CLAIMS

1. An engineered microbial cell comprising:

   nucleic acid encoding a first exogenous polypeptide and a second exogenous polypeptide;

   wherein the first exogeneous polypeptide is a uric acid degrading polypeptide; and

   wherein the second exogenous polypeptide is a uric acid transporter which transports uric acid into the microbial cell.

2. The engineered microbial cell of claim 1,

   wherein the uric acid transporter comprises at least 95% identity with the full length of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 9-18.

3. The engineered microbial cell of claim 1,

   wherein the microbial cell is a fungal cell.

4. The engineered microbial cell of claim 1,

   wherein the uric acid degrading polypeptide is a uricase.

5. The engineered microbial cell of claim 4,

   wherein the uricase is a fungal uricase.

6. The engineered microbial cell of claim 4,

   wherein the uricase comprises at least 95% identity to the full length of one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-8.

7. The engineered microbial cell of claim 4,

wherein the uricase is a bacterial uricase.

8. The engineered microbial cell of claim 4,

wherein the uricase is a mutant uricase, a chimeric uricase, and/or an overexpression variant of the uricase.

9. The engineered microbial cell of any one of claims 1-8 for use as a medicament.

10. The engineered microbial cell of any one of claims 1-8 for use in lowering uric acid in the gastrointestinal tract of a recipient.

11. The engineered microbial cell for using according to claim 10, wherein the engineered microbial cell is orally administered to the recipient.

12. The engineered microbial cell for using according to claim 11, wherein the recipient suffers from a condition selected from the group consisting of: gout, rheumatoid arthritis, cerebral stroke, heart disease, arrhythmia, chronic renal disease, and chronic refractory gout.

13. The engineered microbial cell for using according to claim 11, wherein the amount of engineered microbial cells administered is approximately 10^9 cells.

14. The engineered microbial cell for using according to claim 11, wherein the recipient suffers from chronic refractory gout.

15. The engineered microbial cell for using according to claim 11, wherein orally administering populates the gastrointestinal tract of the recipient with the engineered microbial cell.

16. The engineered microbial cell for using according to claim 11, wherein the recipient is administered 10^6 to 10^12 of the engineered microbial cell.

17. Use of the engineered microbial cell of any one of claims 1-8, in the manufacture of a medicament for lowering uric acid in the gastrointestinal tract of a recipient.

18. An engineered microbial cell, the cell comprising:

a first nucleic acid encoding a uric acid degrading polypeptide operatively linked to a heterologous constitutive promoter; and

a second nucleic acid encoding a uric acid transporter operatively linked to a heterologous promoter, wherein the uric acid transporter transports uric acid into the engineered microbial cell; wherein the engineered microbial cell has increased uric acid degrading activity and has increased uric acid uptake activity as compared to an otherwise identical non-engineered microbial cell that does not comprise the first and second nucleic acids.