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(54) Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR IMPROVED ORAL HEALTH

(57) Abstract: Compositions and methods for preventing and treating illnesses associated with oral health are provided. In a general embodiment, the compositions and methods of the present disclosure can improve oral health by reducing the incidence of aspiration pneumonia, community-acquired pneumonia and nosocomial pneumonia, allowing for less gingivitis and plaque, and providing improved tongue flora. By utilizing probiotics naturally present in the oral cavity or gastrointestinal tract, the compositions and methods in embodiments of the present disclosure can reduce anaerobic gram-negative bacilli and increase the presence of the normal flora. By preventing and treating problems associated with oral health in a patient, subsequent health problems can be prevented or mitigated, which can result in reduced health care costs for the patient in the future.

WO 2010/077795 A3