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[54] **ANTICALCULUS DENTIFRICE COMPOSITION CONTAINING HIGHLY SOLUBLE PYROPHOSPHATE**

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[58] **Field of Search** 424/49–58

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An anticalculus dentifrice composition containing an antimicrobially effective amount of an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of thymol, eucalyptol, methyl salicylate and mixtures thereof, and a pyrophosphate ion in an amount from about 0.1% to less than about 1.5% by weight of the composition, the pyrophosphate ion being derived from a highly soluble alkali metal pyrophosphate salt. The composition exhibits both antimicrobial and anticalculus efficacy at low levels of pyrophosphate ion even in the substantial absence of anticalculus enhancing agents.

20 Claims, No Drawings