

Private Company

Aluminum alternatives for antiperspirants

MATERIALS

Background

More and more consumers want deodorants that also reduce the feeling and appearance of wetness from sweat for whole body application (underarms, privates, feet). Antiperspirants, typically containing active compounds like aluminum chloride or aluminum zirconium, have raised concerns due to potential associations between aluminum exposure and health issues.

Potassium aluminum compounds present potential alternatives. Often featured in formulations promoted as natural or "aluminum-free," these compounds boast a nature-derived molecular structure, lower aluminum absorption, and reduced likelihood of causing skin irritation.

In addition to these options, presently available non-aluminum antiperspirants come with their own challenges, including allergenic botanical extracts and essential oils, formulations focusing on odor rather than sweat reduction, and undesirable textures that impact the user experience.

Current natural deodorants & aluminum-free deodorants come with consumer trade-offs, including inferior wetness and odor protection.

As the markets of whole body deodorancy and natural deodorancy continues to grow, we are looking for solutions in this space for underarms and beyond.

What we're looking for

We are looking for technologies and formulations that provide consumer-meaningful wetness reduction for underarms and ideally whole-body application (including feet and privates). We are a consumer products company seeking partnerships from outside companies and experts.

Solutions of interest include:

- Deodorant products of interest include the following: Sprays, sticks, creams, gels, or other forms directly applied to skin.
- Technologies can be integrated in a deodorant product.
- Formulations and/or technologies that are alternatives to aluminum chloride and aluminum zirconium that provide a wetness reduction benefit.

Our must-have requirements are:

- Solution can be applied as a topical formulation.
- Solutions should have technical data showing evidence of sweat reduction via a scientific study.
- Solutions should be non-toxic and should not damage skin.

Our nice-to-have requirements are:

- The ideal solution would be a finished formulation that demonstrates sweat reduction. We are also interested in co-development for materials/ technologies that show proof-of-concept for wetness protection. Partners with research or technologies relevant to sweat reduction are encouraged to apply.
- Compliant with US and Canada regulations (and international equivalents) through 2030

What's out of scope:

- Antiperspirant active compounds cited on US FDA Monograph M019: Antiperspirant Drug Products for Over-the-Counter Human Use are out of scope. (The exception is formulations containing potassium alum)
- Industry-standard, commodity or common in-market solutions (products that do not resolve major tradeoffs of AI-free products today)
- Textiles
- Ingestibles

Acceptable technology readiness levels (TRL):

Levels 4-9

1. Basic principles observed
2. Concept development
3. Experimental proof of concept
4. Validated in lab conditions
5. Validated in relevant environment
6. Demonstrated in relevant environment
7. Regulatory approval
8. Product in production
9. Product in market

What we can offer you

- **Eligible partnership models:**
- **Sponsored research**
- **Co-development**
- **Equity investment**
- **Acquisition**
- **Supply/purchase**
- **Licensing**
- **Material transfer**

Benefits:

Sponsored Research

An accepted proposal could expect support in the range of \$25,000 - \$100,000 USD (milestone dependent). This would be based off level of technology readiness & market viability.

Please contact the University of South Florida Technology Transfer office representative for submission – Roisin McNally at rmcnally@usf.edu