CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A oral care composition comprising:

   (a) a hydrophilic film-forming polymer; and

   (b) a hydrophobic carrier,

   wherein the polymer is effective to occlude dentinal tubules and the oral care composition contains less than 10 wt.% water,

   wherein the hydrophilic film-forming polymer constitutes 2-5 wt.% of the oral care composition and is an acid form of a copolymer of maleic anhydride,

   wherein the hydrophobic carrier constitutes 55-85wt% of the oral compositions, and

   wherein the oral care compositions further comprises a polyphosphate.

2. The oral care composition of claim 1, wherein the oral care composition contains less than 1 wt.% water.

3. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the hydrophobic carrier comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of an oil, a wax and silicone.

4. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the hydrophobic carrier comprises vegetable oil and/or silicone oil.

5. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the hydrophobic carrier comprises a C6 to C12 triglyceride.

6. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the polyphosphate is at least one member selected from the group consisting of Tetra Potassium Pyrophosphate (TKPP) and Tetra Sodium Pyrophosphate (TSPP).

7. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the polyphosphate constitutes 1-7 wt.% of the oral care composition.

8. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the oral care composition is free of potassium salts.

9. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the oral care composition is free of guanidines.

10. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, having a flow reduction greater than 60% as measured with a flow-meter attached to a Pashley's cell.

11. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the oral care composition further comprises 5-25 wt.% of a flavoring agent and 0.1-5 wt.% of a sweetening agent.

12. The oral care composition of any of claims 1-10, wherein the oral care composition further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of an abrasive, an anti-bacterial agent, a foaming agent, a whitening agent, an anti-calculus agent, a tartar control agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, an anticaries agent, a flavoring agent, a sweetening agent and a colorant.

13. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the oral care composition is encapsulated within a capsule comprising gelatin.

14. The oral care composition of any of claims 1-12, wherein the oral care composition is a solid at 21°C.

15. The oral care composition of any of claims 1-8, wherein the oral care composition additionally comprises arginine.

16. Use of the oral care composition of any preceding claim in the manufacture of a medicament for cleaning teeth such that the hydrophilic film-forming polymer occludes dentinal tubules.

17. A toothbrush comprising:
a handle;
a head mounted to the handle, the head comprising an outer surface and a plurality of tooth cleaning elements extending outwardly from the outer surface; and
a gelatin capsule containing the oral care composition of any of claims 1 to 12 positioned on the head.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A oral care composition comprising:
   (a) a hydrophilic film-forming polymer ; and
   (b) a hydrophobic carrier,
   wherein the polymer is effective to occlude dentinal tubules and the oral care composition contains less than 10 wt.% water,
   wherein the hydrophilic film-forming polymer is an acid form of a copolymer of maleic anhydride,
   wherein the hydrophobic carrier constitutes 55-85wt% of the oral compositions, and
   wherein the oral care compositions further comprises a polyphosphate.
2. The oral care composition of claim 1, wherein the oral care composition contains less than 1 wt.% water.
3. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the hydrophilic film-forming polymer constitutes 2-5 wt.% of the oral care composition.
4. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the hydrophobic carrier comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of an oil, a wax and silicone.
5. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the hydrophobic carrier comprises vegetable oil and/or silicone oil.
6. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the hydrophobic carrier comprises a C6 to C12 triglyceride.
7. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the polyphosphate is at least one member selected from the group consisting of Tetra Potassium Pyrophosphate (TKPP) and Tetra Sodium Pyrophosphate (TSPP).
8. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the polyphosphate constitutes 1-7 wt.% of the oral care composition.
9. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the oral care composition is free of potassium salts.

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10. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the oral care composition is free of guanidines.

11. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, having a flow reduction greater than 60% as measured with a flow-meter attached to a Pashley's cell.

12. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the oral care composition further comprises 5-25 wt.% of a flavoring agent and 0.1-5 wt.% of a sweetening agent.

13. The oral care composition of any of claims 1-11, wherein the oral care composition further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of an abrasive, an anti-bacterial agent, a foaming agent, a whitening agent, an anti-calculus agent, a tartar control agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, an anticaries agent, a flavoring agent, a sweetening agent and a colorant.

14. The oral care composition of any preceding claim, wherein the oral care composition is encapsulated within a capsule comprising gelatin.

15. The oral care composition of any of claims 1-13, wherein the oral care composition is a solid at 21°C.

16. The oral care composition of any of claims 1-9, wherein the oral care composition additionally comprises arginine.

17. A method of cleaning teeth comprising applying to the teeth the oral care composition of any preceding claim such that the hydrophilic film-forming polymer occludes dentinal tubules.

18. A toothbrush comprising:
a handle;
a head mounted to the handle, the head comprising an outer surface and a plurality of tooth cleaning elements extending outwardly from the outer surface; and
a gelatin capsule containing the oral care composition of any of claims 1 to 13 positioned on the head.

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