WHAT IS CLAIMS IS:

1. An oral, substantially non-aqueous liquid pharmaceutical composition comprising a corticosteroid, a pharmaceutically acceptable non-aqueous liquid, and a phase change agent dissolved or suspended in the non-aqueous liquid, wherein after oral administration to a patient contact with the gastrointestinal tract causes the composition to undergo a change in physical properties, whereby contact of the corticosteroid with the gastrointestinal tract of the patient is enhanced and/or prolonged, and wherein the substantially non-aqueous liquid pharmaceutical composition is anhydrous or comprises less than about 10% water.

2. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the non-aqueous liquid is selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable alcohols, oils, glycols, glycol ethers, pyrrolidones, polyethylene glycols, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, 2-pyrrolidone, glycerol, tetraglycol, glycerol formal, solketal, ethyl acetate, ethyl lactate, ethyl butyrate, dibutyl malonate, tributyl citrate, tri-n-hexyl acetylcitrate, diethyl succinate, diethyl glutarate, diethyl malonate, triethyl citrate, triacetin, tributyrin, diethyl carbonate, propylene carbonate, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, dimethyl sulfoxide, dimethyl sulfone, tetrahydrofuran, caprolactam, N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide, 1-dodecylazacycloheptan-2-one, 1,3-dimethyl-3,4,5, 6-tetrohydro-2(1H)-pyrimidinone, and combinations thereof.

3. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the non-aqueous liquid is selected from the group consisting of alcohols, oils, glycols, glycol ethers, pyrrolidones, polyethylene glycols, glycerol and combinations thereof.

4. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 3, wherein the non-aqueous liquid is selected from the group consisting of ethanol, glycerol, propylene glycol, glycerides, polyethylene glycol with a molecular weight between about 200 and 600, and combinations thereof.

5. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the change in physical properties is precipitation of the composition onto the mucosa of the gastrointestinal tract of the patient, whereby deposition of the corticosteroid onto the mucosa of the gastrointestinal tract is enhanced and/or prolonged.

6. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the change in physical properties is the formation of a gel on contact with the mucosa of the gastrointestinal tract of the

solketal, ethyl acetate, ethyl lactate, diethyl carbonate, propylene carbonate, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, dimethyl sulfoxide, dimethyl sulfone, tetrahydrofuran, and combinations thereof.

15. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein said bio-gelling polymer is selected from the group consisting of polylactides, polyglycolides, polycaprolactones, polydioxannones, polycarbonates, polyhydroxybutyrates, polyalkyene oxalates, polyanhydrides, polyamides, polyesteramides, polyurethanes, polyacetals, polyketals, polyorthocarbonates, polyphosphazenes, polyhydroxyvalerates, polyalkylene succinates, poly(malic acid), poly(amino acids), chitin, chitosan, polyorthoesters, cellulose derivatives, cellulose esters, methacrylic acid and methacrylate polymers, and copolymers, terpolymers and mixtures thereof.

16. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein said bio-gelling polymer is ethylcellulose.

17. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 1~~0~~, wherein said phase change agent is a bio-gelling polymer, and wherein said increase in viscosity is at least 50%.

18. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 1~~0~~, wherein said phase change agent is a bio-gelling polymer, and wherein said increase in viscosity is at least 100%.

19. The liquid pharmaceutical composition of claim 1~~0~~, wherein said phase change agent is a bio-gelling polymer, and wherein said increase in viscosity is at least 200%.

20. Use of a substantially non-aqueous liquid pharmaceutical composition comprising a corticosteroid, a pharmaceutically acceptable liquid, and a phase change agent dissolved or suspended in the non-aqueous liquid for the manufacture of a medicament for treating an inflammatory condition of the gastrointestinal tract.

21. The use of claim 20, wherein said inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract comprises inflammation of the esophagus.

22. The use of claim 20, wherein said condition is eosinophilic esophagitis.

23. The use of claim 20, wherein said inflammation comprises inflammation of the glottis, epiglottis, tonsils, or oropharynx.