Claims:

1. A D-deoxyribose sugar for use in promoting wound healing wherein the sugar is provided in a carrier and wherein the carrier is a biocompatible matrix material or a hydrogel.

2. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 1, wherein the D-deoxyribose is 2-deoxyribose.

3. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the carrier is a biodegradable carrier.

4. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the matrix material is an electrospun scaffold.

5. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 4, wherein the electrospun scaffold comprises at least one of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolide (PGA), poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) or poly(3-hydroxybutyrate-co-3-hydroxyvalerate) PHBV.

6. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hydrogel is a crosslinked hydrogel.

7. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 1 or claim 6, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least one of chitosan, gelatin, alginate, agarose, methylcellulose, hyaluronan or any combination thereof.

8. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 7, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and collagen.

9. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the hydrogel comprises polyvinyl alcohol, sodium polyacrylate, acrylate polymers or any combination thereof.

10. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any one of claims 6 to 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and polyvinyl alcohol.

11. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the carrier further comprises an antimicrobial agent.

12. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any preceding claim, wherein the wound is a chronic wound.

13. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any preceding claim, wherein the wound is a full thickness wound.

14. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any preceding claim, wherein the wound is a burn injury.

15. A biocompatible matrix material comprising a D-deoxyribose sugar.

16. The biocompatible matrix material according to claim 15, wherein the matrix material is an electrospun scaffold.

17. The biocompatible matrix material according to claim 17, wherein the electrospun scaffold comprises at least one of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolide (PGA), poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) or poly(3-hydroxybutyrate-co-3-hydroxyvalerate) PHBV.

18. A hydrogel comprising a D-deoxyribose sugar.

19. The hydrogel according to claim 18, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least one of chitosan, gelatin, alginate, agarose, methylcellulose, hyaluronan or any combination thereof.

20. The hydrogel according to claim 18 or 19, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and collagen.

21. The hydrogel according to any one of claims 18 to 20, wherein the hydrogel comprises polyvinyl alcohol, sodium polyacrylate, acrylate polymers or any combination thereof.

22. The hydrogel according to any one of claims 18 to 21, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and polyvinyl alcohol.

23. The biocompatible material of any one of claims 15 to 17 for use in promoting wound healing or for use in the treatment of alopecia.

24. The hydrogel of any one of claims 18 to 22 for use in promoting wound healing or for use in the treatment of alopecia.

25. The biocompatible material of any one of claims 15 to 17 for use in a method of increasing or inducing vascularization in a wound bed.

26. The hydrogel of any one of claims 18 to 22 for use in a method of increasing or inducing angiogenesis in a wound bed.

27. A D-deoxyribose sugar for use in the treatment of alopecia wherein the sugar is provided in a carrier and wherein the carrier is a biocompatible matrix material or a hydrogel

28. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 27, wherein the D-deoxyribose is 2-deoxyribose.

29. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 27 or 28, wherein the carrier is a biodegradable carrier.

30. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any one of claims 27 to 29, wherein the matrix material is an electrospun scaffold.

31. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 30, wherein the electrospun scaffold comprises at least one of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolide (PGA), poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) or poly(3-hydroxybutyrate-co-3-hydroxyvalerate) PHBV.

32. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 27 or 28, wherein the hydrogel is a crosslinked hydrogel.

33. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 27 or claim 32, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least one of chitosan, gelatin, alginate, agarose, methylcellulose, hyaluronan or any combination thereof.

34. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 33, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and collagen.

35. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to claim 33 or 34, wherein the hydrogel comprises polyvinyl alcohol, sodium polyacrylate, acrylate polymers or any combination thereof.

36. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any one of claims 32 to 35, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and polyvinyl alcohol.

37. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any one of the claims 27 to 36, wherein the carrier further comprises an antimicrobial agent.

38. A non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth, said method comprising administration of a D-deoxyribose sugar, wherein the sugar is provided in a carrier and wherein the carrier is a biocompatible matrix material or a hydrogel

39. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 38, wherein the D-deoxyribose is 2-deoxyribose.

40. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 38 or 39, wherein the carrier is a biodegradable carrier.

41. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to any one of claims 38 to 40, wherein the matrix material is an electrospun scaffold.

42. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 41, wherein the electrospun scaffold comprises at least one of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolide (PGA), poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) or poly(3-hydroxybutyrate-co-3-hydroxyvalerate) PHBV.

43. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 41 or 42, wherein the hydrogel is a crosslinked hydrogel.

44. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 38 or claim 43, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least one of chitosan, gelatin, alginate, agarose, methylcellulose, hyaluronan or any combination thereof.

45. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 44, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and collagen.

46. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 44 or 45, wherein the hydrogel comprises polyvinyl alcohol, sodium polyacrylate, acrylate polymers or any combination thereof.

47. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to any one of claims 43 to 47, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and polyvinyl alcohol.

48. The D-deoxyribose sugar for use according to any one of the claims 38 to 47, wherein the carrier further comprises an antimicrobial agent.

49. A wound dressing comprising the biocompatible matrix material according to any one of claims 15 to 17.

50. A wound dressing comprising the hydrogel according to any one of claims 18 to 22.

51. Oestradiol for use in promoting wound healing wherein the oestradiol is provided in a carrier and wherein the carrier is a biocompatible matrix material or a hydrogel.

52. Oestradiol for use in for use in the treatment of alopecia wherein the oestradiol is provided in a carrier and wherein the carrier is a biocompatible matrix material or a hydrogel.

53. The Oestradiol for use according to claim 51 or 52, wherein the carrier is a biodegradable carrier.

54. The Oestradiol for use according to any one of claims 51 to 53, wherein the matrix material is an electrospun scaffold.

55. The Oestradiol for use according to claim 54, wherein the electrospun scaffold comprises at least one of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolide (PGA), poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) or poly(3-hydroxybutyrate-co-3-hydroxyvalerate) PHBV.

56. The Oestradiol for use according to claim 51 or 52, wherein the hydrogel is a crosslinked hydrogel.

57. The Oestradiol for use according to claim 51 or claim 56, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least one of chitosan, gelatin, alginate, agarose, methylcellulose, hyaluronan or any combination thereof.

58. The Oestradiol for use according to claim 57, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and collagen.

59. The Oestradiol for use according to claim 57 or 58, wherein the hydrogel comprises polyvinyl alcohol, sodium polyacrylate, acrylate polymers or any combination thereof.

60. The Oestradiol for use according to any one of claims 56 to 59, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and polyvinyl alcohol.

61. The Oestradiol for use according to any one of claims 51 to 60, wherein the carrier further comprises an antimicrobial agent.

62. The Oestradiol for use according to any one of claims 51 to 61, wherein the wound is a chronic wound.

63. The Oestradiol for use according to any one of claims 51 to 62, wherein the wound is a full thickness wound.

64. The Oestradiol for use according to any one of claims 51 to 63, wherein the wound is a burn injury.

65. A non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth, said method comprising administration of a oestradiol, wherein the oestradiol is provided in a carrier and wherein the carrier is a biocompatible matrix material or a hydrogel

66. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 65, wherein the carrier is a biodegradable carrier.

67. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to any one of claims 65 to 66, wherein the matrix material is an electrospun scaffold.

68. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 67, wherein the electrospun scaffold comprises at least one of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolide (PGA), poly(lactic-co-glycolic acid) (PLGA) or poly(3-hydroxybutyrate-co-3-hydroxyvalerate) PHBV.

69. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 65 to 66, wherein the hydrogel is a crosslinked hydrogel.

70. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 65 or claim 69, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least one of chitosan, gelatin, alginate, agarose, methylcellulose, hyaluronan or any combination thereof.

71. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 65 or 66, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and collagen.

72. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to claim 65 or 66, wherein the hydrogel comprises polyvinyl alcohol, sodium polyacrylate, acrylate polymers or any combination thereof.

73. The non-therapeutic method for promoting hair regrowth according to any one of claims 65 or 66, wherein the hydrogel comprises chitosan and polyvinyl alcohol.