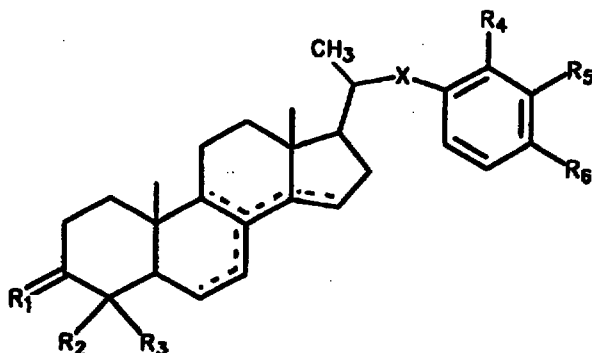




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(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP98/02989 (22) International Filing Date: 11 May 1998 (11.05.98) (30) Priority Data: 97201474.0 16 May 1997 (16.05.97) EP (34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed: NL et al. (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): AKZO NOBEL N.V. [NL/NL]; Velperweg 76, NL-6824 BM Arnhem (NL). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): LEEMHUIS, Johannes, Antonius, Joseph [NL/NL]; Mekelenkampiaan 33, NL-5345 GL Oss (NL). VAN DER LOUW, Jaap [NL/NL]; Pauwoog 12, NL-5345 EN Oss (NL). GROEN, Marinus, Bernard [NL/NL]; Krijteweg 51, NL-5345 TT Oss (NL). (74) Agent: KRAAK, Hajo; P.O. Box 20, NL-5340 BH Oss (NL).	(81) Designated States: AM, AU, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CZ, EE, GE, HU, ID, IS, JP, KG, KP, KR, LK, LR, LT, LV, MD, MG, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, RU, SG, SI, SK, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>	

(54) Title: 20-ARALKYL-5 α -PREGNANE DERIVATIVES

(I)

(57) Abstract

The invention relates to 20-aralkyl-5 α -pregnane derivative having general formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R₁ is (H,OR), (H,OSO₃H) or NOR; R is H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl or (C₁₋₆)acyl; each of R₂ and R₃ is independently hydrogen or (C₁₋₆)alkyl; X is a straight chain divalent C₁₋₈ hydrocarbon radical, optionally comprising a double or a triple bond; or X is -(CH₂)_m-CR₇R₈-, m = 0-4; at least one of R₇ and R₈ is (C₁₋₄)alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁₋₄)alkoxy or halogen; the other, if present, being hydrogen; or R₇ and R₈ together represent O or NOR; R' is H, (C₁₋₆)alkyl or (C₁₋₆)acyl; each of R₄, R₅ and R₆ is independently hydrogen, hydroxy, (C₁₋₄)alkoxy, halogen, NR₉, R₁₀ or (C₁₋₄)alkyl, optionally substituted by hydroxy, alkoxy, halogen or oxo; each of R₉ and R₁₀ is independently hydrogen or (C₁₋₄)alkyl; and the dotted lines indicate a Δ^7 or a Δ^8 double bond, or a pair of conjugated double bonds selected from $\Delta^{7,14}$, $\Delta^{8,14}$ and $\Delta^{6,8(14)}$. The compounds of the invention have meiosis activating activity and can be used for the control of fertility.