**The claims defining the invention are as follows:**

1. ~~A method~~Use of a 5,6- or 6,7-epoxy-tigliane compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for ~~of~~ promoting wound healing in a subject~~. comprising administering to the subject an epoxy-tigliane compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.~~

2. ~~A method~~Use according to claim 1 wherein the promoting wound healing comprises increasing the rate of wound healing.

3. ~~A method~~Use according to claim 1 wherein the promoting wound healing comprises reducing scarring in the wound tissue.

4. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the promoting wound healing comprises both increasing the rate of wound healing and reducing scarring in wound tissue.

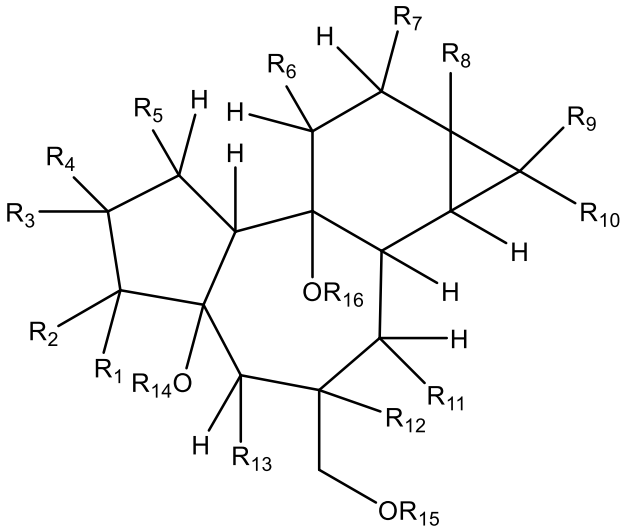
5. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the promoting wound healing comprises improving the cosmetic outcome of the healed wound.

6. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the wound is a chronic wound, an acute wound or an existing wound.

7. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the epoxy-tigliane compound is in the form of a plant extract.

8. ~~A method~~Use according to claim 7 wherein the plant extract is obtainable from a plant which is a *Fontainea* species or a *Hylandia* species.

9. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the epoxy-tigliane compound is a compound of formula (I):




(I)

wherein

$R_1$ is hydrogen and $R_2$ is -$OR_{17}$; or $R_1$ and $R_2$ together form a carbonyl group (=O);

$R_3$ is hydrogen or $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl;

$R_4$ and $R_5$ are independently hydrogen or –$OR_{17}$; or $R_4$ and $R_5$ together form a double bond or an epoxide (-O-);

$R_6$ is hydrogen or $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl;

$R_7$ is -OH or -$OR_{18}$;

$R_8$ is -OH or –$OR_{18}$; provided that $R_7$ and $R_8$ are not both OH;

$R_9$ and $R_{10}$ are independently selected from hydrogen and $C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl;

$R_{11}$ and $R_{12}$ or $R_{12}$ and $R_{13}$ together form an epoxide and the remaining group of $R_{11}$ and $R_{13}$ is hydrogen, -OH or –$OR_{17}$

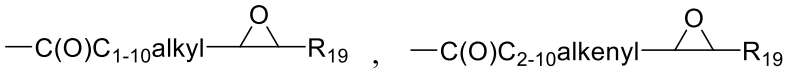
$R_{14}$ is hydrogen or –$R_{17}$;

$R_{15}$ is hydrogen or -$R_{17}$;

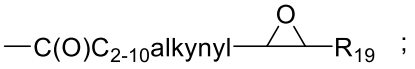
$R_{16}$ is hydrogen or –$R_{17}$;

$R_{17}$ is hydrogen, -$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, -$C_{2\text{-}6}$alkenyl, -$C_{2\text{-}6}$alkynyl, -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}6}$alkyl, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}6}$alkenyl or –C(O)$C_{2\text{-}6}$alkynyl;

$R_{18}$ is $C_{1\text{-}20}$alkyl, -$C_{2\text{-}20}$alkenyl, -$C_{2\text{-}20}$alkynyl, -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}20}$alkyl, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}20}$alkenyl, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}20}$alkynyl, -C(O)cycloalkyl, -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}10}$alkylcycloalkyl; -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkenylcycloalkyl, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkynylcycloalkyl, -C(O)aryl, -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}10}$alkylaryl, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkenylaryl, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkynylaryl, -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}10}$alkylC(O)$R_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkenylC(O)$R_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkynylC(O)$R_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}10}$alkylCH($OR_{19}$)($OR_{19}$), -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkenylCH($OR_{19}$)($OR_{19}$), -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkynylCH($OR_{19}$)($OR_{19}$), -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}10}$alkyl$SR_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkenyl$SR_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkynyl$SR_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}10}$alkylC(O)$OR_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkenylC(O)$OR_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkynylC(O)$OR_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{1\text{-}10}$alkylC(O)$SR_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkenylC(O)$SR_{19}$, -C(O)$C_{2\text{-}10}$alkynylC(O)$SR_{19}$,




or



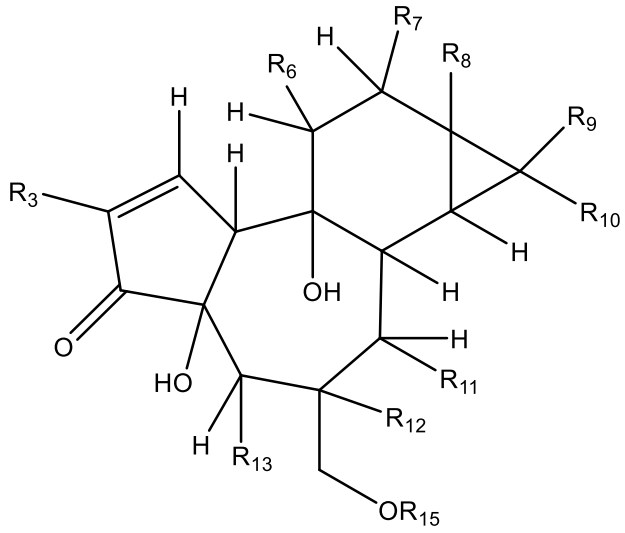

;

and

$R_{19}$ is hydrogen, -$C_{1-10}$alkyl, -$C_{2-10}$alkenyl, -$C_{2-10}$alkynyl, cycloalkyl or aryl;

wherein each alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl or aryl group is optionally substituted; or a geometric isomer or stereoisomer or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

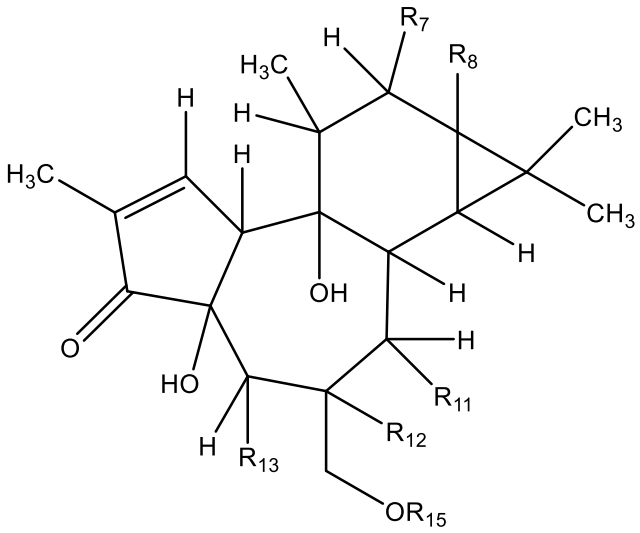
10. ~~A method~~Use according to claim 9 wherein the compound of formula (I) is a compound of formula (II):




(II)

wherein $R_3$, $R_6$, $R_7$, $R_8$, $R_9$, $R_{10}$, $R_{11}$, $R_{12}$, $R_{13}$ and $R_{15}$ are as defined for formula (I).

11. ~~A method~~Use according to claim 9 or claim 10 wherein the compound of formula (I) or (II) is a compound of formula (III):




wherein $R_7$, $R_8$, $R_{11}$, $R_{12}$, $R_{13}$ and $R_{15}$ are as defined for formula (I).

12. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 11 wherein $R_1$ is hydrogen and $R_2$ is OH or –OC(O)$C_{1-6}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-6}$alkenyl or -OC(O)$C_{2-6}$alkynyl, or $R_1$ and $R_2$ together form a carbonyl group.

13. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 12 wherein $R_3$ is hydrogen or -$C_{1-3}$alkyl.

14. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 13 wherein $R_4$ and $R_5$ are independently hydrogen or -OH, –OC(O)$C_{1-6}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-6}$alkenyl or –OC(O)$C_{2-6}$alkynyl or $R_4$ and $R_5$ together form a double bond or an epoxide.

15. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 14 wherein $R_6$ is hydrogen or -$C_{1-3}$alkyl.

16. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 15 wherein $R_7$ is –OH, -OC(O)$C_{1-15}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-15}$alkenyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-15}$alkynyl, -OC(O)aryl wherein the aryl group is optionally substituted, -OC(O)$C_{1-15}$alkylaryl, -OC(O)$C_{1-10}$alkylC(O)H, -OC(O)$C_{2-10}$alkenylC(O)H, -OC(O)$C_{1-10}$alkylC(O)$C_{1-6}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-10}$alkenylC(O)$C_{1-6}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{1-10}$alkylCH($OC_{1-3}$alkyl)($OC_{1-3}$alkyl), -OC(O)$C_{2-10}$alkenylCH($OC_{1-3}$alkyl)($OC_{1-3}$alkyl), -OC(O)$C_{1-10}$alkyl$SC_{1-6}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-10}$alkenyl$SC_{1-6}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{1-10}$alkylC(O)$OC_{1-6}$alkyl or -OC(O)$C_{2-10}$alkylC(O)$OC_{1-6}$alkyl.

17. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 16 wherein $R_8$ is –OC(O)$C_{1-15}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-15}$alkenyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-15}$alkynyl or –C(O)aryl where the aryl group is optionally substituted.

18. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 17 wherein $R_9$ and $R_{10}$ are independently -$C_{1-3}$alkyl.

19. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 18 wherein $R_{11}$ and $R_{12}$ form an epoxide and $R_{13}$ is -OH, -OC(O)$C_{1-6}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-6}$alkenyl or –OC(O)$C_{2-6}$alkynyl.

20. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 18 wherein $R_{12}$ and $R_{13}$ form an epoxide and $R_{11}$ is -OH, -OC(O)$C_{1-6}$alkyl, -OC(O)$C_{2-6}$alkenyl or –OC(O)$C_{2-6}$alkynyl.

21. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 20 wherein $R_{15}$ is hydrogen, -C(O)$C_{1-6}$alkyl, -C(O)$C_{2-6}$alkenyl or –C(O)$C_{2-6}$alkynyl.

22. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 8 to 21 wherein $R_{14}$ is hydrogen.

23. ~~A method~~Use according to any one of claims 9 to 22 wherein $R_{16}$ is hydrogen.

24. ~~A method~~Use of a 5,6- or 6,7-epoxy-tigliane compound in the manufacture of a medicament for ~~treating or~~ preventing excessive scarring ~~comprising appying to the wound or scar an epoxy-tigliane compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof~~.

25. ~~A method~~Use according to claim 24 wherein the excessive scarring is a keloid or hypertrophic scar.

~~26. Use of an epoxy-tigliane compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for promoting wound healing in a subject or treating or preventing excessive scarring.~~

~~27. Use of an epoxy-tigliane compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for promoting wound healing in a subject or treating or preventing excessive scarring.~~

~~28~~26. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

12-hexanoyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 5);

12-acetyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 6);

12-propanoyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 7);

12-butanoyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 8);

12-[(2*E*,4*E*)-(6,6-dimethoxyhexa-2,4-dienoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 9);

12-[(2*E*,4*E*)-6-oxohexa-2,4-dienoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 10);

12-[(2*E*,4E)-6,7-dihydroxydodeca-2,4-dienoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 11);

12-[(2*E*)-4,5-dihydroxy-deca-2-enoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 12);

12-tigloyl-13-(2-methylpropanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 13);

12-[(2*E*)-3-methylthioprop-2-enoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 14);

12-(2-methylprop-2-enoyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 15);

12-[(2*E*,4*E*)-hexa-2,4-dienoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 16);

12-[(2*E*,4*E*)-8-oxododeca-2,4-dienoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound17);

12-[(2*Z*,4*E*)-deca-2,4-dienoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 18);

13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 19);

12-[(2*E*)-but-2-enoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 20);

12-tigloyl-13-butanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 21);

12-(3-butenoyl)-13-nonanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 22);

12-benzoyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 23);

12-[(2*Z*,4*E*)-deca-2,4-dienoyl]-13-(2-methylpropanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 25);

12-[(2*E*,4*E*)-6,7-(anti)-epoxy-dodeca-2,4-dienoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 26);

12,13-dibutanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 27)

12-benzoyl-13-butanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 28);

12-tigloyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 29);

13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 30);

12-acetyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 31);

12,13-di-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 32);

12-propanoyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 33);

12-hexanoyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 34);

12-tigloyl-13-(2-methylpropanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 35);

12-[(2*E*)-3-methylthioprop-2-enoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 36);

12-{[2-(methylsulfanyl)carbonyl]-acetoyl}-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 39); and

12-[(2-methoxycarbonyl)-acetoyl]-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-5,6-epoxy-4,7,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 40);

12,13-di-nonoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 41);

12,13-di-hexanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 42);

12,13-di-pentanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 43);

12,13-di-tigloyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 44)

5,20-di-acetyl-12-tigloyl-13-(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 45);

12,13-di-(2*E*,4*E*)-hex-2,4-enoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 46);

12-hexanoyl-13-[2-(N-methylanthraniloyl)]-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 47)

12-acetyl-13-[2-(N-methylanthraniloyl)]-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 48);

12,13-di-heptanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 49);

12-myristoyl-13-acetyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 50);

12-myristoyl-13(2-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 51);

12-(2-methylbutanoyl)-13-acetyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 52); and

12-hydroxy-13-hexanoyl-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 53);

12,————13-di-(3-methylbutanoyl)-6,7-epoxy-4,5,9,12,13,20-hexahydroxy-1-tigliaen-3-one (Compound 60`);

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

~~29~~27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim ~~28~~ 26 or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.