

INDEPENDENT CLAIMS:

1) A method of treating a human patient afflicted with bacterial infection and in need of an antibacterial response, said method consisting essentially of the steps of administering alpha-interferon in a saliva soluble solid dosage form comprising about 0.01 to about 5 IU of interferon/lb of patient body weight per day into the mouth of the human patient, holding the solid dosage form in the patient's mouth for a period of time sufficient to dissolve it and form a saliva solution of the interferon in contact with the patient's oral and pharyngeal mucosa to stimulate an antibacterial response.

2) A method of treating a human patient afflicted with a bacterial infection of antibiotic resistant microorganisms and in need of an antibacterial response, said method consisting essentially of the steps of administering a therapeutic amount of an antibiotic and administering alpha-interferon in a saliva soluble solid dosage form comprising about 0.01 to about 5 IU of interferon/lb of patient body weight per day into the mouth of the human patient holding the solid dosage form in the patient's mouth for a period of time sufficient to dissolve it and form a saliva solution of the interferon in contact with the patient's oral and pharyngeal mucosa to stimulate an antibacterial response.

3) A method of treating a human patient afflicted with bacterial infection and in need of an antibacterial response, said method comprising the steps of administering human alpha-interferon in a saliva soluble lozenge comprising about 0.01 to about 5 IU of interferon/lb of patients body weight into the mouth of the human patient, holding the lozenge in the patients mouth for a period of time sufficient to dissolve it and form a saliva solution of the interferon in contact with the patient's oral and pharyngeal mucosa to stimulate an antibacterial response.