14. A method of forming a topical anti-microbial composition comprising a quaternized chitosan derivative having polymerizable organic moieties and an amphoteric surfactant comprising the step of mixing at least one quaternized chitosan derivative having a polymerizable organic moiety with at least one amphoteric surfactant.

15. A method of treating skin infections in mammals comprising the step of topically applying to said skin an effective amount of a topical composition according to any one of claims 1 to 12.

16. A method for treating or preventing a microbial skin infection in a mammal, comprising the step of applying to said mammal a topical composition according to any one of claims 1 to 12.

17. A method according to claim 15 or 16, wherein said topical anti-microbial composition is applied to infected skin of said mammal.

18. An anti-inflammatory composition comprising a quaternized chitosan derivative having polymerizable organic moieties, an amphoteric surfactant and an anti-inflammatory agent.

19. An anti-inflammatory composition according to claim ~~16~~18, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is a diterpenoid.