~~$NH(CH_2)_mOCH_3$, $-NH(CH_2)_mCHOH-COOH$,~~ $N(CH_3)_2$, $-(CH_2)_m(NH)CH_2OH$, -NHCOOH, $-(CH_2)_mNHCOOH$, $-NO_2$, -SCN, $-SO_2$alkyl, $-B(OH)_2$, $-(CH_2)_m N(CH_3)-SO_2-NH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m-NH-SO_2-NH_2$, $-NHC(=S)CH_3$, and $-NHNH_2$;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, =O, $-OCO(C_1-C_{20}$ alkyl) and -OH;

Z is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl;

m is an integer between 0-20;

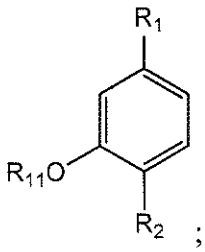
n is an integer between 0-8;

each ---- symbol independently represents either a single or a double bond capable of forming a keto group at position 3 or 17; and

the ~~~ symbol represents any type of bond regardless of the stereochemistry; and the respective enantiomers, other stereochemical isomers, hydrates, solvates, tautomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compounds in the manufacture of a medicament for preventing demyelination and/or enhancing remyelination of an axon of a nerve cell.

2. The use according to claim 1 wherein

the "a" ring is



;

Y is –OH;

Z is methyl;

R_{11} is H;

R_4 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo and C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, -OH and halo;

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo and –OH;

m is an integer from 1-12; and

n is an integer from 0-4.

3. The use according to claim 2 wherein

X is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, -$(CH_2)_m$-O-CH_3, -$(CH_2)_m$-O-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $(CH_2)_m$-S-CH_3, and -$(CH_2)_m$-S-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$.

4. The use according to claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16-octahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17(14*H*)-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16-octahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17(14*H*)-one;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-17-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-17-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(hydroxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(hydroxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-17-hydroxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-17-hydroxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(((methoxymethyl)amino)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(((methoxymethyl)amino)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

1-((((6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3,17-dihydroxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-6-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-one;

1-((((6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3,17-dihydroxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-6-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-methoxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(2-methoxyethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(4-methoxybutyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyhexyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyoctyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17-yl stearate;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17(6*H*)-dione;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17(6*H*)-dione;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

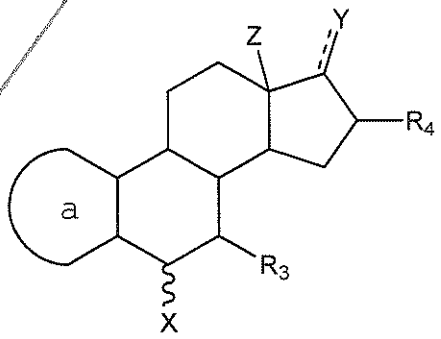
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-17-oxo-

~~7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl hydrogen~~ sulfate; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-17-oxo-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl hydrogen sulfate; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-6-(4-propoxybutyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-6-(5-ethoxypentyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; and (6*R*,8*S*,9*S*,14*S*,17*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol.

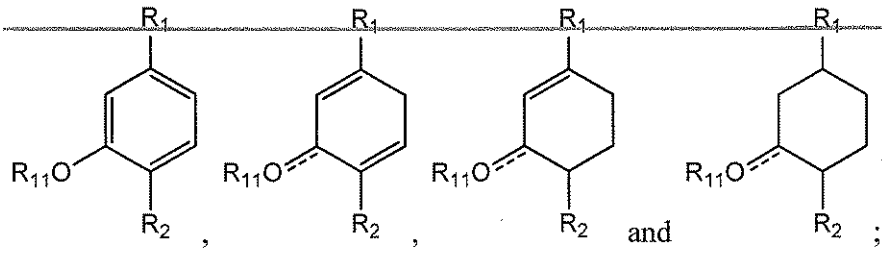
5. The use according to claim 4 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol and (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyhexyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol.

6. Use of

a 6-substituted estradiol derivative of the formula:



wherein the "a" ring is selected from the group consisting of



and ;

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_6 alkyl, halo, a sulfate, a glucuronide, -OH, a bulky group, aryl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, $-N(CH_2)_n$, a phosphate group, and a phosphinate group;

R_{11} is selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen, a sulfate, a glucoronide, $-SO_2NH_2$, -COOH, -CN, $-CH_2CN$-, -NHCN-, -CHO, $=CHOCH_3$, -COO salt, $-OSO_2$alkyl, $-NH_2$, and $-NHCO(CH_2)_n$;

X is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, C_2-C_{12} alkynyl, halogen, a glucoronide, $-NH_2$, $-SO_2NH_2$, -COOH, -CN, $-CH_2CN$, -NHCN, -CHO, -COOsalt, $-OSO_2$alkyl, -SH, $-SCH_3$, $-CH[(CH_2)_nCH_3]COOCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_mCOOCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m$-O-CH_3, $-(CH_2)_m$-O-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $(CH_2)_m$-S-CH_3, $-(CH_2)_m$-S-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m$-NH-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-C_2$-C_8 alkenyl-O-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-C_2$-C_8 alkenyl-S-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-C_2$-C_8 alkenyl-N-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-C_2$-C_8 alkynyl-O-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-C_2$-C_8 alkynyl-S-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-C_2$-C_8 alkynyl-N-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m$-OH, $-(CH_2)_m$-NH_2, $-(CH_2)_m$-O-NH_2, $-(CH_2)_m$-S-NH_2, $-NH(CH_2)_mCH_3$, $-NH(CH_2)_mOCH_3$, $-NH(CH_2)_mCHOH$-COOH, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-(CH_2)_m(NH)CH_2OH$, -NHCOOH, $-(CH_2)_m$NHCOOH, $-NO_2$, -SCN, $-SO_2$alkyl, $-B(OH)_2$, $-(CH_2)_m$ $N(CH_3)$-SO_2-NH_3, $-(CH_2)_m$-NH-SO_2-NH_2, -NHC(=S)CH_3, and $-NHNH_2$;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, =O, -OCO(C_1-C_{20} alkyl) and -OH;

Z is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl;

m is an integer between 0-20;

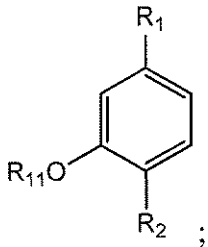
n is an integer between 0-8;

each ---- symbol independently represents either a single or a double bond capable of forming a keto group at position 3 or 17; and

the ~~~~ symbol represents any type of bond regardless of the stereochemistry, and the respective enantiomers, other stereochemical isomers, hydrates, solvates, tautomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compounds in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a demyelating disorder wherein the subject is to be administered an effective amount of a 6-substituted estradiol derivative and is to be monitored for remyelination.

7. The use according to claim 6 wherein

the "a" ring is



;

Y is –OH;

Z is methyl;

R_{11} is H;

R_4 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo and C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, -OH and halo;

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo and –OH;

m is an integer from 1-12; and

n is an integer from 0-4.

8. The use according to claim 7 wherein

X is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, $-(CH_2)_m-O-CH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m-O-(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $(CH_2)_m-S-CH_3$, and $-(CH_2)_m-S-(CH_2)_nCH_3$.

9. The use according to claim 6 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16-octahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17(14*H*)-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16-octahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17(14*H*)-one;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-17-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-17-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(hydroxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(hydroxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-17-hydroxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-17-hydroxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(((methoxymethyl)amino)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(((methoxymethyl)amino)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

1-((((6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3,17-dihydroxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-6-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-one;

1-((((6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3,17-dihydroxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-6-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-one;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-methoxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(2-methoxyethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(4-methoxybutyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyhexyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyoctyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17-yl stearate;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17(6*H*)-dione;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17(6*H*)-dione;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-17-oxo-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl hydrogen sulfate; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-17-oxo-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl hydrogen sulfate; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-6-(4-propoxybutyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-6-(5-ethoxypentyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; and
(6*R*,8*S*,9*S*,14*S*,17*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol.

10. The use according to claim 9 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol and
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyhexyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol.

11. The use according to claim 10 wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, central pontine myelinolysis, experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis, acute disseminated encephalomyelitis, transverse myelitis, progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy; Alzheimer's Disease, subacute sclerosing panencephalitis, post-infectious encephalomyelitis, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, progressive supernuclear palsy, multifocual motor neuropathy, Guillain-Barré Syndrome, progressive multifocal leucoencephalopathy, Devic's Disease, Balo's concentric sclerosis, Krabbe disease, Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease, Canavan disease, childhood ataxia with central hypomyelination, Alexander's disease, Cockayne syndrome, Van der Knapp syndrome, Zellweger syndrom and Refsum disease.

12. The use according to claim 11 wherein the disorder is multiple sclerosis.

13. The use according to claim 12 wherein remyelination is monitored by an improvement of a symptom of a demyelinating disorder.

14. The use according to claim 13, wherein the compound is administered in combination with an anti-inflammatory or an immuno-modulator.

$NH(CH_2)_mOCH_3$, $-NH(CH_2)_mCHOH-COOH$, $-N(CH_3)_2$, $-(CH_2)_m(NH)CH_2OH$, $-NHCOOH$, $-(CH_2)_mNHCOOH$, $-NO_2$, $-SCN$, $-SO_2$alkyl, $-B(OH)_2$, $-(CH_2)_m\ N(CH_3)-SO_2-NH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m-NH-SO_2-NH_2$, $-NHC(=S)CH_3$, and $-NHNH_2$;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, =O, $-OCO(C_1-C_{20}$ alkyl) and -OH;

Z is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl;

m is an integer between 0-20;

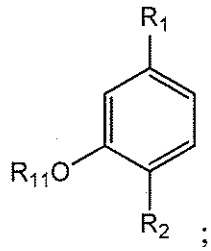
n is an integer between 0-8;

each ---- symbol independently represents either a single or a double bond capable of forming a keto group at position 3 or 17; and

the ~~~~ symbol represents any type of bond regardless of the stereochemistry; and the respective enantiomers, other stereochemical isomers, hydrates, solvates, tautomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compounds in the manufacture of a medicament for enhancing remyelination of an axon of a nerve cell, wherein the remyelination is associated with a disorder selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, central pontine myelinolysis, experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis, acute disseminated encephalomyelitis, transverse myelitis, progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy; Alzheimer's Disease, subacute sclerosing panencephalitis, post-infectious encephalomyelitis, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, progressive supernuclear palsy, multifocual motor neuropathy, Guillain-Barré Syndrome, progressive multifocal leucoencephalopathy, Devic's Disease, Balo's concentric sclerosis, Krabbe disease, Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease, Canavan disease, childhood ataxia with central hypomyelination, Alexander's disease, Cockayne syndrome, Van der Knapp syndrome, Zellweger syndrom and Refsum disease.

2. The use according to claim 1 wherein

the "a" ring is



;

Y is –OH;

Z is methyl;

R_{11} is H;

R_4 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo and C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, -OH and halo;

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo and –OH;

m is an integer from 1-12; and

n is an integer from 0-4.

3. The use according to claim 2 wherein

X is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, -$(CH_2)_m$-O-CH_3, -$(CH_2)_m$-O-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $(CH_2)_m$-S-CH_3, and -$(CH_2)_m$-S-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$.

4. The use according to claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16-octahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17(14*H*)-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16-octahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17(14*H*)-one;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-17-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-17-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(hydroxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(hydroxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-17-hydroxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-17-hydroxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(((methoxymethyl)amino)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(((methoxymethyl)amino)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
1-((((6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3,17-dihydroxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-6-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-one;
1-((((6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3,17-dihydroxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-6-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-one;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-methoxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(2-methoxyethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(4-methoxybutyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

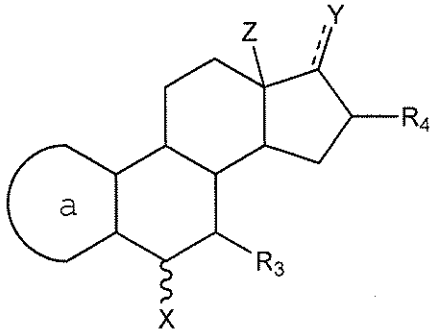
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyhexyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyoctyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17-yl stearate;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17(6*H*)-dione;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17(6*H*)-dione;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-17-oxo-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl hydrogen sulfate; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-17-oxo-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl hydrogen sulfate; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-6-(4-propoxybutyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-6-(5-ethoxypentyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; and
(6*R*,8*S*,9*S*,14*S*,17*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol.

5. The use according to claim 4 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol and

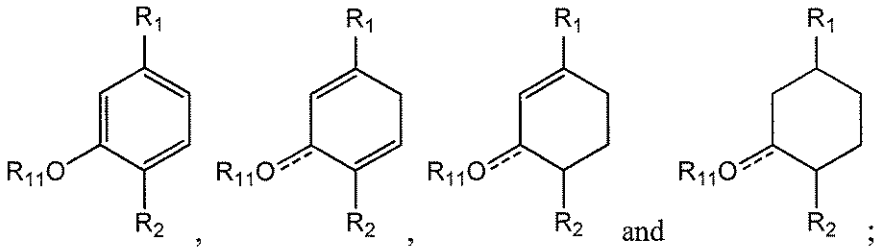
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyhexyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol.

6. Use of

a 6-substituted estradiol derivative of the formula:



wherein the "a" ring is selected from the group consisting of



, , and ;

R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_6 alkyl, halo, a sulfate, a glucuronide, -OH, a bulky group, aryl, cycloalkyl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, $-N(CH_2)_n$, a phosphate group, and a phosphinate group;

R_{11} is selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen, a sulfate, a glucoronide, $-SO_2NH_2$, -COOH, -CN, $-CH_2CN$-, -NHCN-, -CHO, $=CHOCH_3$, -COO salt, $-OSO_2$alkyl, $-NH_2$, and $-NHCO(CH_2)_n$;

X is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, C_2-C_{12} alkynyl, halogen, a glucoronide, $-NH_2$, $-SO_2NH_2$, -COOH, -CN, $-CH_2CN$, -NHCN, -CHO, -COOsalt, $-OSO_2$alkyl, -SH, $-SCH_3$, $-CH[(CH_2)_nCH_3]COOCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_mCOOCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m$-O-CH_3, $-(CH_2)_m$-O-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $(CH_2)_m$-S-CH_3, $-(CH_2)_m$-S-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m$-NH-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $-C_2$-C_8

alkenyl-O-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, -C_2-C_8 alkenyl-S-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, -C_2-C_8 alkenyl-N-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, -C_2-C_8 alkynyl-O-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, -C_2-C_8 alkynyl-S-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, -C_2-C_8 alkynyl-N-$(CH_2)_nCH_3$, -$(CH_2)_m$-OH, -$(CH_2)_m$-NH_2, -$(CH_2)_m$-O-NH_2, -$(CH_2)_m$-S-NH_2, -$NH(CH_2)_mCH_3$, -$NH(CH_2)_mOCH_3$, -$NH(CH_2)_mCHOH$-COOH, -$N(CH_3)_2$, -$(CH_2)_m(NH)CH_2OH$, -NHCOOH, -$(CH_2)_m$NHCOOH, -NO_2, -SCN, -SO_2alkyl, -$B(OH)_2$, -$(CH_2)_m$ $N(CH_3)$-SO_2-NH_3, -$(CH_2)_m$-NH-SO_2-NH_2, -$NHC(=S)CH_3$, and -$NHNH_2$;

Y is selected from the group consisting of H, =O, -OCO(C_1-C_{20} alkyl) and -OH;

Z is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl;

m is an integer between 0-20;

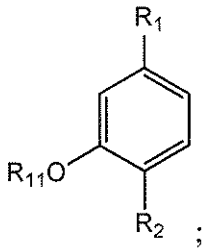
n is an integer between 0-8;

each ---- symbol independently represents either a single or a double bond capable of forming a keto group at position 3 or 17; and

the ~~~~ symbol represents any type of bond regardless of the stereochemistry; and the respective enantiomers, other stereochemical isomers, hydrates, solvates, tautomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compounds in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a disorder associated with a lack of remyelination, wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, central pontine myelinolysis, experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis, acute disseminated encephalomyelitis, transverse myelitis, progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy; Alzheimer's Disease, subacute sclerosing panencephalitis, post-infectious encephalomyelitis, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy, progressive supernuclear palsy, multifocual motor neuropathy, Guillain-Barré Syndrome, progressive multifocal leucoencephalopathy, Devic's Disease, Balo's concentric sclerosis, Krabbe disease, Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD), Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease, Canavan disease, childhood ataxia with central hypomyelination, Alexander's disease, Cockayne syndrome, Van der Knapp syndrome, Zellweger syndrom and Refsum disease, wherein the subject is to be administered an effective amount of a 6-substituted estradiol derivative and is to be monitored for remyelination.

7. The use according to claim 6 wherein

the "a" ring is



;

Y is –OH;

Z is methyl;

R_{11} is H;

R_4 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo and C_1-C_6 alkyl;

R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, -OH and halo;

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of H, halo and –OH;

m is an integer from 1-12; and

n is an integer from 0-4.

8. The use according to claim 7 wherein

X is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, $-(CH_2)_m-O-CH_3$, $-(CH_2)_m-O-(CH_2)_nCH_3$, $(CH_2)_m-S-CH_3$, and $-(CH_2)_m-S-(CH_2)_nCH_3$.

9. The use according to claim 6 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16-octahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17(14*H*)-one;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,15,16-octahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17(14*H*)-one;

(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-17-

hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-17-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(hydroxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(hydroxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-17-hydroxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-((aminooxy)methyl)-17-hydroxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-one;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(((methoxymethyl)amino)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(((methoxymethyl)amino)methyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
1-((((6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3,17-dihydroxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-6-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-one;
1-((((6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3,17-dihydroxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-6-yl)methyl)amino)propan-2-one;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-methoxy-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(2-methoxyethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(4-methoxybutyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyhexyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyoctyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-3-hydroxy-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17-yl stearate;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17(6*H*)-dione;
(6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17(6*H*)-dione;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethyl-4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; (6*S*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-17-oxo-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl hydrogen sulfate; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-17-oxo-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl hydrogen sulfate; (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-6-(4-propoxybutyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-6-(5-ethoxypentyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol;
(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,10*R*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol; and
(6*R*,8*S*,9*S*,14*S*,17*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol.

10. The use according to claim 9 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(methoxymethyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol and (6*R*,8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-6-(6-methoxyhexyl)-13-methyl-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthrene-3,17-diol.

11. The use according to claim 10 wherein the disorder is multiple sclerosis.

12. The use according to claim 11 wherein remyelination is monitored by an improvement of a symptom of a demyelinating disorder.

13. The use according to claim 12, wherein the compound is to be administered in combination with an anti-inflammatory or an immuno-modulator.