## CLAIMS

1. A use of 20 $\mu$g of ethinyl estradiol and 3 mg of drospirenone for the manufacture of a medicament for female oral contraception comprising a monophasic, flexible, extended cyclic regimen, the regimen comprising:
   (a) administering to said female, daily for a first administration period of 24 days;
   (b) thereafter administering to said female said oral contraceptive daily for a second administration period of a maximum of up to 96 days wherein during or after said 96 days said female initiates a break period of 4 days in which the oral contraceptive is not administered; and
   (c) after said break period, administering said oral contraceptive to said female in accordance with (a) and (b) above, wherein a second period is at least one day long.

2. A use according to claim 1 wherein said female initiates said break period in accordance with her individual needs and in the absence of bleeding problems.

3. A use according to claim 1 wherein said female initiates said break period when unacceptable bleeding occurs.

4. A use according to claim 1 or 3 wherein said female initiates said break period when breakthrough bleeding occurs.

5. A use according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein said second administration period is at least as long as said first administration period.

6. A use according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein said second administration period is longer than said first administration period.

7. A use according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein said female initiates said break period on the day following said 96 days.

8. A use of 20 $\mu$g of ethinyl estradiol and about 3 mg of drospirenone for the manufacture of a medicament for the management of unacceptable bleeding during female oral contraception comprising a monophasic, flexible, extended cyclic regimen, the regimen comprising:

(a) administering to said female an oral contraceptive, daily for a first administration period of 24 days;

(b) thereafter administering to said female said oral contraceptive daily for a second administration period a maximum of up to 96 days wherein during or after said 96 days said female initiates a break period of 4 days in which the oral contraceptive is not administered; and

(c) after said break period, administering said oral contraceptive to said female in accordance with (a) and (b) above, wherein a second period is at least one day long.

9. A use according to claim 8 wherein said female initiates said break period in accordance with her individual needs and in the absence of bleeding problems.

10. A use according to claim 8 wherein said female initiates said break period when unacceptable bleeding occurs.

11. A use according to claim 8 or 10 wherein said female initiates said break period when breakthrough bleeding occurs.

12. A use according to any one of claims 8 to 11 wherein said second administration period is at least as long as said first administration period.

13. A use according to any one of claims 8 to 12 wherein said second administration period is longer than said first administration period.

14. A use according to any one of claims 8 to 13 wherein said female initiates said break period on the day following said 96 days.

## CLAIMS

1. An invention not claimed in any divisional application.