WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Use of an ophthalmic composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective amount of ε-polylysine (εPL) for the preparation of a medicament for topical administration to an eye of a patient for the treatment of an ocular infection or for the prophylaxis of an ocular infection, wherein the ophthalmic composition is to be administered to the eye of the patient before or after the introduction of an inoculum of an ocular pathogen.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the ocular infection is caused by a methicillin-resistant *Staphylococus aureus* (MRSA).