

STEROIDS WITH A 17-SPIROMETHYLENE LACTONE OR LACTOL GROUPABSTRACT

A steroid with progestational activity useful as a contraceptive and having the formula below, wherein R_1 is O, (H,H), (H,OR), or NOR, R being H, alkyl or acyl; R_2 is H, alkyl optionally substituted, alkenyl optionally substituted, alkynyl optionally substituted, or halo; R_2' is H; or R_2' together with R_2 is alkylidene or alkenylidene; or R_2' together with R_3 is a bond; R_3 is H if not together with R_2' a bond; R_4 is alkyl; one of R_5 and R_6 is H and the other is H or alkyl; X is $(CH_2)_n$ or (C_nH_{2n-2}) wherein n is 2 or 3, which is optionally substituted; Y is O or (H,OH); and the dotted lines indicate optional bonds, at least one of bonds 4-5, 5-10, and 9-10 being a double bond.

