CLAIMS:

~~1. A method of treating a subject having an alphavirus infection comprising administering parenterally by intra-articular or intra-muscular injection an amount of pentosan polysulfate or a salt thereof effective to reduce alphavirus induced inflammation and/or alphavirus induced cartilage damage in the subject.~~

~~2. The method of claim 1 wherein the inflammation is in the joints and/or muscles.~~

~~3. The method of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the joints.~~

~~4. The method of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the muscles.~~

~~5. The method of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the joints and the muscles.~~

~~6. The method of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the alphavirus is selected from the group consisting of Ross River virus, chikungunya virus and Barmah Forest virus.~~

~~7. The method of claim 6 wherein the virus is Ross River virus.~~

~~8. The method of claim 6 wherein the virus is chikungunya virus.~~

~~9. The method of claim 6 wherein the virus is Barmah Forest virus.~~

~~10. The method of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein administration is intra-articular.~~

~~11. The method of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein administration is intra-muscular.~~

~~12. The method of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the pentosan polysulfate is the sodium salt.~~

~~13. The method of any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein administration is daily.~~

~~14. The method of any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein administration is twice daily.~~

~~15. The method of any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein the amount administered is within the range of from 0.5 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.~~

~~16. The method of claim 15 wherein the amount is within the range of from 1.0 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.~~

~~17. The method of claim 16 wherein the amount is within the range of from 2.0 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.~~

~~18. The method of any one of claims 1 to 17 wherein the subject is a human.~~

~~19~~1. Use of a parenteral composition of pentosan polysulfate or a salt thereof in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of alphavirus induced inflammation and/or to reduce alphavirus induced cartilage damage in a subject having an alphavirus infection.

2. The use of claim 1 wherein the inflammation is in the joints and/or muscles.

3. The use of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the joints.

4. The use of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the muscles.

5. The use of claim 2 wherein the inflammation is in the joints and the muscles.

6. The use of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the alphavirus is selected from the group consisting of Ross River virus, chikungunya virus and Barmah Forest virus.

7. The use of claim 6 wherein the virus is Ross River virus.

8. The use of claim 6 wherein the virus is chikungunya virus.

9. The use of claim 6 wherein the virus is Barmah Forest virus.

10. The use of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the medicament is to be administered intra-articularly.

11. The use of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the medicament is to be administered intra-muscularly.

12. The use of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the pentosan polysulfate is the sodium salt.

13. The use of any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the medicament is to be administered daily.

14. The use of any one of claims 1 to 12 wherein the medicament is to be administered twice daily.

15. The use of any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein the amount of the medicament to be administered is within the range of from 0.5 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.

16. The use of claim 15 wherein the amount is within the range of from 1.0 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.

17. The use of claim 16 wherein the amount is within the range of from 2.0 to 5.0 mg/kg body weight of subject.

18. The use of any one of claims 1 to 17 wherein the medicament is to be administered to a human subject.

~~20. A parenteral composition comprising pentosan polysulfate and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier when used in treating alphavirus induced inflammation and/or to reducing alphavirus induced cartilage damage in a subject having an alphavirus infection.~~