WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Use of (i) a therapeutically effective amount of a sex steroid precursor selected from the group consisting of dehydroepiandrosterone, dehydroepiandrosterone-sulfate, androst-5-ene-3β,17β-diol, 4-androstene-3,17-dione and a prodrug thereof in association with (ii) a therapeutically effective amount of a selective estrogen receptor modulator or a prodrug thereof or an antiestrogen selected from Faslodex (ICI 182 780, fulvestrant, 7α-[9-(4,4,5,5,5-pentafluoro-pentylsulphinyl)nonyl]oestra-1,3,5(10)-triene-3,17β-diol) or SH 646 or a prodrug thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for reducing or eliminating the incidence of night sweats due to menopause, wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator or antiestrogen is to be used to decrease the risk of breast, uterine and endometrial cancer normally present in postmenopausal women and to prevent bone loss, osteoporosis, hypertension, insulin resistance, diabetes, obesity and atherosclerosis, wherein the medicament does not contain an estrogen.

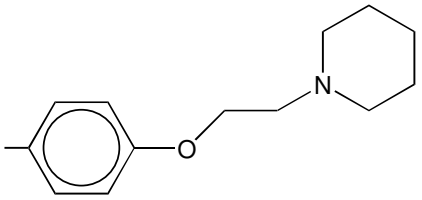
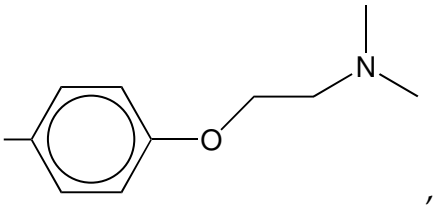
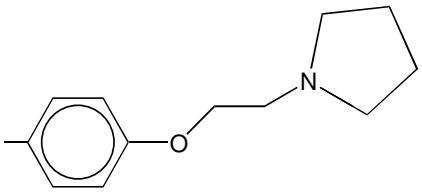
2. The use of claim 1 wherein said sex steroid precursor is selected from the group consisting of dehydroepiandrosterone, dehydroepiandrosterone-sulfate, androst-5-ene-3β,17β-diol, and 4-androstene-3,17-dione.

3. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator has a molecular formula with the following features:

a) two aromatic rings spaced by 1 to 2 intervening carbon atoms, both aromatic rings being either unsubstituted or substituted by a hydroxyl group or a group converted *in vivo* to hydroxyl;

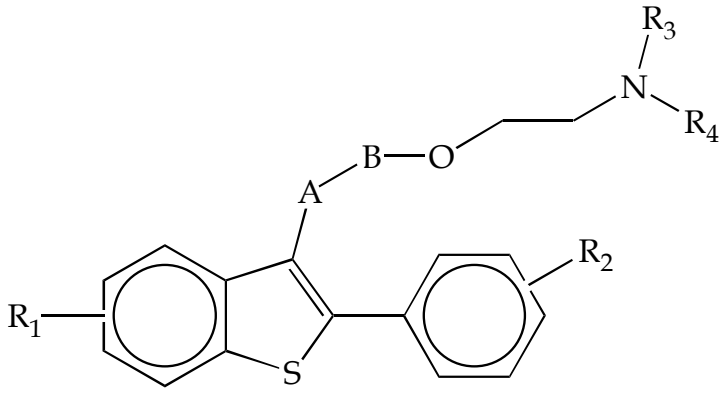
b) a side chain possessing an aromatic ring and a tertiary amine function or salt thereof.

4. The use of claim 3 wherein the side chain is selected from the group consisting of:


,

,

and .

5. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is selected from the group consisting of Tamoxifen, Toremifene, CC 8490, SERM 3471, HMR 3339, HMR 3656, Raloxifene, LY 335124, LY 326315, Arzoxifene (LY 353381), Pipendoxifene (ERA 923), Bazedoxifene (TSE 424, WAY 140424) and Oporia (Lasoxifene).

6. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is a benzothiophene derivative compound of the following formula:



a) wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, hydroxyl, and a moiety converted in vivo in hydroxyl;

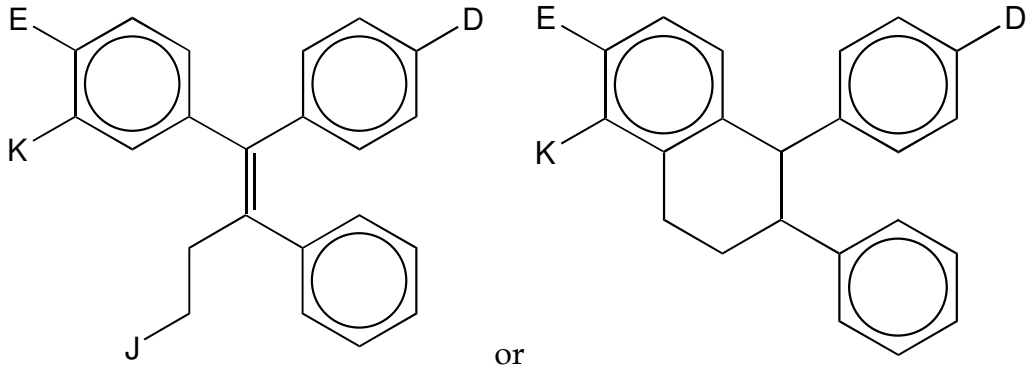
b) wherein R_3 and R_4 are either (a) independently C1-C4 alkyl, or (b) a moiety which in combination with the nitrogen to which they are bound, is selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidino, dimethyl-1- pyrrolidino, methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, hexamethyleneimino and morpholino;

c) wherein A is selected from the group consisting of -CO-, -CHOH, and $-CH_2-$;

d) wherein B is selected from the group consisting of phenylene, pyridylidene, and $-cycloC_4H_2N_2-$.

7. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is selected from the group consisting of Raloxifene, Arzoxifene (LY 353381), and LY 335563.

8. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is a triphenylethylene or diphenylhydronaphthalene derivative compound of the following formula:

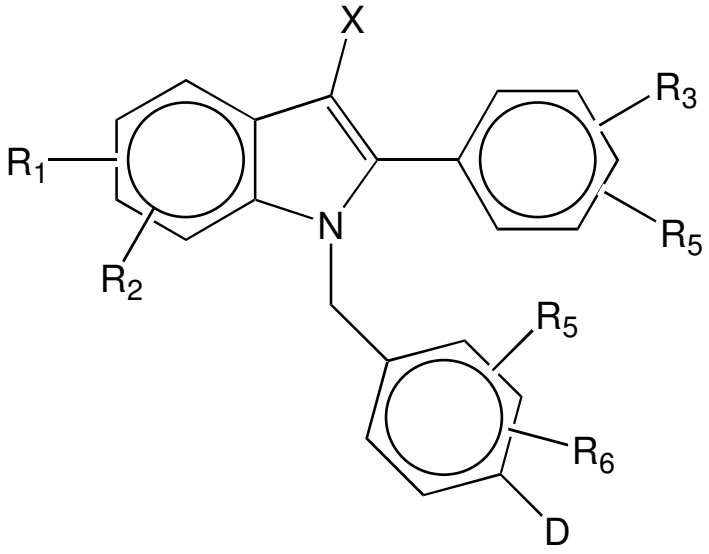


a) wherein D is $-OCH_2CH_2N(R_3)R_4$, $-OCH_2CH_2OH$, or -CH=CH-COOH (R_3 and R_4 either being independently selected from the group consisting of C1-C4 alkyl, or R_3, R_4, and the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, together being a ring structure selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidino, dimethyl-1- pyrrolidino, methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, hexamethyleneimino and morpholino);

b) wherein E and K are independently hydrogen or hydroxyl, phosphate ester, or lower alkyl, wherein J is hydrogen or halogen.

9. The use of claim 1 wherein selective estrogen receptor modulator is Tamoxifen, OH-tamoxifen, Droloxifene, Toremifene, Iodoxifene, Lasofoxifene, Iproxifen, FC 1271, and GW5638.

10. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is an indole derivative compound of the following formula:



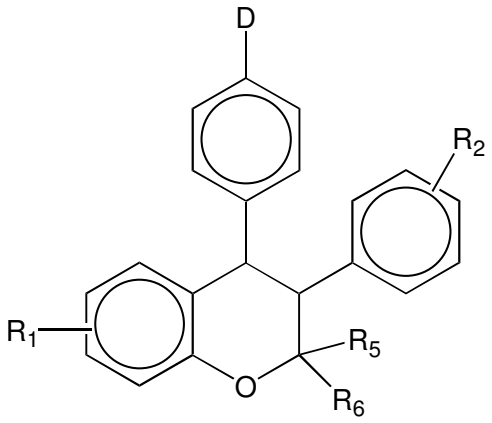
a) wherein D is selected from the group consisting of $-OCH_2CH_2N(R_7)R_8$, $-CH=CH-CO\ N(R_7)R_8$, $-CC-(CH_2)_n-N(R_7)R_8$ (R_7 and R_8 either being independently selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkyl, or R_7, R_8 and the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, together being a ring structure selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidino, dimethyl-1-pyrrolidino, methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, hexamethyleneimino, morpholino);

b) wherein X is selected from the group consisting of : hydrogen, and C1-C6 alkyl;

c) wherein R_1, R_2 R_3, R_4, R_5, and R_6 are independently selected from the group consisting of : hydrogen, hydroxyl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, and a moiety converted in vivo in hydroxyl.

11. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is selected from the group consisting of Bazedoxifene (TSE 424; WAY-TSE 424; WAY 140424; 1-[[4-[2-(hexahydro-1H-azepin-1-yl)ethoxy]phenyl]methyl]-2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-3-methyl-1H-indol-5-ol) and Pipendoxifene (ERA 923; 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-3-methyl-1-[[4-[2-(1-piperidinyl)ethoxy]phenyl]methyl]-1H-indol-5-ol).

12. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is a centchroman derivative compound of the following formula:



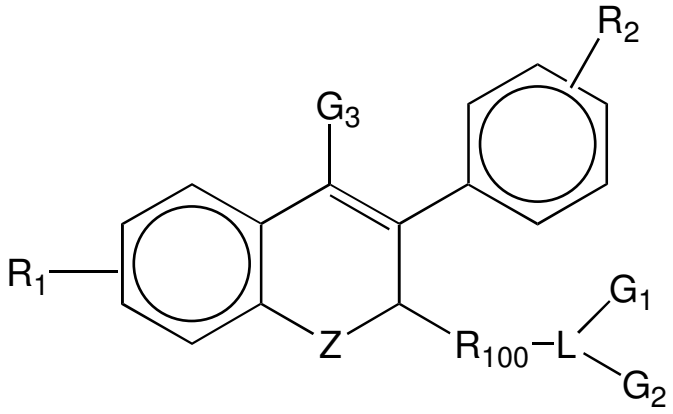
a) wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of: hydrogen, hydroxyl, and a moiety converted in vivo in hydroxyl;

b) wherein R_5 and R_6 are independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

c) wherein D is $-OCH_2CH_2N(R_3)R_4$ (R_3 and R_4 either being independently selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_4 alkyl, or R_3, R_4 and the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, together being a ring structure selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidino, dimethyl-1- pyrrolidino, methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, hexamethyleneimino, morpholino).

13. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is (3,4-trans-2,2-dimethyl-3-phenyl-4-[4-(2-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethoxy)phenyl]-7-methoxychroman).

14. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator has the following formula:



a) wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl or a moiety which is converted to hydroxyl in vivo;

b) wherein Z is either absent or selected from the group consisting of $–CH_2-$,-O-,-S- and $–NR_3-$ (R_3 being hydrogen or lower alkyl);

c) wherein the R_{100} is a bivalent moiety which distances L from the B-ring by 4-10 intervening atoms;

d) wherein L is a bivalent or trivalent moiety selected from the group of -SO-, -CON-, -N<, and -SON<;

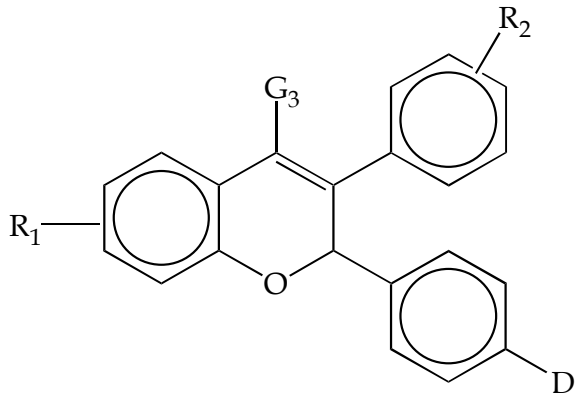
e) wherein G_1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a C_1 to C_5 hydrocarbon, a bivalent moiety which in combination with G_2 and L is a 5- to 7- membered heterocyclic ring, and halo or unsaturated derivatives of the foregoing;

f) wherein G_2 is either absent or selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, a C_1 to C_5 hydrocarbon, a bivalent moiety which in combination with

G_1 and L is a 5-to 7- membered heterocyclic ring, and halo or unsaturated derivatives of the foregoing;

g) wherein G_3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl and ethyl.

15. The use of claim 1, wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is a benzopyran compound of the following general structure:



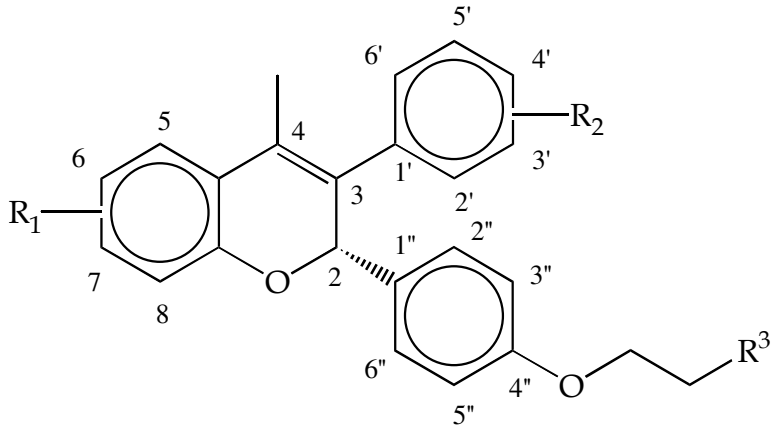
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

a) wherein D is $-OCH_2CH_2N(R_3)R_4$ (R_3 and R_4 either being independently selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_4 alkyl, or R_3, R_4 and the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, together being a ring structure selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidino, dimethyl-1- pyrrolidino, methyl-1-pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, hexamethyleneimino, morpholino);

b) wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of : hydrogen, hydroxyl, and a moiety converted in vivo in hydroxyl;

c) wherein G_3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl and ethyl.

16. The use of claim 1, wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is a benzopyran compound that is optically active due to a majority of its stereoisomers having an absolute configuration S on carbon 2, said compound having the molecular structure:



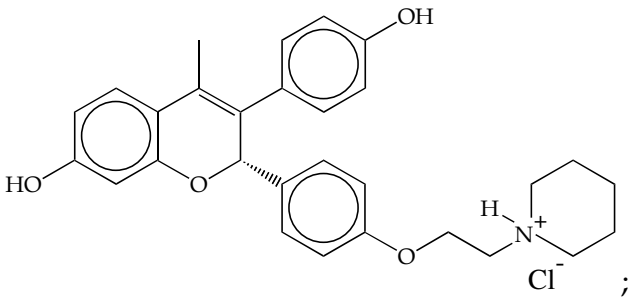
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

a) wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl and a moiety convertible in vivo to hydroxyl;

b) wherein R^3 is a species selected from the group consisting of saturated, unsaturated or substituted pyrrolidinyl, saturated, unsaturated or substituted piperidino, saturated, unsaturated or substituted piperidinyl, saturated, unsaturated or substituted morpholino, nitrogen-containing cyclic moiety, nitrogen-containing polycyclic moiety, and NRaRb (Ra and Rb being independently hydrogen, straight or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, straight or branched C_2-C_6 alkenyl, and straight or branched C_2-C_6 alkynyl).

17. The use of claim 16 wherein said compound or salt substantially lacks (2R)-enantiomer.

18. The use of claim 1 where said selective estrogen receptor modulator is:

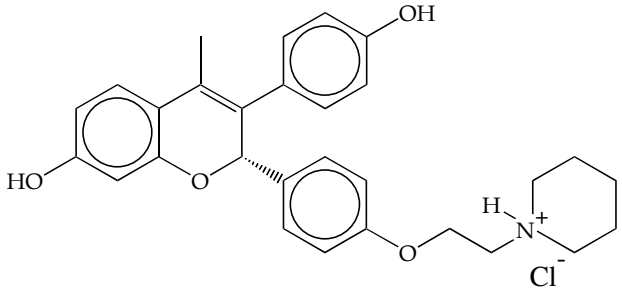


;

and is optically active due to a majority of its stereoisomers being of 2S configuration.

19. The use of claim 16 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is a benzopyran salt of an acid selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, adipic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, benzoic acid, camphorsulfonic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid, hydroiodic acid, hydrobromic acid, hydrochloric acid, hydrochlorothiazide acid, hydroxy-naphthoic acid, lactic acid, maleic acid, methanesulfonic acid, methylsulfuric acid, 1,5-naphthalenedisulfonic acid, nitric acid, palmitic acid, pivalic acid, phosphoric acid, propionic acid, succinic acid, sulfuric acid, tartaric acid, terephthalic acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, and valeric acid.

20. The use of claim 1 wherein said selective estrogen receptor modulator is:



and is optically active due to a majority of its enantiomers being of 2S configuration; and wherein the sex steroid precursor is dehydroepiandrosterone.

21. The use of claim 1, wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator has no estrogenic activity in breast, uterine or endometrium tissues.

22. The use of claim 1 wherein said selective estrogen receptor modulator is to be intravaginally administered.

23. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is to be orally administered.

24. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is to be percutaneously administered.

25. The use of claim 1 wherein the selective estrogen receptor modulator is selected from the group consisting of Tamoxifen, Toremifene, CC 8490, SERM 3471, HMR 3339, HMR 3656, Raloxifene, LY 335124, LY 326315, Arzoxifene (LY 353381), Pipendoxifene (ERA 923), Bazedoxifene (TSE 424, WAY 140424), Oporia (Lasoxifene), EM-652, EM-800, EM-652-HCl (acolbifene, EM-1538), 4-hydroxy-Tamoxifen, 4-hydroxy-Toremifene, Droloxifene, LY 335563, GW-5638, Idoxifene, Levormeloxifene, Iproxifen (TAT 59), Ospemifene (FC 1271), Fispemifene and and centchroman.