predetermined period of time, so that they can take the food additive themselves.

The food additive of the embodiment is not a medicament and thus does not require a doctor's prescription, which allows people to take the additive themselves even when physicians are not sufficiently available in a large-scale disaster or the like. Thus, many disaster sufferers and the like can be efficiently prevented from developing a peptic ulcer induced by psychological stress.

[0041]

The food additive of the embodiment allows various food to be formulated with a Euglena-derived material as a food material in an amount sufficient to exhibit prophylactic or therapeutic effects for a peptic ulcer in a living body, thereby providing a food composition that has the effect of preventing or treating a peptic ulcer. In other words, the present invention can provide, in the field of food, food compositions having an indication that they are useful for the prevention or treatment of peptic ulcer. Examples of these food compositions include general food, food for specified health use, nutritional supplement food, functional food, food for inpatients, and supplements. The composition may also be used as a food additive.

[0042]

As used herein, "food for specified health use" refers to food that contains a healthy component having an effect on a physiological function or the like and that has gained approval from the Secretary General of the Japanese Consumer Affairs Agency to indicate that the food is suitable for specified health use.

"Food with nutrient function claims" refers to food that is used to supplement the diet with a nutrient component (vitamin or mineral) and that is provided with an indication of the function of the nutrient component. To sell a food product as food with nutrient function claims, the food product must satisfy the standard for the minimum and maximum levels of the nutrient component per daily portion usually consumed and must be labelled with not only a nutrient function, but also warning.

"Food with function claims" refers to food that is labelled with a function based on scientific evidence under the responsibility of an entity. Prior to marketing the food product, the entity must provide information or the like on evidences for safety and function to the Secretary General of the Japanese Consumer Affairs Agency.

[0043]

Examples of the food compositions can include seasoning, processed meat products, processed agricultural products, drinks (such as soft drinks, alcoholic drinks, carbonated drinks, milk drinks, fruit drinks, teas, coffee, and nourishing drinks), powdered drinks (such as powdered juice and powdered soup), concentrated drinks, confectionery (such as candies, cookies, crackers, gums, gummi candies, and chocolates), bread, and cereals. In the case of food for specified health use, nutritional supplement food, functional food, or the like, the compositions may each be in the form of capsules, troches, syrup, granules, powder, or the like.

[0044]

<Others>

CLAIMS

1. Use of a Euglena-derived material, in the manufacture of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent for a peptic ulcer.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the Euglena-derived material is Euglena, paramylon, or an acid-treated paramylon.

3. The use of claim 1 or 2, wherein the prophylactic or therapeutic agent for a peptic ulcer is for the prevention or treatment of a peptic ulcer induced by psychological stress.

4. The use of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the peptic ulcer is a gastric ulcer.

5. Use of a Euglena-derived material, in the manufacture of a food additive for the prevention or treatment of a peptic ulcer.

6. Use of a Euglena-derived material, in the manufacture of an iNOS (inducible nitric oxide synthase) expression inhibitor.

7. Use of a Euglena-derived material, in the manufacture of a COX-2 expression inhibitor.

8. Use of a Euglena-derived material, in the manufacture of a medicament in the form of a stress suppressor for suppressing stimulation induced by stress in a living body.