WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A placental extracellular matrix (ECM) composition comprising 35-55% collagen by dry weight and 10-30% elastin by dry weight.

2. The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition comprises less than 0.1% fibronectin.

3. The composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein said composition comprises an undetectable amount of laminin.

4. The composition of any one of claims 1-3, wherein said composition comprises an undetectable amount of glycosaminoglycans.

5. The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition comprises less than 0.1% fibronectin, an undetectable amount of laminin, and an undetectable amount of glycosaminoglycans.

6. A placental ECM composition comprising 40-70% collagen by dry weight and 15-25% elastin by dry weight.

7. The composition of claim 6, wherein said composition comprises less than 0.1% fibronectin by dry weight.

8. The composition of claim 6 or 7, wherein said composition comprises less than 0.1% laminin by dry weight.

9. The composition of any one of claims 6-8, wherein said composition comprises less than 0.1% glycosaminoglycans by dry weight.

10. The composition of any one of claims 6-9, wherein said composition comprises an undetectable amount of cytokines, growth factors or deoxycholic acid.

11. The composition of claim 6, wherein said composition comprises less than 0.1% fibronectin by dry weight, less than about 0.1% laminin by dry weight, less than 0.1% glycosaminoglycans by dry weight, and an undetectable amount of cytokines, growth factors or deoxycholic acid.

12. The composition of claim 11, wherein said placental ECM is human placental ECM.

13. The composition of any one of claims 1-12, wherein said composition is formulated as a sheet.

14. The composition of claim 13, wherein said sheet is 1.5 to 2.5 mm thick.

15. The composition of any one of claims 1-12, wherein said composition is formulated as a particulate.

16. The composition of any one of claims 1-12, wherein said composition is formulated as a flowable matrix.

17. A method of preparing an ECM composition according to any one of claims 1-5, comprising:

(i) removing the amnion, chorion, and umbilical cord from a placenta;

(ii) placing the remaining placental tissue in a solution comprising 1 M NaCl;

(iii) homogenizing the placental tissue;

(iv) contacting the placental tissue with a solution comprising 2% sodium deoxycholate;

(v) washing the placental tissue with water;

(vi) contacting the placental tissue with a solution comprising 1M sodium hydroxide;

(vii) bringing the solution comprising the placental tissue to a neutral pH; and

(viii) collecting the placental tissue.

18. A method of preparing an ECM composition according to any one of claims 6-11, comprising:

(i) obtaining the chorion from a placenta;

(ii) scraping and cleaning the chorion;

(iii) placing the chorion tissue in solution comprising 0.5 M NaCl;

(iv) contacting the chorion with a solution comprising 2% deoxycholic acid or sodium deoxycholate;

(v) rinsing the chorion with water; and

(vi) grinding and freeze drying.

19. A method of preparing an ECM composition according to any one of claims 6-11 comprising:

(i) obtaining the chorion from a placenta;

(ii) scraping and cleaning the chorion;

(iii) placing the chorion in a solution comprising 1.0 M NaCl;

(iv) contacting the chorion with a first detergent solution comprising 0.05-0.1% deoxycholic acid or sodium deoxycholate and 3mM-5mM EDTA, following by water rinsing;

(iv) contacting the chorion with a second detergent solution comprising 0.05-0.1% deoxycholic acid or sodium deoxycholate, followed by water rinsing;

(v) and freeze drying.

20. The method of any one of claims 17-19, wherein said placenta is a human placenta.

21. The method of any one of claims 17-20, wherein said composition is formulated as a sheet.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said sheet is 1.5 to 2.5 mm thick.

23. The method of any one of claims 17-20, wherein said composition is formulated as a particulate.

24. The method of any one of claims 17-20, wherein said composition is formulated as a flowable matrix.

25. The use of the extracellular matrix of any one of claims 1-16 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a subject in need of extracellular matrix (ECM),

wherein said subject has an oral lesion, urinary incontinence, vesicoureteral reflux, gastroesophageal reflux disease, a disease, disorder, or abnormality that affects one or both vocal cords and/or the larynx, or glottic incompetence.

26. The use of claim 25, wherein said ECM is to be used as a nerve guide.

27. The use of claim 25, wherein said ECM is to be used as a tendon wrap.

28. The use of claim 25, wherein said ECM is to be used as a dural replacement.

29. A non-surgical method of treating a cosmetic defect in a subject, the method comprising administering to a subject, or contacting a subject with the composition of any one of claims 1 to 16.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein said cosmetic defect is wrinkles, depressions, creases, stretch marks, scars, hollow eyes, or visible vessels resulting in dark circles around the eyes.