4. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the dextran possesses a molecular weight of less than 150 kD.

5. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the disaccharide is selected from the group consisting of lactose, maltose, sucrose and trehalose.

6. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the composition comprises a mixture of a first hygroscopic excipient and a second hygroscopic excipient.

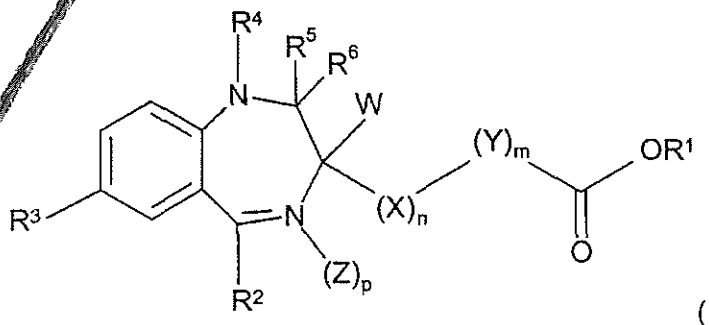
7. A composition according to claim 6, wherein the composition comprises a mixture of a disaccharide and dextran, preferably a mixture of lactose and dextran.

8. A composition according to claim 7, wherein the wt% ratio between lactose and dextran is from 1:1.0 to 1:10, preferably from 1:1.2 to 1:5, and more preferably is 1:1.5 or 1:4.

9. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the wt% ratio between the total amount of hygroscopic excipients and the total amount of benzodiazepines or salts thereof, calculated for the base, in the composition is from 20:1 to 1:1, preferably from 12:1 to 3:1, most preferably from 9:1 to 3:1.

10. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, which is a pharmaceutical formulation.

11. A stable lyophilized or stable freeze-dried composition comprising at least one benzodiazepine according to formula (I)



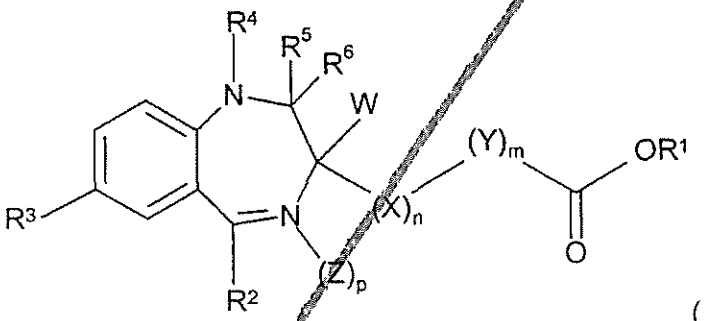
(I)

with
W is H;
X is CH_2; n is 1;
Y is CH_2; m is 1;
Z is O;
R^1 is CH_3, CH_2CH_3, $CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $CH(CH_3)_2$ or $CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$;

R^2 is 2-fluorohenyl, 2-chlorophenyl or 2-pyridyl;
R^3 is Cl or Br;
R^4, R^5 and R^6 form the group-CR^8=U-V= wherein R^8 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl, U is N or CR^9 wherein R^9 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl or C_{1-4} alkoxy, V is N or CH and p is zero,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the composition
comprises at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hygroscopic excipient, wherein the hygroscopic excipient is a carbohydrate and optionally the composition is at least in part amorphous.

12. A composition comprising at least one benzodiazepine according to formula (I)



(I)

with
W is H;
X is CH_2; n is 1;
Y is CH_2; m is 1;
Z is O;
R^1 is CH_3, CH_2CH_3, $CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $CH(CH_3)_2$ or $CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$;
R^2 is 2-fluorohenyl, 2-chlorophenyl or 2-pyridyl;
R^3 is Cl or Br;
R^4, R^5 and R^6 form the group-CR^8=U-V= wherein R^8 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl, U is N or CR^9 wherein R^9 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl or C_{1-4} alkoxy, V is N or CH and p is zero,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the composition
comprises at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hygroscopic excipient, wherein the hygroscopic excipient is a carbohydrate and optionally the composition is at least in part amorphous and
upon lyophilization or freeze-drying yields a stable lyophilized or stable freeze-dried composition.

4. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the dextran possesses a molecular weight of less than 150 kD.

5. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the disaccharide is selected from the group consisting of lactose, maltose, sucrose and trehalose.

6. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the composition comprises a mixture of a first hygroscopic excipient and a second hygroscopic excipient.

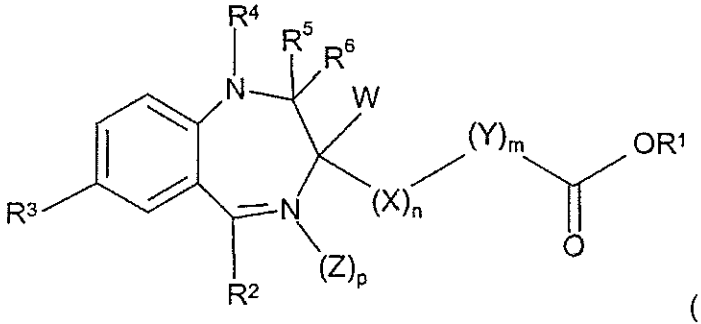
7. A composition according to claim 6, wherein the composition comprises a mixture of a disaccharide and dextran, preferably a mixture of lactose and dextran.

8. A composition according to claim 7, wherein the wt% ratio between lactose and dextran is from 1:1.0 to 1:10, preferably from 1:1.2 to 1:5, and more preferably is 1:1.5 or 1:4.

9. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the wt% ratio between the total amount of hygroscopic excipients and the total amount of benzodiazepines or salts thereof, calculated for the base, in the composition is from 20:1 to 1:1, preferably from 12:1 to 3:1, most preferably from 9:1 to 3:1.

10. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 3, which is a pharmaceutical formulation.

11. A stable lyophilized or stable spray-dried composition comprising at least one benzodiazepine according to formula (I)



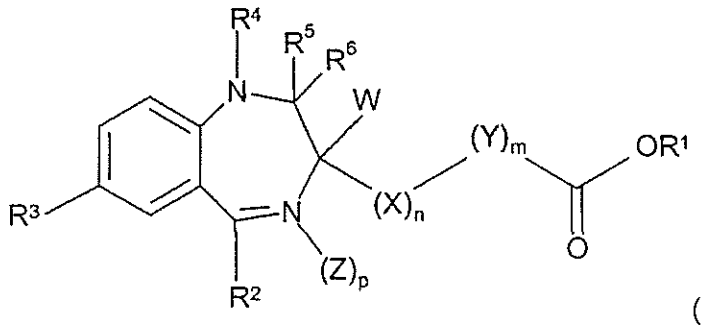
(I)

with
W is H;
X is CH_2; n is 1;
Y is CH_2; m is 1;
Z is O;
R^1 is CH_3, CH_2CH_3, $CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $CH(CH_3)_2$ or $CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$;

R^2 is 2-fluorohenyl, 2-chlorophenyl or 2-pyridyl;
R^3 is Cl or Br;
R^4, R^5 and R^6 form the group-CR^8=U-V= wherein R^8 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl, U is N or CR^9 wherein R^9 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl or C_{1-4} alkoxy, V is N or CH and p is zero,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the composition
comprises at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hygroscopic excipient, wherein the hygroscopic excipient is an oligosaccharide and optionally the composition is at least in part amorphous.

12. A composition comprising at least one benzodiazepine according to formula (I)



(I)

with
W is H;
X is CH_2; n is 1;
Y is CH_2; m is 1;
Z is O;
R^1 is CH_3, CH_2CH_3, $CH_2CH_2CH_3$, $CH(CH_3)_2$ or $CH_2CH(CH_3)_2$;
R^2 is 2-fluorohenyl, 2-chlorophenyl or 2-pyridyl;
R^3 is Cl or Br;
R^4, R^5 and R^6 form the group-CR^8=U-V= wherein R^8 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl, U is N or CR^9 wherein R^9 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-3} hydroxyalkyl or C_{1-4} alkoxy, V is N or CH and p is zero,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the composition
comprises at least one pharmaceutically acceptable hygroscopic excipient, wherein the hygroscopic excipient is an oligosaccharide and optionally the composition is at least in part amorphous and
upon lyophilization or spray-drying yields a stable lyophilized or stable freeze-dried composition.