CLAIMS

1. Use of a composition comprising a bacterial strain of the genus *Blautia*, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a central nervous system disorder or condition selected from the group consisting of: a neurodevelopmental disorder; a neuropsychiatric condition; autism spectrum disorders (ASDs); child developmental disorder; obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD); major depressive disorder; depression; seasonal affective disorder; chronic fatigue syndrome (myalgic encephalomyelitis); stress disorder; post-traumatic stress disorder; schizophrenia spectrum disorders; schizophrenia; bipolar disorder; psychosis; mood disorder; dementia; Alzheimer's; Parkinson's disease; chronic pain; motor neuron disease; Huntington's disease; Guillain Barre syndrome and meningitis, wherein the neuropsychiatric condition is not an anxiety disorder.

2. The use according to claim 1, wherein:
the central nervous system disorder or condition is mediated by the microbiota-gut-brain axis; or the medicament is for treating or preventing autism spectrum disorder.

3. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the medicament is for preventing, reducing or alleviating stereotyped, repetitive, compulsive and/or anxious behaviour.

4. The use according to claim 1, wherein the medicament is for treating or preventing:
a. obsessive compulsive disorder;
b. major depressive disorder; or
c. a neurocognitive disorder.

5. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the medicament is for modulating the microbiota-gut-brain axis.

6. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein:
a. the bacterial strain is of *Blautia stercoris*;
b. the bacterial strain is of *Blautia wexlerae*; or
c. the bacterial strain is of *Blautia hydrogenotrophica*.

7. The use according to any of claims 1-6, wherein the bacterial strain has a 16s rRNA sequence that:

a. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to the 16s rRNA sequence of a bacterial strain of *Blautia stercoris*;

b. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:1 or 2;

c. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to the 16s rRNA sequence of a bacterial strain of *Blautia wexlerae*;

d. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:3 or 4;

e. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to the 16s rRNA sequence of a bacterial strain of *Blautia hydrogenotrophica*; or

f. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:7.

8. The use according to claim 1, wherein the medicament comprises:

a. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia stercoris*, for use in a method of treating or preventing autism spectrum disorder;

b. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia stercoris*, for treating or preventing obsessive compulsive disorder;

c. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia stercoris*, for treating or preventing major depressive disorder; or

d. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia stercoris*, for treating or preventing neurocognitive disorders.

9. The use according to claim 1, wherein the medicament comprises:

a. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia wexlerae*, for treating or preventing autism spectrum disorder;

b. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia wexlerae*, for treating or preventing obsessive compulsive disorder;

c. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia wexlerae*, for treating or preventing major depressive disorder; or

d. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia wexlerae*, for treating or preventing neurocognitive disorders.

10. The use according to claim 1, wherein the medicament comprises:

a. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia hydrogenotrophica*, for treating or preventing autism spectrum disorder;

b. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia hydrogenotrophica*, for treating or preventing major depressive disorder; or

c. a bacterial strain of the species *Blautia hydrogenotrophica*, for treating or preventing neurocognitive disorders.

11. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the bacterial strain:

a. is of *Blautia hydrogenotrophica*;

b. has a 16s rRNA sequence that is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to the 16s rRNA sequence of a bacterial strain of *Blautia hydrogenotrophica*; or

c. has a 16s rRNA sequence that is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:7; wherein the bacterial strain increases the level of butyrate.

12. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein:

a. the medicament is for oral administration;

b. the medicament comprises one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients or carriers;

c. the bacterial strain is lyophilised; and/or

d. the bacterial strain is viable and capable of partially or totally colonising the intestine.

13. The use according to any preceding claim, wherein the medicament comprises a single strain of *Blautia*; or the medicament comprises the *Blautia* bacterial strain as part of a microbial consortium.

14. The use of any preceding claim, wherein the medicament is incorporated into a food product.

15. A cell of the *Blautia stercoris* strain deposited under accession number NCIMB 42381 for the use of any of claims 1-5 and 12-14.

16. A cell of the *Blautia wexlerae* strain deposited under accession number NCIMB 42486 for the use of any of claims 1-5 and 12-14.

17. A composition comprising the cell of any one of claims 15 or 16 for the use of any of claims 1-5 and 12-14.

18. The composition of claim 17 or claim 18, comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

19. A composition comprising a bacterial strain of the genus *Blautia*, for use in a method of treating or preventing a central nervous system disorder or condition selected from the group consisting of: a neurodevelopmental disorder; a neuropsychiatric condition; autism spectrum disorders (ASDs); child developmental disorder; obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD); major depressive disorder; depression; seasonal affective disorder; chronic fatigue syndrome myalgic encephalomyelitis); stress disorder; post-traumatic stress disorder; schizophrenia spectrum disorders; schizophrenia; bipolar disorder; psychosis; mood disorder; dementia; Alzheimer's; Parkinson's disease; chronic pain; motor neuron disease; Huntington's disease; Guillain Barre syndrome and meningitis, wherein the neuropsychiatric condition is not an anxiety disorder and wherein the bacterial strain has a 16s rRNA sequence that:

a. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to the 16s rRNA sequence of a bacterial strain of *Blautia stercoris*;

b. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:1 or 2;

c. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to the 16s rRNA sequence of a bacterial strain of *Blautia wexlerae*;

d. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:3 or 4;

e. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to the 16s rRNA sequence of a bacterial strain of *Blautia hydrogenotrophica*; or

f. is at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, 99.5% or 99.9% identical to SEQ ID NO:7.