CLAIMS:

1. Use of minoxidil in the manufacture of a medicament for treating hair loss or excessive hair shedding in a subject or for promoting hair growth in a subject wherein an effective dose of minoxidil is to be administered through the sublingual mucosa.

2. Use of minoxidil of claim 1, wherein the dose of minoxidil results in a minoxidil blood concentration of 0.25 ng/mL to 10 ng/mL.

3. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein the dose of minoxidil is within the range from 0.05 mg to 3 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 2.5 mg, or from 0.15 mg to 2 mg, or from 0.15 mg to 1.5 mg, or from 0.15 mg to 1 mg, or from 0.15 mg to 0.8 mg, or from 0.15 mg to 0.5 mg, or from 0.5 mg to 0.25 mg, or is 0.1 mg, or is 0.15 mg, or is 0.24 mg, or is 0.25 mg, or is 0.45 mg, or is 1.35 mg.

4. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the dose of minoxidil is administered at least every 3 days, at least every 2 days, or at least daily.

5. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the dose of minoxidil is in a form selected from a: strip, wafer, pellet, film, troche, tablet, lipid matrix tablet, capsule, pill, granule, pellet, powder, drop, spray and lozenge.

6. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 5, which further comprises administering a: aldosterone antagonist, 5α-reductase inhibitor, non-steroidal antiandrogen drug and/or a steroidal antiandrogen.

7. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 6, which further comprises administering spironolactone within the range of from 10 mg to 500 mg, or from 10 mg to 400 mg, or from 10 mg to 300 mg, or from 15 mg to 200 mg, or from 15 mg to 150 mg, or from 18 mg to 100 mg, or from 20 mg to 80 mg, or from 20 mg to 50 mg, or from 22 mg to 40 mg, or from 23 mg to 35 mg, or from 23 mg to 30 mg, or is 25 mg.

8. Use of minoxidil according to claim 7, wherein spironolactone is at a concentration of 25 mg.

9. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 8, which further comprises administering sodium chloride within the range of from 10 mg to 200 mg, or from 15 mg to 150 mg, or from 15 mg to 125 mg, or from 20 mg to 100 mg, or from 25 mg to 80 mg, or from 30 mg to 70 mg, or from 40 mg to 60 mg, or from 45 mg to 55 mg, or is 50 mg, or is 20 mg.

10. Use of minoxidil according to claim 9, wherein sodium chloride is at a concentration of 20 mg.

11. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 10, which additionally comprises administering one or more of:

(i) finasteride within the range of from 0.1 mg to 1 mg;
(ii) dutasteride within the range of from 0.01 mg to 1 mg;
(iii) flutamide within the range of from 10 mg to 500 mg;
(iv) cyproterone acetate within the range of from 1 mg to 100 mg;
(v) bicalutamide within the range of from 1 mg to 100 mg;
(vi) enzalutamide within the range of from 1 mg to 100 mg;
(vii) nilutamide within the range of from 1 mg to 100 mg;
(viii) drosperidone within the range of from 0.1 mg to 10 mg;
(ix) apalutamide within the range of from 1 mg to 100 mg; and/or
(x) buseralin within the range of from 0.1 mg to 10 mg.

12. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the hair loss or excessive hair shedding is the result of one or more of the following; hair follicle miniaturization, alopecia areata, androgenetic alopecia, telogen effluvium, anagen effluvium, chemotherapy induced hair loss, male pattern baldness, female pattern baldness, monilethrix, thyroid problems, anaemia, polycystic ovary syndrome, cicatricial alopecia

(lichen planopilaris, discoid lupus erythematosus, folliculitis decalvans), congenital hypotrichosis, loose anagen hair syndrome, hypotrichosis and malnutrition.

13. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 12, wherein promoting hair growth comprises promoting beard growth in a subject.

14. Use of minoxidil according to any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein promoting hair growth comprises increasing hair length.

15. A sublingual composition when used to treat hair loss or excessive hair shedding in a subject or for promoting hair growth in a subject comprising;

(i) minoxidil within the range of from 0.05 mg to 3 mg;

(ii) minoxidil at a concentration of 0.1 mg;

(iii) minoxidil at a concentration of 0.15 mg;

(iv) minoxidil at a concentration of 0.24 mg;

(v) minoxidil at a concentration of 0.25 mg;

(vi) minoxidil at a concentration of 0.45 mg;

(vi) minoxidil at a concentration of 1.35 mg;

(vii) minoxidil within the range of from 0.05 mg to 3 mg and spironolactone within the range of from 10 mg to 500 mg; or

(viii) minoxidil within the range of from 0.15 mg to 1.35 mg and spironolactone within the range of from 10 mg to 500 mg.

16. The composition according to claim 15, wherein the composition is in a form selected from: strip, wafer, pellet, film, troche, tablet, lipid matrix tablet, capsule, pill, granule, pellet, powder, drop, spray and lozenge.

17. The composition of claim 15 or claim 16, wherein the composition is in a form selected from: strip, wafer, and film.

18. The composition of any one of claims 15 to 17, wherein the composition comprises a disintegration agent which aids disintegration of the composition in the presence of saliva.

19. The composition of any one of claims 15 to 18, wherein the composition comprises an agent which can be acted upon by an enzyme in saliva to facilitate disintegration.

20. The composition of any one of claims 15 to 19, wherein the composition comprises a taste modifying agent.