified substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agents and specified amounts of fluoride ions.

No. 9007573 is directed to oral compositions comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising at least one linear molecularly dehydrated polyphosphate salt and an effective antiplaque amount of specified substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agents and up to 3% by weight of a synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate having a molecular weight of 1,000 to 1,000,000.

No. 9007574 is directed to oral compositions comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising at least one linear molecularly dehydrated polyphosphate salt and an effective antiplaque amount of specified substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agents the polyphosphate being at least one wholly or partially neutralized water soluble alkali metal or ammonium tripolyphosphate or hexametaphosphate salt.

CLAIMS

1. An oral composition comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent selected from the group consisting of halogenated diphenyl ethers, phenolic compounds, halogenated salicylanilides, and halogenated carbanilides.

2. An oral composition comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate, the amount of tetraalkali metal pyrophosphate being 0.1 to 7% by weight, and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent selected from the group consisting of halogenated diphenyl ethers, phenolic compounds, halogenated salicylanilides, and halogenated carbanilides.

3. An oral composition in the form of a dental gel, toothpaste, toothcream, toothpowder, or dental tablet comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent selected from the group consisting of halogenated diphenyl ethers, phenolic compounds, halogenated salicylanilides, and halogenated carbanilides.

4. An oral composition comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an effective antiplaque amount of substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent which is a benzoate ester.

5. An oral composition in an orally acceptable vehicle, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate, the amount of tetraalki metal pyrophosphate being 0.1 to 7% by weight, and an effective antiplaque amount of substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent which is a benzoate ester.

6. An oral composition in the form of a dental gel, toothpaste, toothcream, toothpowder, or dental tablet comprising in an orally acceptable vehicl,e an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an effective antiplaque amount of a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent which is a benzoate ester.

7. A composition as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 6 in which the mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate is present in an amount of 2 to 7% by weight.

8. An oral composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the mixture of tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and tetrasodium pyrophosphate is present in an amount of 4.3 to 7% by weight in a weight ratio of from 4.3:2.7 to 6:1.

9. An oral composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the said substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent is present in an amount of 0.01-5% by weight.

10. An oral composition was claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 3 or Claim 7 or 8 when appendant to Claim 1, 2 or 3 in which the said antibacterial agent is a halogenated diphenyl ether.

11. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 10 in which the halogenated diphenyl ether is 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxy-diphenyl ether.

12. An oral composition as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 3 or Claim 7 or 8 when appendant to Claim 1, 2 or 3 in which the said antibacterial agent is a phenolic compound.

13. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 12 in which the said phenolic compound is phenol or a homolog thereof.

14. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 12 in which the said phenolic compound is a mono- or poly-alkyl halophenol or an aromatic halophenol.

15. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 12 in which the said phenolic compound is resorcinol or a derivative thereof.

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16. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 12 in which the said phenolic compound is hexyl resorcinol.

17. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 12 in which the said phenolic compound is a bisphenolic compound.

18. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 17 in which the said bisphenolic compound is 2,2'-methylene bis(4-chloro-6-bromophenol).

19. An oral composition claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 3 or Claim 7 or 8 when appendant to Claim 1, 2 or 3 in which the said antibacterial agent is a halogenated salicylanilide.

20. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 19 in which the said halogenated salicylanilide is 3,5-dibromo-3' -trifluoromethyl salicylanilide.

21. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 1, 2 or 3 or Claim 7 or 8 when appendant to Claim 1, 2 or 3 in which the said antibacterial agent is present in an amount of 0.03-1% by weight of 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'hydroxydiphenyl ether.

22. An oral composition in the form of a dental gel or toothpaste comprising in an orally acceptable vehicle, 10 to 75% by weight of a dentally acceptable water insoluble polishing agent, an effective anticalculus amount of anticalculus material comprising 2 to 7% by weight of a mixture of tetrasodium pyrophosphate and tetrapotassium pyrophosphate and an

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effective antiplaque amount of 0.03-1% by weight of 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether as a substantially water insoluble noncationic antibacterial agent.

23. An oral composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which there is present for the purpose of inhibiting hydrolysis of P-O-P bonds in the said tetraalkali metal pyrophosphate salts by phosphatase enzymes in saliva to orthophosphates which are relatively ineffective as inhibitors of hydroxyapatite formation, up to 3% by weight of a synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate, having a molecular weight of 1,000 to 1,000,000.

24. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 23 which contains 0.05% to 3% of the said anionic polymeric polycarboxylate salt.

25. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 23 or Claim 24 in which the synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate is a water-soluble alkali metal or ammonium synthetic anionic polymeric polycarboxylate salt.

26. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 23, 24 or 25 in which the said polycarboxylate salt is 0.1 to 2% of a water soluble alkali metal or ammonium salt of a copolymer of vinyl methyl ether and maleic acid or anhydride having a molecular weight of 30,000 to 500,000.

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27. An oral composition as claimed in any one of the preceding claims except Claim 22 in which the said oral composition contains a dentally acceptable water-insoluble polishing agent and the said oral composition is a toothpowder, dental tablet, toothpaste or dentifrice.

28. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 27 in which the said oral composition contains 10-80% by weight of a liquid phase comprising water and humectant, 0.1-10% by weight of a gelling agent and 10-75% by weight of the said polishing agent and the said oral composition is a toothpaste or gel dentifrice.

29. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 28 in which the said polishing material is a silica polishing material.

30. An oral composition as claimed in Claim 27 in which the said oral composition contains 70-99% by weight of the said polishing material and the said oral composition is a toothpowder.

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