

CLAIMS

1. A method for the purification of a sialyllactose from other carbohydrates, characterized in that the method comprises the steps of subjecting an aqueous solution containing the sialyllactose and other carbohydrates to two
5 membrane filtration steps using different membranes, wherein
 - one membrane has a molecular weight cut-off of between about 300 to about 500 Dalton, and
 - the other membrane as a molecular weight cut-off of between about 600 to about 800 Dalton.
- 10 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution is obtained from a fermentation or enzymatic process for the production of the sialyllactose.
3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the aqueous solution is obtained from a fermentation by separating the biomass from the fermentation broth.
- 15 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein separating the biomass from the fermentation broth comprises at least one step of ultrafiltration, preferably two steps of ultrafiltration, more preferably a first ultrafiltration using a membrane having a molecular weight cut-off of about 500 kDa and a second ultrafiltration using a membrane having a molecular weight cut-off of about 150 kDa.
- 20 5. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the aqueous solution containing the sialyllactose is treated with a cation exchange resin, preferably in H⁺ form, and an anion exchange resin, preferably in Cl⁻ form, more preferably before subjecting the aqueous solution to the membrane filtration steps.

6. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the method further comprises a step of dialysis, preferably of electrodialysis.
7. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the purity of sialyllactose in the aqueous solution is $\leq 70\%$, $\leq 60\%$, $\leq 50\%$, $\leq 40\%$,
5 $\leq 30\%$, $\leq 20\%$; $\leq 10\%$ or $\leq 5\%$ prior to the purification and /or the aqueous solution contains the sialyllactose at a purity of $\geq 80\%$, preferably of $\geq 85\%$ or more preferably $\geq 90\%$ after the purification.
8. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the sialyllactose is 3'-sialyllactose or 6'-sialyllactose.