Claims

1. Use of (1R, 2R)-3-(3-dimethylamino-l-ethyl-2-methylpropyl)-phenol, most preferably as the hydrochloride salt, in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of rheumatoid pain;

with the proviso that the medicament is not a dosage form comprising at least one form of tapentadol and at least one opioid antagonist wherein said antagonist improves the efficacy and or reduces the side effects of tapentadol; and

with the proviso that the medicament is not a pharmaceutical composition comprising a slow release tapentadol and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and a second active agent, wherein the second active agent is tramadol, a GABA analogues or an NSAID.

2. The use of claim 1, wherein the rheumatoid pain is rheumatoid arthritic pain.

3. The use of claim 2, wherein the rheumatoid arthritic pain is chronic rheumatoid arthritic pain.