Claims

1. A composition comprising at least one bacterial strain comprising bile acid deconjugation activity and~~/or~~ 7-epimerization activity, ~~for use in a method of treating or reducing the risk of intrahepatic cholestasis in a subject, wherein said intrahepatic cholestasis comprises intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy,~~ wherein:

(i) the at least one bacterial strain comprises bile acid deconjugation activity and 7-epimerization activity;

(ii) the at least one bacterial strain comprises at least two bacterial strains, the at least two bacterial strains comprising

(a) a first bacterial strain comprising bile acid deconjugation activity, and

(b) a second bacterial strain comprising 7-epimerization activity; or

(iii) the at least one bacterial strain comprises at least three bacterial strains, the at least three bacterial strains comprising

(c) a first bacterial strain comprising bile acid deconjugation activity,

(d) a second bacterial strain comprising 7α-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase (HSDH) activity, and

(e) a third bacterial strain comprising 7β-HSDH activity.

wherein said composition reduces the enterohepatic recirculation of bile acid and thereby reduces the total bile acid pool in the subject at risk for having or having intrahepatic cholestasis of pregnancy.

2. The composition for use of claim 1, wherein:

the first bacterial strain recited in part (ii) is *Bifidobacterium*, preferably *Bifidobacterium longum*, more preferably *Bifidobacterium longum* ATCC BAA-999;

the second bacterial strain recited in part (ii) is *Clostridium*, preferably *Clostridium baratii*, more preferably *Clostridium baratii* ATCC 27638;

the first bacterial strain recited in part (iii) is *Bifidobacterium*, preferably *Bifidobacterium longum*, more preferably *Bifidobacterium longum* ATC BAA-999;

the second bacterial strain recited in part (iii) is *Bacteroides*, preferably *Bacteroides fragilis* and/or *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron*, more preferably *Bacteroides fragilis* ATCC 25285 and/or *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron* DSM 2079; and/or

the third bacterial strain recited in part (iii) is *Collinsella*, preferably *Collinsella aerofaciens*, more preferably *Collinsella aerofaciens* ATCC 25986.

3. The composition for use of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the composition further comprises at least one bacterial strain comprising sulfate reducing activity, preferably wherein said strain is a ~~the bacterial strain comprising sulfate reducing activity is~~ *Desulfovibrio strain*, more preferably *Desulfovibrio piger*, more preferably *Desulfovibrio piger* DSM 32187.

4. The composition for use of any one of claims 1 to 3,

wherein the composition comprises *Bifidobacterium longum* ATCC BAA-999, *Bacteroides fragilis* ATCC 25285, and *Collinsella aerofaciens* ATCC 25986; or

wherein the composition comprises *Bifidobacterium longum* ATCC BAA-999, *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron* DSM 2079, and *Collinsella aerofaciens* ATCC 25986; or

wherein the composition comprises *Bifidobacterium longum* ATCC BAA-999, and *Clostridium baratii* ATCC 27638; or

wherein the composition comprises *Bifidobacterium longum* ATCC BAA-999, *Bacteroides fragilis* ATCC 25285, *Collinsella aerofaciens* ATCC 25986, and *Desulfovibrio piger* DSM 32187; or

wherein the composition comprises *Bifidobacterium longum* ATCC BAA-999, *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron* DSM 2079, *Collinsella aerofaciens* ATCC 25986 and *Desulfovibrio piger* DSM 32187; or

wherein the composition comprises *Bifidobacterium longum* ATCC BAA-999, *Clostridium baratii* ATCC 27638 and *Desulfovibrio piger* DSM 32187.

5. The composition for use of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein said use further comprises a prebiotic.

6. The composition for use of claim 5, wherein the prebiotic is inulin.

7. The composition for use of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the subject is a mammal, preferably the subject is a human.

8. The composition for use of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein said use comprises treating or reducing the risk of pruritis in the subject.