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(54) Title: 17.BETA.-CARBOTHIOATE 17.ALPHA.-ARYLCARBONYLOXYLOXY ANDROSTANE DERIVATIVE AS ANTI-INFLAMMATORY AGENTS

(57) Abstract: There are provided according to the invention compounds of formula (I) wherein R_1 represents C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl; R_2 represents -C(=O)-aryl or -C(=O)-heteroaryl; R_3 represents hydrogen, methyl (which may be in either the α or β configuration) or methylene; R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and each represents hydrogen or halogen; and ---- represents a single or a double bond; and salts and solvates thereof. There are also provided processes for preparing compounds of formula (I) and use of the compounds in therapy especially in the treatment of inflammatory and allergic conditions.