CLAIMS

1. A method for releasing capsular polysaccharide from *S.aureus* type 5 or type 8 cells, comprising the step of treating the cells with acid.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the cells are *S.aureus* type 5 cells.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the cells are *S.aureus* type 8 cells.

4. The method according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the cells are in the form of a wet cell paste or are suspended in an aqueous medium.

5. The method according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the acid treatment is carried out using acetic acid.

6. The method according to any one of claims 1-5, wherein the acid treatment results in the capsular polysaccharide having a degree of O-acetylation between 60-100%.

7. The method according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein the method further comprises a step of neutralisation.

8. The method according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein the method further comprises a step of centrifugation of the cells and collection of the polysaccharide-containing supernatant.

9. A process for purifying capsular polysaccharide from *S.aureus* type 5 or type 8 cells comprising the method according to any one of claims 1-8.

10. The process according to claim 9, wherein the process further comprises a step of treatment of the capsular polysaccharide with DNase and/or RNase.

11. The process according to claim 9 or claim 10, wherein the process further comprises a step of treatment of the capsular polysaccharide with mutanolysin.

12. The process according to any one of claims 9-11, wherein the process further comprises a step of diafiltration.

13. The process according to claim 12, wherein the diafiltration is tangential flow filtration.

14. The process according to any one of claims 9-13, wherein the process further comprises a step of anion exchange chromatography.

15. The process according to any one of claims 9-14, wherein the process further comprises a step of gel filtration.

16. The process according to any one of claims 9-15, wherein the process further comprises a step of concentration of the polysaccharide.

17. The process according to any one of claims 9-16, wherein the molecular mass of the purified polysaccharide is between 2-3500 kDa.

18. The process according to any one of claims 9-17, wherein the process further comprises a step of depolymerisation of the purified polysaccharide to form an oligosaccharide.

19. The process according to any one of claims 9-18, wherein the process further comprises a step of sterile filtration.

20. The process according to any one of claims 9-19, wherein the process provides a composition comprising the polysaccharide and a level of peptidoglycan contamination that is less than 5% by weight peptidoglycan relative to the total weight of the polysaccharide.

21. The process according to claim 20, wherein the level of peptidoglycan contamination is about 2%.

22. The process according to any one of claims 9-21, wherein the process provides a composition comprising the polysaccharide and a level of protein contamination that is less than 5% by weight protein relative to the total weight of the polysaccharide.

23. The process according to any one of claims 9-22, wherein the process provides a composition comprising the polysaccharide and a level of nucleic acid contamination that is less than 1% by weight nucleic acid relative to the total weight of the polysaccharide.

24. The process according to any one of claims 9-23, wherein the process further comprises a step of conjugation to a carrier molecule.

25. A composition comprising a *S.aureus* type 5 or type 8 capsular polysaccharide obtainable by the process according to any one of claims 9-23 or a conjugate obtainable by the process of claim 24.

26. The composition of claim 25 further comprising one or more *S.aureus* protein antigen(s) selected from the group consisting of a clfA antigen; a clfB antigen; a sdrE2 antigen; a sdrC antigen; a sasF antigen; a emp antigen; a sdrD antigen; a spa antigen; a esaC antigen; a esxA antigen; a esxB antigen; a sta006 antigen; a isdC antigen; a Hla antigen; a sta011 antigen; a isdA antigen; a isdB antigen; and a sta073 antigen.

27. The composition of claim 26, wherein the one or more *S.aureus* protein antigen(s) are selected from the group consisting of a esxA antigen; a esxB antigen; a sta006 antigen; a Hla antigen; a sta011 antigen; and a sta073 antigen.

28. The composition of claim 27, wherein the composition comprises *S.aureus* protein antigens according to one of combinations (1) to (10) below:

(1) a esxA antigen, a esxB antigen, a sta006 antigen and a Hla antigen;

(2) a esxA antigen, a esxB antigen, a sta006 antigen and a sta011 antigen;

(3) a esxA antigen, a esxB antigen and a sta011 antigen;

(4) a esxA antigen, a esxB antigen, a Hla antigen, a sta006 antigen and a sta011 antigen;

(5) a esxA antigen, a esxB antigen and a Hla antigen;

(6) a Hla antigen, a sta006 antigen and a sta011 antigen;

(7) a esxA antigen and a esxB antigen;

(8) a esxA antigen, a esxB antigen and a sta006 antigen;

(9) a esxA antigen, a esxB antigen, a sta011 antigen and a sta073 antigen; and

(10) a sta006 antigen and a sta011 antigen.

CLAIMS

1. An invention not claimed in any divisional application.