(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
31 July 2003 (31.07.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/061665 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: A61K 31/57, A61P 15/00, 15/12

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP03/00373

(22) International Filing Date: 16 January 2003 (16.01.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
02075235.8 22 January 2002 (22.01.2002) EP

(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)*: **KLOOSTERBOER, Helenius, Jan** [NL/NL]; N.V. Organon, P.O. Box 20, NL-5340 BH Oss (NL). **BUNDRED, Nigel** [GB/GB]; The Paterson Institute for Cancer Research, South Manchester University Hospital, Academic Surgery, Education & Research Centre, Southmoor Road, Manchester M23 9LT (GB).

(74) Agent: **KRAAK, H.**; P.O. Box 20, NL-5340 BH Oss (NL).

(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AU, BA, BB, BR, BZ, CA, CN, CO, CR, CU, DM, DZ, EC, GD, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MA, MG, MK, MN, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL, RO, RU, SG, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**
— *with international search report*
— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

WO 03/061665 A1

(54) Title: TIBOLONE IN THE TREATMENT OF COMPLAINTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS WHICH PREVENT THE SYNTHESIS OF ENDOGENOUS ESTROGEN

(57) Abstract: Disclosed is a treatment of estrogen-deficiency related complaints in females that exhibit these complaints while they are on treatment with a drug which prevents the synthesis of endogenous estrogen. Such drugs are, e.g., anti-cancer drugs such as aromatase inhibitors. The invention resides in the use of tibolone, which has an unexpectedly beneficial working in this particular patient group in that it does not stimulate breast, while preventing bone loss and relieving climacteric complaints in a patient group in which this is more difficult than in any other group due to the nature of the concomittant cancer treatment (no circulating estrogen making for a higher severity of the complaints, the lack of effect on the estrogen receptor making for an increased risk associated with estrogenic breast stimulation once estrogen-like compounds are administered.