CLAIMS

1. Use of 20 µg of ethinyl estradiol and 3 mg of drospirenone for the manufacture of a medicament for female oral contraception comprising a flexible, extended regimen, the regimen comprising:

   (a) said 20 µg of ethinyl estradiol and 3 mg of drospirenone to be administered to said female daily for a first administration period of 24 days;

   (b) thereafter said 20 µg of ethinyl estradiol and 3 mg of drospirenone to be administered to said female daily for a second administration period of:

   - 96 days wherein immediately after said 96 days said female initiates a hormone free phase of 4 days, or

   - less than 96 days if the female observes during said second administration period three consecutive days of breakthrough bleeding or spotting, wherein immediately after said three consecutive days said female initiates a hormone free phase of 4 days; and

   (c) after said hormone free phase, said 20 µg of ethinyl estradiol and 3 mg of drospirenone to be administered to said female in accordance with (a) and (b) above.

2. Use according to claim 1 wherein said female initiates said hormone free phase when breakthrough bleeding occurs.