The Claims:

1. A method for quantification of carbohydrates in an aqueous sample, said method comprising the steps of:

a. admixing sulphuric acid and 2-Phenoxyethanol with an aqueous sample containing carbohydrates to obtain a reaction mixture;
b. incubating the reaction mixture to form a coloured complex; and
c. measuring the absorbance of the coloured complex to quantify the amount of carbohydrate present in the aqueous sample.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the absorbance of the coloured complex is measured at a wavelength ranging from about 490 nm to 510 nm.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the quantity of carbohydrate in the sample is proportional to the measured absorbance of the coloured complex.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the said carbohydrate is selected from a group ~~comprising~~ consisting of monosaccharides, disaccharides, polysaccharides, uronic acids, hexosamines, their derivatives and combinations thereof.

5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the polysaccharide is selected from a group ~~comprising~~ consisting of Pneumococcal polysaccharides, Meningococcal polysaccharides, VI polysaccharide, O2 polysaccharide and the like.

6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the volume of the sulphuric acid ranges from about 1 to about 3 times the volume of the aqueous sample.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the concentration of 2-Phenoxyethanol in the reaction mixture ranges from about 0.1% v/v to 2.5% v/v.

8. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction mixture is incubated at a temperature ranging from about 80°C to 110°C for the development of coloured complex.

9. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction mixture is incubated for a duration ranging from about 1 minute to about 10 minutes for the development of the coloured complex.

10. A kit for quantifying carbohydrates in an aqueous sample essentially comprising sulphuric acid, and 2-Phenoxyethanol ~~and a combination thereof~~.

11. Use of 2-Phenoxyethanol in a method for quantification of carbohydrates in an aqueous sample, wherein the said method comprises the steps of:

a. admixing sulphuric acid and 2-Phenoxyethanol with an aqueous sample containing carbohydrates to obtain a reaction mixture;
b. incubating the reaction mixture to form a coloured complex; and
c. measuring the absorbance of the coloured complex to quantify the amount of carbohydrate present in the aqueous sample.

12. Use of 2-Phenoxyethanol according to claim 11, wherein said carbohydrate is selected from a group ~~comprising~~ consisting of monosaccharides, disaccharides, polysaccharides, uronic acids, hexosamines, their derivatives and combinations thereof.

13. 2-Phenoxyethanol for use in quantification of carbohydrates selected from the group consisting of monosaccharides, disaccharides, polysaccharides, uronic acids, hexosamines, their derivatives in an aqueous sample.

~~14. 2-Phenoxyethanol for use in the quantification of carbohydrates in a sample according to claim 12, wherein said carbohydrate is selected from a group comprising monosaccharides, disaccharides, polysaccharides, uronic acids, hexosamines, their derivatives and combinations thereof.~~

14. The method as claimed in any one of the previous claims, wherein the aqueous sample comprises of monovalent or multivalent glycoconjugates.

15. The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the glycoconjugates comprise of polysaccharides from one or more *Streptococcus pneumoniae* serotypes selected from group comprising of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, 6C, 7F, 8, 9N. 9V, 10A, 1 1A, 12F, 14, 15A, 15B, 15C, 16F, 17F, 18C, 19F, 19A, 20A, 20B, 22R 23A, 23B, 23F, 24B, 24F, 31, 33F, 34, 35B, 35F, 38, 39 and 45.