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(57) Abstract

A strain of *Lactobacillus salivarius* isolated from resected and washed human gastrointestinal tract inhibits a broad range of Gram positive and Gram negative microorganisms and secretes a product having antimicrobial activity into a cell–free supernatant. The activity is produced only by growing cells and is destroyed by proteinase K and pronase E, the inhibitory properties of the strain and its secretory products being maintained in the presence of physiological concentrations of human bile and human gastric juice. The strain exhibits a broad spectrum of activity against bacteria including *Listeria*, *Staphyloccocus* including methocillin resistant *St. aureus* (MRSA), and *Bacillus*, but does not inhibit many closely related *lactobacilli*. An antimicrobial agent is obtained from the strain which has bacteriocin–like properties.

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CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER CC 6 C12N1/20 A230 A23C9/12 A61K35/74 C12R1/22 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C12N A23C IPC 6 A61K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category Relevant to claim No. χ ARIHARA, K. ET AL.: "Salivacin 140, a 1,2,5-7,10-12 novel bacteriocin from Lactobacillus salivarius subsp. salicinius T140 active against pathogenic bacteria" LETTERS IN APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY, vol. 22, 1996, pages 420-424, XP002072786 cited in the application see page 421, right-hand column, last paragraph - page 423, left-hand column, paragraph 2; tables 1,2 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Χ lχ Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of theinternational search Date of mailing of the international search report 27 July 1998 12/08/1998 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Donath, C Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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