Claims

[Claim 1] An aqueous composition comprising 0.001 - 0.1 % (w/v) atropine or a salt thereof, a water-soluble polymer, and buffer (I), which is at a pH range of 6 or lower, wherein the buffer (I) is at least one selected from the group consisting of a phosphate buffer, an aminocarboxylate buffer, a carbonate buffer, an acetate buffer, a tartrate buffer, a borate buffer, and trometamol.

[Claim 2] The aqueous composition of claim 1, wherein the buffer (I) is at least one selected from the group consisting of a phosphate buffer, an aminocarboxylate buffer, a carbonate buffer, and an acetate buffer.

[Claim 3] The aqueous composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein the buffer (I) is a phosphate buffer.

[Claim 4] The aqueous composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein the aminocarboxylate buffer is at least one selected from the group consisting of epsilon-aminocaproic acid, a glutamate buffer, and an aspartate buffer.

[Claim 5] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein
the phosphate buffer is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of dibasic sodium phosphate hydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate monohydrate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate, potassium dihydrogen phosphate, sodium monohydrogen phosphate heptahydrate, trisodium phosphate, and dipotassium phosphate,
the carbonate buffer is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of carbonic acid, sodium bicarbonate, sodium carbonate, ammonium carbonate, potassium carbonate, calcium carbonate, potassium bicarbonate, and magnesium carbonate,
the acetate buffer is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, ammonium acetate, potassium acetate, calcium acetate, and sodium acetate,
the tartrate buffer is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of sodium tartrate and potassium tartrate,
the borate buffer is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of boric acid, sodium borate, potassium borate, potassium tetraborate, potassium metaborate, ammonium borate, and borax,
the glutamate buffer is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of glutamic acid, sodium glutamate and potassium

glutamate, and/or
the aspartate buffer is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of aspartic acid, sodium aspartate and magnesium aspartate.

[Claim 6] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5, further comprising a citrate buffer as buffer (II).

[Claim 7] The aqueous composition of claim 6 wherein the citrate buffer is derived from at least one selected from the group consisting of citric acid hydrate, sodium citrate, sodium citrate hydrate, potassium citrate, calcium citrate, sodium dihydrogen citrate, and disodium citrate.

[Claim 8] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the water-soluble polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of a cellulose derivative, carboxyvinyl polymer and sodium alginate.

[Claim 9] The aqueous composition of claim 8, wherein the cellulose derivative is at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl methyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, hypromellose acetate succinate, hypromellose phthalate, carboxymethylethyl cellulose, and cellulose acetate phthalate.

[Claim 10] The aqueous composition of claim 8 or 9, wherein the cellulose derivative is at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose and hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

[Claim 11] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 8 to 10, wherein the cellulose derivative is hydroxyethyl cellulose.

[Claim 12] An aqueous composition comprising 0.001 - 0.1 % (w/v) atropine or a salt thereof, hydroxyethyl cellulose, and buffer (I), which is at a pH range of 6 or lower, wherein the buffer (I) is a phosphate buffer.

[Claim 13] The aqueous composition of claim 12, further comprising a citrate buffer as buffer (II).

[Claim 14] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 13, which comprises less than 50 ppm benzalkonium chloride.

[Claim 15] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 14, which does not substantially comprise benzalkonium chloride.

[Claim 16] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 15, further comprising a nonionic tonicity agent.

[Claim 17] The aqueous composition of claim 16, wherein the nonionic tonicity

agent is at least one selected from the group consisting of glycerin, mannitol, propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, glucose, sorbitol, xylitol and trehalose.

[Claim 18] The aqueous composition of claim 16 or 17, wherein the nonionic tonicity agent is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of glycerin and mannitol.

[Claim 19] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 16 to 18, wherein the nonionic tonicity agent is glycerin.

[Claim 20] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 19, wherein the concentration of the buffer is 0.001 - 10 % (w/v).

[Claim 21] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 6 to 11 and 13 to 20, wherein the concentration of citrate buffer is 0.001 - 1.0 % (w/v).

[Claim 22] The aqueous composition of claim 21, wherein the concentration of citrate buffer is 0.01 - 0.05 % (w/v).

[Claim 23] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 22, wherein the concentration of the water-soluble polymer is 0.01 - 5 % (w/v).

[Claim 24] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 16 to 23, wherein the concentration of the nonionic tonicity agent is 0.01 to 10 % (w/v).

[Claim 25] An aqueous composition comprising 0.001 - 0.1 % (w/v) atropine or a salt thereof, a water-soluble polymer, and a buffer, which is at a pH range of less than 5.

[Claim 26] The aqueous composition of claim 25, wherein the buffer is at least one selected from the group consisting of a phosphate buffer, a citrate buffer, an aminocarboxylate buffer, a carbonate buffer, an acetate buffer, a tartrate buffer, a borate buffer, and trometamol.

[Claim 27] The aqueous composition of claim 25 or 26, wherein the buffer is a citrate buffer.

[Claim 28] An aqueous composition comprising 0.001 - 0.1 % (w/v) atropine or a salt thereof, and a phosphate buffer, which is at pH range of 6 or lower.

[Claim 29] The aqueous composition of claim 28, further comprising a water-soluble polymer.

[Claim 30] The aqueous composition of claim 29, wherein the water-soluble polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl cellulose, carboxyvinyl polymer, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, and sodium alginate.

[Claim 31] The aqueous composition according to claim 29 or 30, wherein the

water-soluble polymer is hydroxyethyl cellulose.

[Claim 32] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 24 and 28 to 31, which is at a pH range of 4 - 6.

[Claim 33] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 32, wherein the concentration of phosphate buffer is 0.01 - 1.0 % (w/v).

[Claim 34] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 33, wherein the concentration of the atropine or a salt thereof is 0.001 to 0.025% (w/v).

[Claim 35] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 34, wherein the concentration of the atropine or a salt thereof is 0.001 to 0.01% (w/v).

[Claim 36] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 35, wherein the atropine or a salt thereof is atropine sulfate or a hydrate thereof.

[Claim 37] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 36, which is enclosed in a unit-dose container.

[Claim 38] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 37, wherein the aqueous composition is an eyedrop.

[Claim 39] The aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 38, for inhibiting and/or preventing progression of myopia.

[Claim 40] Use of an aqueous composition according to any one of claims 1 to 38 in the preparation of a medicament to inhibit and/or preventing the progression of myopia.

[Claim 41] A method for inhibiting the viscosity reduction of an aqueous composition comprising 0.001 - 0.1 % (w/v) atropine or a salt thereof and a water-soluble polymer which is at a pH range of 6 or lower, by adding a nonionic tonicity agent thereto.

[Claim 42] A method for stabilizing atropine or a salt thereof in an aqueous composition comprising 0.001 - 0.1 % (w/v) atropine or a salt thereof and a water-soluble polymer which is at a pH range of 6 or lower, by adding a nonionic tonicity agent thereto.