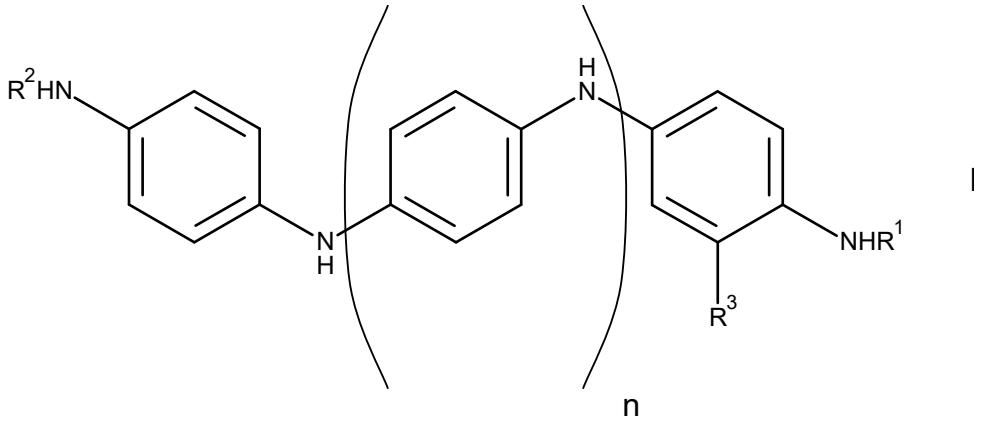
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula I:



I

wherein:

R^1 and R^2 independently represent H, CH_2Phenyl or C_{5-10} alkyl, which phenyl group is substituted by NO_2, OCH_3, CH_3 or OH, and which C_{5-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

C_{1-10} alkyl, which group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, nitro, CN, OR^{4a}, $NR^{4b}R^{4c}$, aryl and Het^1;

Cy^1, which Cy^1 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-10} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{5a}, $S(O)_qR^{5b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{5c}R^{5d}$, $NR^{5e}S(O)_2R^{5f}$, $NR^{5g}R^{5h}$;

Het^a, which Het^a group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{6a}, $S(O)_qR^{6b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{6c}R^{6d}$, $NR^{6e}S(O)_2R^{6f}$, $NR^{6g}R^{6h}$; and

OR^{7a}, $S(O)_qR^{7b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{7c}R^{7d}$, $NR^{7e}S(O)_2R^{7f}$ and $NR^{7g}R^{7h}$,

R^3 represents H, OC_{1-10} alkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-10}$ alkyl or $OC(O)C_{1-10}$ alkyl, which OC_{1-10} alkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-10}$ alkyl and $OC(O)C_{1-10}$ alkyl groups are unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

C_{1-10} alkyl, which group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, nitro, CN, OR^{8a}, $NR^{8b}R^{8c}$, aryl and Het^2;

Cy^2, which Cy^2 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted

or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{9a}, $S(O)_qR^{9b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{9c}R^{9d}$, $NR^{9e}S(O)_2R^{9f}$, $NR^{9g}R^{9h}$;

Het^b, which Het^b group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{10a}, $S(O)_qR^{10b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{10c}R^{10d}$, $NR^{10e}S(O)_2R^{10f}$, $NR^{10g}R^{10h}$; and

OR^{11a}, $S(O)_qR^{11b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{11c}R^{11d}$, $NR^{11e}S(O)_2R^{11f}$ and $NR^{11g}R^{11h}$,

Het^1 and Het^2 represent, independently at each occurrence, a 4- to 14-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, which heterocyclic groups may comprise one, two or three rings and may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from OR^{12a} and C_{1-10} alkyl, which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted;

Cy^1 and Cy^2 represent, independently at each occurrence, a 3- to 6-membered aromatic, fully saturated or partially unsaturated carbocyclic ring;

R^{4a} to R^{4c}, R^{5a} to R^{5h}, R^{6a} to R^{6h}, R^{7a} to R^{7h}, R^{8a} to R^{8c}, R^{9a} to R^{9h}, R^{10a} to R^{10h}, R^{11a} to R^{11h}, independently represent, at each occurrence, H, or C_{1-10} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, OR^{12b}), or R^{5-7c} and R^{5-7d}, R^{9-11c} and R^{9-11d}, R^{5-7g} and R^{5-7h}, R^{9-11g} and R^{9-11h} represent, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 3- to 14-membered heterocyclic ring that may be aromatic, fully saturated or partially unsaturated and which may additionally contain one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, which heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, nitro, CN, and C_{1-6} alkyl;

Het^a and Het^b independently represent 4- to 14-membered heterocyclic groups containing one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N;

R^{12a-b} independently represents, at each occurrence, H or C_{1-4} alkyl,

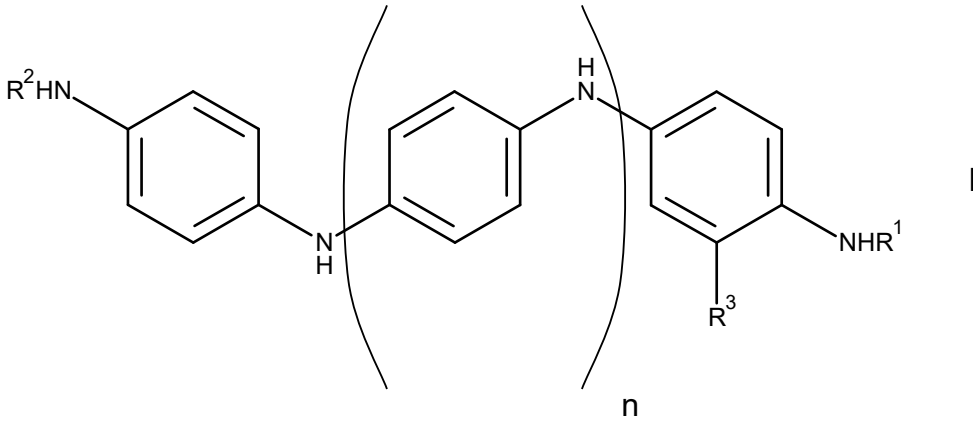
n represents 0 to 4,

or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate, or

an oxidised derivative thereof of the compound of formula I,

provided that when R^1 and R^2 are H, and n is 0, 1 or 2, R^3 is not H.

2. A method of dyeing hair or of applying a temporary tattoo, which method comprises applying a composition comprising a compound of formula I or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate, or an oxidised derivative thereof, to the hair or skin of a subject, wherein the compound of formula I has the structure:



I

wherein:

R^1 and R^2 independently represent H, CH_2Phenyl or C_{5-10} alkyl, which phenyl group is substituted by NO_2, OCH_3, CH_3 or OH, and which C_{5-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

C_{1-10} alkyl, which group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, nitro, CN, OR^{4a}, $NR^{4b}R^{4c}$, aryl and Het^1;

Cy^1, which Cy^1 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{5a}, $S(O)_qR^{5b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{5c}R^{5d}$, $NR^{5e}S(O)_2R^{5f}$, $NR^{5g}R^{5h}$;

Het^a, which Het^a group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{6a}, $S(O)_qR^{6b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{6c}R^{6d}$, $NR^{6e}S(O)_2R^{6f}$, $NR^{6g}R^{6h}$; and

OR^{7a}, $S(O)_qR^{7b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{7c}R^{7d}$, $NR^{7e}S(O)_2R^{7f}$ and $NR^{7g}R^{7h}$,

R^3 represents H, C_{1-10} alkyl, OC_{1-10} alkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-10}$ alkyl or $OC(O)C_{1-10}$ alkyl, which C_{1-10} alkyl, OC_{1-10} alkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-10}$ alkyl and $OC(O)C_{1-10}$ alkyl groups are unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

C_{1-10} alkyl, which group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, nitro, CN, OR^{8a}, $NR^{8b}R^{8c}$, aryl and Het^2;

Cy^2, which Cy^2 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{9a}, $S(O)_qR^{9b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{9c}R^{9d}$, $NR^{9e}S(O)_2R^{9f}$, $NR^{9g}R^{9h}$;

Het^b, which Het^b group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{10a}, $S(O)_qR^{10b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{10c}R^{10d}$, $NR^{10e}S(O)_2R^{10f}$, $NR^{10g}R^{10h}$; and

OR^{11a}, $S(O)_qR^{11b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{11c}R^{11d}$, $NR^{11e}S(O)_2R^{11f}$ and $NR^{11g}R^{11h}$,

Het^1 and Het^2 represent, independently at each occurrence, a 4- to 14-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, which heterocyclic groups may comprise one, two or three rings and may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from OR^{12a} and C_{1-10} alkyl, which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted;

Cy^1 and Cy^2 represent, independently at each occurrence, a 3- to 6-membered aromatic, fully saturated or partially unsaturated carbocyclic ring;

R^{4a} to R^{4c}, R^{5a} to R^{5h}, R^{6a} to R^{6h}, R^{7a} to R^{7h}, R^{8a} to R^{8c}, R^{9a} to R^{9h}, R^{10a} to R^{10h}, R^{11a} to R^{11h}, independently represent, at each occurrence, H, or C_{1-10} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, OR^{12b}), or R^{5-7c} and R^{5-7d}, R^{9-11c} and R^{9-11d}, R^{5-7g} and R^{5-7h}, R^{9-11g} and R^{9-11h} represent, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 3- to 14-membered heterocyclic ring that may be aromatic, fully saturated or partially unsaturated and which may additionally contain one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, which heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, nitro, CN, and C_{1-10} alkyl;

Het^a and Het^b independently represent 4- to 14-membered heterocyclic groups containing one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N;

R^{12a-b} independently represents, at each occurrence, H or C_{1-4} alkyl,

n represents 0 to 4, or

a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate, or an oxidised derivative thereof of the compound of formula I,

provided that when R^1 and R^2 are H, and n is 0, R^3 is not H.

3. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein in the compound of formula I, R^1 and R^2 independently represent H or C_{6-8} alkyl, which C_{6-8} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from C_{1-3} alkyl, Cy^1 (which Cy^1 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, C_{1-3} alkyl, and OR^{5a}), Het^a (which Het^a group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, C_{1-3} alkyl, and OR^{6a}), and OR^{7a}.

4. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein in the compound of formula I, R^3 represents O-C_{1-6} alkyl, or C(O)OC_{1-6} alkyl, which O-C_{1-6} alkyl, and C(O)OC_{1-6} alkyl groups are unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from C_{1-3} alkyl.

5. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein in the compound of formula I, Cy^1 when present represents independently a phenyl ring.

6. The compound or method according to Claim 1, wherein n represents 1 to 3.

7. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound of formula I is selected from the list:

(i) 4-Amino-(3-hexyloxy)-4′-aminodiphenylamine;

(ii) hexyl [2-amino-5-(4-aminophenylamino)]benzoate;

(iii) 4-hexylamino-(3-hexyloxy)-4′-aminodiphenylamine;

(iv) 4-Amino-4′-[(4-tolylaminomethyl)phenyl]diphenylamine;

(v) *N*^{1}-[4-(4-tolylaminomethyl)phenyl]-*N*^{4}-(4-aminophenyl)-1,4-benzenediamine;

(vi) *N*^{4}-[(4-nitrophenyl)methyl]-*N*^{1}-[4-[(4-nitrophenyl)methylamino]phenyl]-benzene-1,4-diamine;

(vii) *N*^{4}-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-*N*^{1}-[4-[(4-ethoxyphenyl)methylamino]-phenyl]benzene-1,4-diamine;

(viii) *N*^{4}-(p-tolylmethyl)-*N*^{1}-[4-(p-tolylmethylamino)phenyl]benzene-1,4-diamine; and

(ix) 4-[[4-[4-[(4-hydroxyphenyl)methylamino]anilino]anilino]methyl]phenol.

8. The compound according to Claim 7, wherein the compound of formula I is hexyl [2-amino-5-(4-aminophenylamino)]benzoate.

9. The method according to Claim 2, wherein the compound of formula I is selected from the list:

(a) *N¹,N⁴*-bis(4-aminophenyl)-1,4-benzenediamine;

(b) 4-Amino-(3-hexyloxy)-4′-aminodiphenylamine;

(c) hexyl [2-amino-5-(4-aminophenylamino)]benzoate;

(d) 4-hexylamino-(3-hexyloxy)-4′-aminodiphenylamine;

(e) 4,4'-Bis[(4-aminophenyl)amino]diphenylamine;

(f) 4-Amino-4′-[(4-tolylaminomethyl)phenyl]diphenylamine;

(g) N^1-[4-(4-tolylaminomethyl)phenyl]-*N⁴*-(4-aminophenyl)-1,4-benzenediamine;

(h) *N⁴*-[(4-nitrophenyl)methyl]-*N¹*-[4-[(4-nitrophenyl)methylamino]phenyl]-benzene-1,4-diamine;

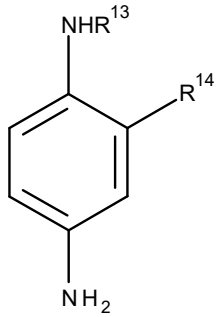
(i) *N⁴*-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-*N¹*-[4-[(4-ethoxyphenyl)methylamino]-phenyl]benzene-1,4-diamine;

(j) *N⁴*-(p-tolylmethyl)-*N¹*-[4-(p-tolylmethylamino)phenyl]benzene-1,4-diamine; and

(k) 4-[[4-[4-[(4-hydroxyphenyl)methylamino]anilino]anilino]methyl]phenol.

10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein the compound of formula I is hexyl [2-amino-5-(4-aminophenylamino)]benzoate.

11. A compound of formula II:



II

wherein:

R^{13} represents H or C_{6-10} alkyl, which C_{6-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

C_{1-10} alkyl, which group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, nitro, CN, OR^{15a}, $NR^{15b}R^{15c}$, aryl and Het^3;

Cy^3, which Cy^3 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{16a}, $S(O)_qR^{16b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{16c}R^{16d}$, $NR^{16e}S(O)_2R^{16f}$, $NR^{16g}R^{16h}$;

Het^c, which Het^c group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{17a}, $S(O)_qR^{17b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{17c}R^{17d}$, $NR^{17e}S(O)_2R^{17f}$, $NR^{17g}R^{17h}$; and

OR^{18a}, $S(O)_qR^{18b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{18c}R^{18d}$, $NR^{18e}S(O)_2R^{18f}$ and $NR^{18g}R^{18h}$,

R^{14} represents C_{1-10} alkyl, OC_{1-10} alkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-10}$ alkyl or $OC(O)C_{1-10}$ alkyl, which:

OC_{1-10} alkyl group is substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

Cy^4, which Cy^4 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{20a}, $S(O)_qR^{20b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{20c}R^{20d}$, $NR^{20e}S(O)_2R^{20f}$, $NR^{20g}R^{20h}$;

Het^d, which Het^d group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-10} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{21a}, $S(O)_qR^{21b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{21c}R^{21d}$, $NR^{21e}S(O)_2R^{21f}$, $NR^{21g}R^{21h}$; and

OR^{22a}, $S(O)_qR^{22b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{22c}R^{22d}$, $NR^{22e}S(O)_2R^{22f}$ and $NR^{22g}R^{22h}$; and

C_{1-10} alkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-10}$ alkyl and $OC(O)C_{1-10}$ alkyl groups are unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

C_{1-10} alkyl, which group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, nitro, CN, OR^{19a}, $NR^{19b}R^{19c}$, aryl and Het^4;

Cy^4, which Cy^4 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{20a}, $S(O)_qR^{20b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{20c}R^{20d}$, $NR^{20e}S(O)_2R^{20f}$, $NR^{20g}R^{20h}$;

Het^d, which Het^d group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-10} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted

or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{21a}, $S(O)_qR^{21b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{21c}R^{21d}$, $NR^{21e}S(O)_2R^{21f}$, $NR^{21g}R^{21h}$; and OR^{22a}, $S(O)_qR^{22b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{22c}R^{22d}$, $NR^{22e}S(O)_2R^{22f}$ and $NR^{22g}R^{22h}$,

Het^3 and Het^4 represent, independently at each occurrence, a 4- to 14-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, which heterocyclic groups may comprise one, two or three rings and may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from OR^{23a} and C_{1-10} alkyl, which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted;

Cy^3 and Cy^4 represent, independently at each occurrence, a 3- to 6-membered fully saturated or partially unsaturated carbocyclic ring;

R^{15a} to R^{15c}, R^{16a} to R^{16h}, R^{17a} to R^{17h}, R^{18a} to R^{18h}, R^{19a} to R^{19c}, R^{20a} to R^{20h}, R^{21a} to R^{21h}, R^{22a} to R^{22h}, independently represent, at each occurrence, H, or C_{1-10} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, OR^{23b}), or R^{16-18c} and R^{16-18d}, R^{20-22c} and R^{20-22d}, R^{16-18g} and R^{16-18h}, R^{20-22g} and R^{20-22h} represent, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 3- to 14-membered heterocyclic ring that may be aromatic, fully saturated or partially unsaturated and which may additionally contain one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, which heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, nitro, CN, and C_{1-6} alkyl;

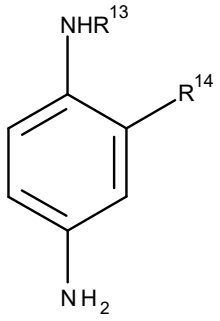
Het^c and Het^d independently represent 4- to 14-membered heterocyclic groups containing one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N;

R^{23a-b} independently represents, at each occurrence, H or C_{1-4} alkyl, or

an oxidised derivative thereof of the compound of formula II,

provided that when R^{13} is H, R^{14} is not *n*-hexyl.

12. A method of dyeing hair or of applying a temporary tattoo, which method comprises applying a composition comprising a compound of formula II or a physiologically acceptable salt or solvate, or an oxidised derivative thereof, to the hair or skin of a subject, wherein the compound of formula II has the structure:



II

wherein:

R^{13} represents H or C_{6-10} alkyl, which C_{6-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

C_{1-10} alkyl, which group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, nitro, CN, OR^{15a}, $NR^{15b}R^{15c}$, aryl and Het^3;

Cy^3, which Cy^3 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{16a}, $S(O)_qR^{16b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{16c}R^{16d}$, $NR^{16e}S(O)_2R^{16f}$, $NR^{16g}R^{16h}$;

Het^c, which Het^c group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{17a}, $S(O)_qR^{17b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{17c}R^{17d}$, $NR^{17e}S(O)_2R^{17f}$, $NR^{17g}R^{17h}$; and

OR^{18a}, $S(O)_qR^{18b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{18c}R^{18d}$, $NR^{18e}S(O)_2R^{18f}$ and $NR^{18g}R^{18h}$,

R^{14} represents C_{1-10} alkyl, OC_{1-10} alkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-10}$ alkyl or $OC(O)C_{1-10}$ alkyl, which C_{1-10} alkyl, OC_{1-10} alkyl, $C(O)OC_{1-10}$ alkyl and $OC(O)C_{1-10}$ alkyl groups are unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from:

C_{1-10} alkyl (which group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, nitro, CN, OR^{19a}, $NR^{19b}R^{19c}$, aryl and Het^4);

Cy^4 (which Cy^4 group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-6} alkyl (which C_{1-6} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), and OR^{20a}, $S(O)_qR^{20b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{20c}R^{20d}$, $NR^{20e}S(O)_2R^{20f}$, $NR^{20g}R^{20h}$);

Het^d (which Het^d group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from nitro, CN, C_{1-10} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from OH, =O, halo, C_{1-4} alkyl and C_{1-4} alkoxy), OR^{21a}, $S(O)_qR^{21b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{21c}R^{21d}$, $NR^{21e}S(O)_2R^{21f}$, $NR^{21g}R^{21h}$); and

OR^{22a}, $S(O)_qR^{22b}$, $S(O)_2NR^{22c}R^{22d}$, $NR^{22e}S(O)_2R^{22f}$ and $NR^{22g}R^{22h}$,

Het^3 and Het^4 represent, independently at each occurrence, a 4- to 14-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, which heterocyclic groups may comprise one, two or three rings and may be substituted by one or more substituents selected from OR^{23a} and C_{1-10} alkyl, which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted;

Cy^3 and Cy^4 represent, independently at each occurrence, a 3- to 6-membered fully saturated or partially unsaturated carbocyclic ring;

R^{15a} to R^{15c}, R^{16a} to R^{16h}, R^{17a} to R^{17h}, R^{18a} to R^{18h}, R^{19a} to R^{19c}, R^{20a} to R^{20h}, R^{21a} to R^{21h}, R^{22a} to R^{22h}, independently represent, at each occurrence, H, or C_{1-10} alkyl (which C_{1-10} alkyl group is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, OR^{23b}), or R^{16-18c} and R^{16-18d}, R^{20-22c} and R^{20-22d}, R^{16-18g} and R^{16-18h}, R^{20-22g} and R^{20-22h} represent, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a 3- to 14-membered heterocyclic ring that may be aromatic, fully saturated or partially unsaturated and which may additionally contain one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, which heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halo, nitro, CN, and C_{1-6} alkyl;

Het^c and Het^d independently represent 4- to 14-membered heterocyclic groups containing one or more heteroatoms selected from O, S and N;

R^{23a-b} independently represents, at each occurrence, H or C_{1-4} alkyl, or

an oxidised derivative thereof of the compound of formula II.

13. A compound selected from the list:

(i) 4-2-((2-ethylhexyl)oxy)benzene-1,4-diamine;

(ii) hexyl-2,5-diaminobenzoate; and

(iii) (*N*[1]-hexyl)(2-hexyloxy)- 1,4-diaminobenzene

14. The compound according to Claim 13,

wherein the compound of formula II is selected from the list:

(i) 4-2-((2-ethylhexyl)oxy)benzene-1,4-diamine; and

(iii) hexyl-2,5-diaminobenzoate.

15. The method according to Claim 12, wherein the compound of formula II is selected from the list:

(i) 4-2-((2-ethylhexyl)oxy)benzene-1,4-diamine;

(ii) 2-hexyloxy-1,4-diaminobenzene;

(iii) hexyl-2,5-diaminobenzoate; and

(iv) (*N*[1]-hexyl)(2-hexyloxy)- 1,4-diaminobenzene.

16. The method according to Claim 15, wherein the compound of formula II is selected from the list:

(i) 4-2-((2-ethylhexyl)oxy)benzene-1,4-diamine; and

(ii) (*N*[1]-hexyl)(2-hexyloxy)-1,4-diaminobenzene.

17. The method according to Claim 15, wherein the compound of formula II is hexyl-2,5-diaminobenzoate.

18. A composition for dyeing hair or tattooing skin, comprising:
a compound of formula I as defined in Claim 1; and
water.

19. A kit of parts comprising:
(i) a composition according to Claim 18; and
(ii) a developing composition comprising an oxidising agent.

20. A composition for dyeing hair or tattooing skin, comprising:
a compound of formula II as defined in Claim 12; and
water.

21. A kit of parts comprising:
(i) a composition according to Claim 20; and
(ii) a developing composition comprising an oxidising agent.