CLAIMS:

1. Use of an effective amount of minoxidil for the preparation of an oral medicament for the treatment and prevention of alopecia areata in a subject wherein the effective amount of minoxidil is within the range from about 0.1 mg to 0.49 mg, or from about 0.1 mg to 0.4 mg, or from about 0.15 mg to 0.3 mg, or from about 0.2 mg to 0.28 mg, or is about 0.25 mg, or is about 0.24 mg, or is about 0.1 mg daily.

2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the effective amount of oral minoxidil is ~~formulated for daily administration~~ about 0.25 mg daily.

~~3. The use according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the medicament further comprises a: aldosterone antagonist, 5α-reductase inhibitor, non-steroidal antiandrogen drug and/or a steroidal antiandrogen.~~

~~4.~~3. The use according to any one of claims 1 to ~~3~~2, wherein the medicament further comprises ~~administering~~ spironolactone within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg, or from about 10 mg to 400 mg, or from about 10 mg to 300 mg, or from about 15 mg to 200 mg, or from about 15 mg to 150 mg, or from about 18 mg to 100 mg, or from about 20 mg to 80 mg, or from about 20 mg to 50 mg, or from about 22 mg to 40 mg, or from about 23 mg to 35 mg, or from about 23 mg to 30 mg, or is about 25 mg.

~~5.~~4. The use according to claim ~~4~~3, wherein spironolactone is at a concentration of about 25 mg.

~~6.~~5. The use according to any one of claims 1 to ~~5~~4, where the medicament further comprises sodium chloride within the range of from about 10 mg to 200 mg, from about 15 mg to 150 mg, from about 15 mg to 125 mg, from about 20 mg to 100 mg, from about 25 mg to 80 mg, from about 30 mg to 70 mg, from about 40 mg to 60 mg, from about 45 mg to 55 mg, or is about 50 mg, or is about 20 mg.

~~7.~~6. The use according to claim ~~6~~5, wherein sodium chloride is at a concentration of about 20 mg.

~~8.~~7. The use according to any one of claims 1 to ~~7~~6, wherein the medicament further comprises one or more of:

(i) finasteride within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 1 mg;

(ii) dutasteride within the range of from about 0.01 mg to 1 mg;

(iii) flutamide within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;

(iv) cyproterone acetate within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(v) bicalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(vi) enzalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(vii) nilutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(viii) drosperidone within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg;

(ix) apalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg; and/or

(x) buseralin within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg.

~~9. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the medicament is in the form of a tablet.~~

8. A composition when used to treat alopecia areata via oral administration comprising:

(i) minoxidil within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 0.49 mg;

(ii) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.1 mg;

(iii) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.24 mg;

(iv) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.25 mg;

(v) minoxidil within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 0.49 mg and spironolactone within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg; or

(vi) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.25 mg and spironolactone at a concentration of about 25 mg.

9. A composition according to claim 8, which additionally comprises one or more of:

(i) sodium chloride at a concentration of from about 10 to 200 mg;

(ii) sodium chloride at a concentration of about 50 mg;

(iii) zinc at a concentration of about 0.1 to 100 mg;

(iv) zinc at a concentration of about 8 mg;

(v) selenium at a concentration of 20 µg to 200 µg;

(vi) caffeine at a concentration of about 50 mg to 250 mg;

(vii) liquorice at a concentration of about 50 mg to 250 mg;

(viii) at least one vitamin; and/or

(ix) at least one amino acid.

10. The composition according to claim 8 or claim 9, which additionally comprises one or more of:

(i) finasteride within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 1 mg;

(ii) dutasteride within the range of from about 0.01 mg to 1 mg;

(iii) flutamide within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;

(iv) spironolactone within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;

(v) cyproterone acetate within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(vi) bicalutamide within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;

(vii) enzalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(viii) nilutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(ix) drosperidone within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg;

(x) apalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg; and/or

(xi) buseralin within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg.

11. A composition according to any one of claims 8 to 10, in the form of a tablet.

~~10.~~12. Use of 0.25 mg minoxidil for the preparation of ~~an oral~~a medicament for the treatment of alopecia areata in a subject.

~~11. Use of 0.5 mg minoxidil for the preparation of an oral medicament for the treatment of alopecia areata in a subject.~~

~~12.~~13. The use of claim ~~10 or claim 11~~12, wherein the medicament additionally comprises one or more of:

(i) spironolactone within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;
(ii) finasteride within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 1 mg;
(iii) dutasteride within the range of from about 0.01 mg to 1 mg;
(iv) flutamide within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;
(v) cyproterone acetate within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;
(vi) bicalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;
(vii) sodium chloride within the range of from about 10 mg to 200 mg;
(viii) bicalutamide within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;
(iv) enzalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;
(x) nilutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;
(xi) drosperidone within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg;
(xii) apalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg; and/or
(xiii) buseralin within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg.

~~13.~~14. Use of an effective amount of minoxidil for the preparation of an oral medicament for the treatment ~~or prevention~~ of alopecia areata in a subject wherein the effective amount of minoxidil is from ~~0.1 mg to 20 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 15 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 10 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 5 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 3 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 2.5 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 2 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 1.5 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 1 mg, or from 0.1 mg to 0.75 mg, or from 0.1 mg to or 0.5 mg or from 0.1 mg to 0.25 mg~~about 0.1 mg to 5 mg, or from about 0.1 mg to 3 mg, or from about 0.1 mg to 2.5 mg, or from about 0.1 mg to 2 mg, or from about 0.1 mg to 1.5 mg, or from about 0.1 mg to 1 mg, or from about 0.1 mg to 0.75 mg, or from 0.1 mg to or 0.5 mg or from about 0.1 mg to 0.25 mg daily.

~~14.~~15. The use according to claim ~~13~~14, wherein the effective amount of minoxidil is ~~25 mg, or is 20 mg, or is 15 mg, or is 10 mg, or is~~about 5 mg, or is about 3 mg, or is about 2.5 mg, or is about 2 mg, or is about 1.5 mg, or is about 1 mg, or is about 0.75 mg, or is about 0.5 mg, or is about 0.49 mg, or is about 0.48 mg, or is about 0.25 mg, or is about 0.24 mg, or is about 0.1 mg daily.

~~15.~~16. The use according to claim ~~13~~14 or claim ~~14~~15, wherein the effective amount of minoxidil is about 2.5 mg, or is about 1 mg, or is about 0.5 mg.

~~16. The use according to any one of claims 13 to 15, wherein the medicament further comprises a: aldosterone antagonist, 5α reductase inhibitor, non-steroidal antiandrogen drug and/or a steroidal antiandrogen.~~

17. The use according to any one of claims ~~13~~14 to 16, wherein the medicament further comprises spironolactone within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg, or from about 10 mg to 400 mg, or from about 10 mg to 300 mg, or from about 15 mg to 200 mg, or from about 15 mg to 150 mg, or from about 18 mg to 100 mg, or from about 20 mg to 80 mg, or from about 20 mg to 50 mg, or from about 22 mg to 40 mg, or from about 23 mg to 35 mg, or from about 23 mg to 30 mg, or is about 25 mg.

18. The use according to claim 17, wherein spironolactone is at a concentration of about 25 mg.

19. The use according to any one of claims ~~13~~14 to 18, wherein the medicament further comprises sodium chloride within the range of about from 10 mg to 200 mg, or from about 15 mg to 150 mg, or from about 15 mg to 125 mg, or from about 20 mg to 100 mg, or from about 25 mg to 80 mg, or from about 30 mg to 70 mg, or from about 40 mg to 60 mg, or from about 45 mg to 55 mg.

20. The use according to claim 19, wherein sodium chloride is at a concentration of about 20 mg.

21. The use according to any one of claims ~~13~~14 to 20, wherein the medicament additionally comprises one or more of:

(i) finasteride within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 1 mg;

(ii) dutasteride within the range of from about 0.01 mg to 1 mg;

(iii) flutamide within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;

(iv) cyproterone acetate within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(v) bicalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(vi) enzalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(vii) nilutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(viii) drosperidone within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg;

(ix) apalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg; and/or

(x) buseralin within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg.

22. A composition when used to treat alopecia areata via oral administration comprising;

(i) minoxidil within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 5 mg;

(ii) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.1 mg;

(iii) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.24 mg;

(iv) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.25 mg;

(v) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.5 mg;

(vi) minoxidil within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 5 mg and spironolactone within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg; or

(vii) minoxidil at a concentration of about 0.25 mg and spironolactone at a concentration of about 25 mg.

23. composition according to claim 22, which additionally comprises one or more of:

(i) sodium chloride at a concentration of from about 10 to 200 mg;

(ii) sodium chloride at a concentration of about 50 mg;

(iii) zinc at a concentration of about 0.1 to 100 mg;

(iv) zinc at a concentration of about 8 mg;

(v) selenium at a concentration of 20 µg to 200 µg;

(vi) caffeine at a concentration of about 50 mg to 250 mg;

(vii) liquorice at a concentration of about 50 mg to 250 mg;

(viii) at least one vitamin; and/or (ix) at least one amino acid.

24. The composition according to claim 22 or claim 23, which additionally comprises one or more of:

(i) finasteride within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 1 mg;

(ii) dutasteride within the range of from about 0.01 mg to 1 mg;

(iii) flutamide within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;

(iv) spironolactone within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;

(v) cyproterone acetate within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(vi) bicalutamide within the range of from about 10 mg to 500 mg;

(vii) enzalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(viii) nilutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg;

(ix) drosperidone within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg;

(x) apalutamide within the range of from about 1 mg to 100 mg; and/or

(xi) buseralin within the range of from about 0.1 mg to 10 mg.

~~22. The use according to any one of claims 13 to 21, wherein the medicament is formulated for daily administration.~~

~~23.~~25. A composition~~The use~~ according to any one of claims ~~13 to 22~~22 to 24, ~~wherein the medicament is~~ in the form of a tablet.

26. Use of about 0.5 mg minoxidil for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of alopecia areata in a subject.