CLAIMS:

1. ~~A nutritional formula, comprising an~~An infant formula for use in preventing development of respiratory infection and/or acute otitis media, the infant formula comprising~~which comprises~~:

a lipid or fat;

a protein source selected from the group consisting of whey protein, ~~casein,~~ casein protein, nonfat milk, and hydrolyzed protein ~~and a combination of whey protein and casein~~;

one or more *Bifidobacterium* species comprising~~which comprises~~ *Bifidobacterium lactis* Bb-12; and

one or more bacterial species comprising~~which comprises~~ *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG.

2. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of Claim 1, wherein the lipid or fat is present at ~~a level of~~ about 3 to about 7g per 100 kcal.

3. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of Claims 1 or 2, wherein the protein source is present at ~~a level of~~ about 1 to about 5g per 100 kcal.

4. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the respiratory infection is selected from the group consisting of upper respiratory infection, influenza, croup, respiratory syncytial virus, bronchitis, bronchiolitis and pneumonia.

5. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the amount of both the one or more bacterial species comprising *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG and the one or more *Bifidobacterium* species ~~administered~~ is between $10^5$ and $10^{11}$ cfu per day.

6. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of Claims 1 to 4, wherein the amount of both the bacterial species comprising one or more *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG and the one or more *Bifidobacterium* species ~~administered~~ is between $10^6$ and $10^8$ cfu per day.

7. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of the preceding Claims, wherein the ratio of the ~~one or more *Bifidobacterium* species~~ *Bifidobacterium lactis* Bb-12 and the *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG is between about 5:1 and 1:5.

8. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of Claims 1 to 6, wherein the ratio of the ~~one or more *Bifidobacterium* species~~ *Bifidobacterium lactis* Bb-12 and the one or more *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG is between about 10:1 and 1:10.

9. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of Claims 1 to 6, wherein the ratio of the ~~one or more *Bifidobacterium* species~~ *Bifidobacterium lactis* Bb-12 and the one or more *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG is about 1:1.

10. ~~A nutritional formula, comprising an~~An infant formula for use in preventing development of respiratory infection and/or acute otitis media, the infant formula comprising~~which comprises~~:

a lipid or fat;

a protein source selected from the group consisting of whey protein, ~~casein,~~ casein protein, nonfat milk, and hydrolyzed protein ~~and a combination of whey protein and casein~~;

one or more *Bifidobacterium* species; and

one or more adherence-promoting probiotic.

11. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of Claim 10, wherein the lipid or fat is present at a level of about 3 to about 7g per 100 kcal.

12. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of Claims 10 or 11, wherein the protein source is present at a level of about 1 to about 5g per 100 kcal.

13. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of Claims 10 to 12, wherein the respiratory infection is selected from the group consisting of upper respiratory infection, influenza, croup, respiratory syncytial virus, bronchitis, bronchiolitis and pneumonia.

14. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of Claims 10 to 13, wherein the amount of both the one or more adherence-promoting probiotic and the one or more *Bifidobacterium* species administered is between $10^5$ and $10^{11}$ cfu per day.

15. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of Claims 10 to 13, wherein the amount of both the one or more adherence-promoting probiotic and the one or more *Bifidobacterium* species administered is between $10^6$ and $10^8$ cfu per day.

~~16. The nutritional formula of any one of Claims 10 to 13, wherein the ratio of the one or more *Bifidobacterium* species and the one or more adherence-promoting probiotic is between about 5:1 and 1:5.~~

~~17. The nutritional formula of any one of Claims 10 to 13, wherein the ratio of the one or more *Bifidobacterium* species and one or more adherence-promoting probiotic is between about 10:1 and 1:10.~~

~~18. The nutritional formula of any one of Claims 10 to 13, wherein the ratio of the one or more *Bifidobacterium* species and the one or more adherence-promoting probiotic is about 1:1.~~

~~19~~16. The ~~nutritional~~infant formula of any one of Claims 10 to ~~18~~15, wherein the one or more adherence-promoting probiotic comprises *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* GG.

17. Use of the infant formula of any one of Claims 1 to 9 in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing development of respiratory infection and/or acute otitis media.

18. The use of Claim 17, wherein the respiratory infection is selected from the group consisting of upper respiratory infection, influenza, croup, respiratory syncytial virus, bronchitis, bronchiolitis and pneumonia.

19. Use of the infant formula of any one of Claims 10 to 16 in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing development of respiratory infection and/or acute otitis media.

20. The use of Claim 19, wherein the respiratory infection is selected from the group consisting of upper respiratory infection, influenza, croup, respiratory syncytial virus, bronchitis, bronchiolitis and pneumonia.