Claims

1. An antisense molecule or salt thereof comprising a polynucleotide sequence that is antisense to the coding region of a *Staphylococcus aureus* membrane stability protein and hybridizes to the coding region under physiological conditions, wherein the antisense molecule comprises SEQ ID NOs: 1 or 5, and wherein the antisense molecule is conjugated to a cell penetration molecule for use in inhibiting the growth of or treating *Staphylococcus aureus* infection.

2. Use of an antisense molecule or salt thereof comprising a polynucleotide sequence that is antisense to the coding region of a *Staphylococcus aureus* membrane stability protein and hybridizes to the coding region under physiological conditions, wherein the antisense molecule comprises SEQ ID NOs: 1 or 5, and wherein the antisense molecule is conjugated to a cell penetration molecule in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting the growth of or treating *Staphylococcus aureus* infection, wherein the antisense molecule is to be applied to tissue containing the *Staphylococcus aureus* topically.

3. The use of claim 2, wherein the antisense molecule is complexed to a delivery polymer.

4. The use of claim 2, wherein the antisense molecule has a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1 or 5.

5. The use of claim 2, wherein the antisense molecule is an oligonucleotide.

6. The use of claim 2, wherein the antisense molecule is substantially pure.

7. The use of claim 2, wherein the antisense molecule comprises a modified backbone.

8. The antisense molecule or use of claim 7, wherein the modified backbone is a PNA backbone.

9. The use of claim 2, wherein said cell penetration molecule is a peptide.

10. The antisense molecule or use of claim 3, wherein said delivery polymer is a cationic block copolymer comprising phosphonium or ammonium ionic groups.