CLAIMS:

1. An unworn antioxidant contact lens immersed in a packaging solution and sterilely sealed in a package, said contact lens comprising a silicone hydrogel and amount of vitamin E embedded within the silicone hydrogel effective to provide at least a 50% reduction in lipid peroxidation relative to a control contact lens lacking the vitamin E when measured in a TBARS assay, wherein the antioxidant contact lens is (i) free of a bioactive agent having a release profile attenuated by the vitamin E and does not contain a carotenoid; or (ii) has (a) an ophthalmically-acceptable surface wettability in the absence of a post curing surface treatment and (b) an advancing contact angle measured using the captive bubble method that is no more than 10° greater than the control lens, and wherein the silicone hydrogel material is heat-stable in the absence of vitamin E, a contact lens being considered heat-stable if the diameter of the fully hydrated contact lens after being autoclaved in a packaging solution is within ± 0.2 mm of the diameter of the fully hydrated contact lens before autoclave.

2. The unworn antioxidant contact lens of claim 1, wherein the antioxidant contact lens has a heat stability that is no greater than a control contact lens lacking the vitamin E.

3. The unworn antioxidant contact lens of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the amount of vitamin E is 10 µg to 1000 µg per 25 mg of the antioxidant contact lens when fully hydrated.

4. The unworn antioxidant contact lens of any one of the preceding claims having a % equilibrium water content (% EWC) that is no less than 5% that of the control lens.

5. The unworn antioxidant contact lens of any one of the preceding claims having between 40% to 60% EWC.

6. The unworn antioxidant contact lens of any one of the preceding claims having a lens diameter within ± 0.2 mm that of the control lens.

7. The unworn antioxidant contact lens of any one of the preceding claims having an advancing contact angle measured using the captive bubble method that is no more than 5° greater than the control lens.

8. The unworn antioxidant contact lens of any one of the preceding claims wherein the reduction in lipid peroxidation is at least 80%.

9. A method of manufacturing an antioxidant contact lens comprising polymerizing a monomer mixture comprising at least one silicone monomer and at least one hydrophilic monomer to provide a lens-shaped polymerization product; extracting the polymerization product in an organic solvent comprising 0.2 mg/mL to 10 mg/mL vitamin E; hydrating the polymerization product to form a silicone hydrogel contact lens; and sterilely sealing the contact lens in a package, wherein the antioxidant contact lens (a) provides at least a 80% reduction in lipid peroxidation relative to a control contact lens lacking the vitamin E when measured in a TBARS assay, (b) has a heat stability that is no

greater than that of the control contact lens, and (c) is free of a bioactive agent having a release profile attenuated by the vitamin E and does not contain a carotenoid, and wherein the silicone hydrogel material is heat-stable in the absence of vitamin E, a contact lens being considered heat-stable if the diameter of the fully hydrated contact lens after being autoclaved in a packaging solution is within ± 0.2 mm of the diameter of the fully hydrated contact lens before autoclave.

10. A sealed contact lens package comprising:

a) a plastic base member having a cavity;

b) a contact lens packaging solution in said cavity;

c) a sterile, unworn contact lens immersed in said contact lens packaging solution in said cavity; and

d) a cover that forms a liquid-tight seal with the plastic base member,

wherein the unworn contact lens is a silicone hydrogel contact lens having present therein at least 10 µg of vitamin E per 25 mg of the sterile, unworn contact lens when fully hydrated, 0 µg of a bioactive agent and does not contain a carotenoid, and said vitamin E is non-releasable from said unworn contact lens and said contact lens packaging solution has less than 1 ppm of vitamin E present,

and wherein the silicone hydrogel material is heat-stable in the absence of vitamin E, a contact lens being considered heat-stable if the diameter of the fully hydrated contact lens after being autoclaved in a packaging solution is within ± 0.2 mm of the diameter of the fully hydrated contact lens before autoclave.

11. The sealed contact lens package of claim 10, wherein said vitamin E is trapped, embedded, absorbed, or non-covalently attached in said unworn contact lens.

12. The sealed contact lens package of claim 10 or claim 11, wherein said vitamin E provides at least a 50% reduction in lipid peroxidation relative to a control contact lens lacking the vitamin E when measured in a TBARS assay.

13. The sealed contact lens package of any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein said unworn contact lens is in the absence of any agent that provides antioxidant properties except for said vitamin E.

14. The sealed contact lens package of any one or claims 10 to 13, wherein the unworn contact lens has (a) an ophthalmically-acceptable surface wettability in the absence of a post curing surface treatment or (b) an advancing contact angle measured using the captive bubble method that is no more than 10° greater than the control lens, or both (a) and (b).

15. The sealed contact lens package of any one of claims 10 to 14, wherein the unworn contact lens (a) has a heat stability that is no greater than a control contact lens lacking the vitamin E.

16. The sealed contact lens package of any one of claims 10 to 15, wherein the sterile, unworn contact lens is the unworn antioxidant contact lens of any one of claims 1 to 8.

17. The unworn antioxidant contact lens of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the amount of vitamin E is effective to reduce generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) from

human corneal epithelial cells (HCECs) contacted *in vitro* with H_2O_2 relative to the control contact lens when measured in an HCEC viability assay.

18. The sealed contact lens package of any preceding one of claims 10 to 16, wherein the vitamin E is effective to reduce generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) from human corneal epithelial cells (HCECs) contacted *in vitro* with H_2O_2 relative to the control contact lens when measured in an HCEC viability assay.

19. A method to control lipid peroxidation from tear film in an eye of a person wearing a contact lens, said method comprising inserting a sterile, unworn contact lens in the eye of said person to correct vision in said eye of said person, wherein the sterile, unworn contact lens is a silicone hydrogel contact lens having therein an amount of vitamin E that is at least 20 μg of vitamin E per 25 mg of the sterile, unworn contact lens when fully hydrated and 0 μg of a bioactive agent, and said vitamin E is non-releasable from said sterile, unworn contact lens when worn in the eye, and wherein said method is in the absence of utilizing any agent that provides antioxidant properties except for said vitamin E.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein said method provides at least a 50% reduction in said lipid peroxidation relative to a control contact lens lacking the vitamin E when measured in a TBARS assay.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein said vitamin E is trapped, embedded, absorbed, or non-covalently attached in said sterile, unworn contact lens.

22. Use of composition in controlling lipid peroxidation from tear film in an eye of a person wearing a contact lens, wherein said composition is in the form of a sterile, unworn contact lens for inserting in the eye of said person to correct vision in said eye of said person, wherein the composition is a silicone hydrogel having therein an amount of vitamin E that is at least 20 µg of vitamin E per 25 mg of the composition when fully hydrated and 0 µg of a bioactive agent, and said vitamin E is non-releasable from said composition when the sterile, unworn contact lens when worn in the eye.

23. The use of claim 22, wherein said composition provides at least a 50% reduction in said lipid peroxidation relative to a control contact lens lacking the vitamin E when measured in a TBARS assay.

24. The use of claim 22 or claim 23, wherein said vitamin E is trapped, embedded, absorbed, or non-covalently attached in said composition.