- optionally, cysteine,
- optionally, magnesium ions,
- optionally, calcium ions,
- optionally, potassium ions,
- optionally, vitamins;

b) inoculating said medium with E. hallii;

c) allowing said E. hallii to grow in said medium; and

d) harvesting said E. hallii preparation from said medium.

In another aspect, the present disclosure refers to an *E. hallii* preparation obtainable by the method as disclosed herein, wherein the preparation comprises medium as disclosed herein.

Definitions

As used herein, the term "effective amount" refers to a quantity sufficient to achieve a desired therapeutic and/or prophylactic effect, e.g., an amount, which results in the treatment and/or prevention of the diseases and conditions taught herein. In the context of therapeutic or prophylactic applications, the amount of *E. hallii* bacteria administered to the animal subject, preferably human subject, will depend on the type and severity of the disease or condition and on the characteristics of the subject, such as general health, age, sex, body weight and tolerance to drugs. The skilled artisan will be able to determine

CLAIMS

1. A method of preparing an *E. hallii* preparation suitable for ingestion by a human, said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing a medium comprising:

- 1-100, preferably 5-40, g/kg of a sugar, preferably glucose,
- 1-100, preferably 5-40, g/kg of a source of nitrogen and growth factors, such as yeast extract,
- 0.1-50 g/kg plant peptone, preferably soy peptone,
- acetate,
- a buffer system at pH6-8,
- optionally, cysteine,
- optionally, magnesium ions,
- optionally, calcium ions,
- optionally, potassium ions,
- optionally, vitamins;

b) inoculating said medium with *E. hallii*;

c) allowing said *E. hallii* to grow in said medium; and

d) harvesting said *E. hallii* preparation from said medium.

2. The method of claim 1, which is carried out under anaerobic conditions.

3. The method of claim 1 or 2, which is carried out at a temperature in the range of 30 – 42 ºC, preferably in the range of 34 – 40 ºC.

4. The method of any of claims 1 – 3, wherein said *E. hallii* preparation is harvested from said medium using filtration.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the filtrate is further washed with phosphate buffered saline solution.

6. The method of any of claims 1 – 5, which further comprises the step of lyophilizing said *E. hallii* to obtain a lyophilized *E. hallii* preparation.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said lyophilizing is carried out using a cryoprotectant selected from the group consisting of sucrose, maltose, maltodextrin, trehalose, mannitol, inuline, glycerol, DMSO, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, 2-methyl-2,4-pentanediol,

polyethylene glycol, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyvinyl alcohol, polyglycerol, or any combination thereof.