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④ Multi-phase combination-type sequential preparation for oral contraception and method of oral contraception.

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Tabletten besteht, von denen jede als das Gestagen 0,025 mg Desogestrel und als das Oestrogen 0,040 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält, die zweite Phase aus 7 Tabletten besteht, von denen jede 0,075 mg Desogestrel und 0,030 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält, und die dritte Phase aus 7 Tabletten besteht, von denen jede 0,125 mg Desogestrel und 0,025 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält.

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**Description**

The invention relates to a multi-phase combination-type sequential preparation for oral contraception consisting of 20—22 tablets (daily dose units), each comprising a gestagen and an oestrogen.

Oral contraceptives of the "combination-type" for sequential or cyclic use are generally known, for example the preparations "Lyndiol", "Ovulen", "Anovlar", "Neogynon", "Stediril", "Ovostat" and similar combinations of a gestagen and an oestrogen. Such combination-type preparations consist normally of 20—22 tablets of the same composition for daily dosage (each day one tablet), which is followed by a tablet-free period of 5—7 days which completes the natural female cycle of roughly 28 days. During the tablet-free period, withdrawal bleeding occurs. After the tablet-free period a new cycle is started using the combination-type preparation. The tablet-free period can if required be supplemented by placebos, such as for example is the case with the combination-type preparation "Pregnon 28".

Multi-phase combination-type sequential preparations, whereby different quantities of gestagen and/or oestrogen are employed during the different phases, are also known. Thus in U.S. Patent 3 939 264 a description is given of a two-phase combination-type preparation for oral contraception, consisting of 21—23 tablets, where the first 10—12 tablets each comprise a quantity of gestagen, which in activity corresponds with 0.050—0.125 mg of d-norgestrel, and a quantity of oestrogen which corresponds as regards activity with 0.030—0.050 mg of  $17\alpha$ -ethinylestradiol (EE), and each of the following 11—9 tablets contains a quantity of gestagen which is 2—3 times greater than that during the first phase, the quantity of oestrogen remaining the same. An attempt is made in this manner to obtain better adaptation to the natural female cycle, while a continuous, constant dosage of oestrogen is employed. In this way good contraceptive effect with reduced side effects should be obtained.

A variation on this two-phase combination-type sequential preparation is described in U.S. Patent 3 969 502. The difference here is that the quantity of oestrogen per tablet in the second phase is greater than that in the first phase, with a maximum of two times as great, so that not only the gestagen but also the oestrogen is administered in phased fashion. With this preparation there should be less oestrogen-dependent side effects.

A three-phase combination-type preparation is described in U.S. Patent 3 957 982. This sequential preparation consists of 21 tablets and comprises a first phase of 4—6 tablets each containing a gestagen in a quantity which, as regards activity, corresponds with 0.040—0.090 mg of d-norgestrel, and an oestrogen in an quantity which as regards activity corresponds with 0.020—0.050 mg EE, a second phase of 4—6 tablets each containing a gestagen in a quantity 1—1.5 times that during the first phase, for example 0.050—0.125 mg of d-norgestrel, and an oestrogen in a quantity which is 1—2 fold that during the first phase, for example 0.030—0.050 mg EE, and finally a third phase of 9—11 tablets each containing a quantity of a gestagen which is greater than that during the second phase and not more than three times as great as that during the first phase, for example 0.100—0.250 mg of d-norgestrel, and a quantity of oestrogen which is greater than or equal to that during the first phase, and which is less than or equal to that during the second phase, for example 0.025—0.050 mg EE. As compared with the known two-phase combination-type preparations, the compatibility and/or cycle control should be capable of being improved when using such a three-phase preparation.

In German Patent Application 2 431 704 a description is given of a variant of the said three-phase preparation. The difference here is that in this variant the three phases are taken for roughly the same period (6—8 tablets), preferably 3x7 tablets.

The multi-phase preparations described above illustrate the development, which has already been in progress for some time, in oral contraceptives leading to preparations with a lower content of gestagen and oestrogen. The metabolic changes occurring during the use of oral contraceptives are ascribed mainly to the oestrogenic component. Preparations with a low dose of oestrogen do not, as regards their effectiveness, need to be regarded as inferior to higher dosage preparations. However they exhibit the shortcoming that cycle control is poorer, which manifests itself in more break-through bleeding and "spotting" and the absence of withdrawal bleeding during the tablet-free period. Such break-through bleeding and "spotting" occurs mainly during the second half of the treatment cycle. The reasons are that with these combination-type preparations having a low content of oestrogen and relatively high content of gestagen, the oestrogenic effect on the endometrium is impeded by the gestagen which has an anti-oestrogenic effect. The lack of oestrogenic influence on the endometrium results in more bleeding during administration, and as already pointed out, particularly during the last days of the cyclic treatment.

It is already known that excellent cycle control can be obtained with a two-phase sequential preparation whereby during the first phase exclusively an oestrogen is administered and during the second phase a combination of a gestagen and an oestrogen, e.g. a normophasic preparation such as "Ovanon" or "Fysioquens" (7 tablets with 0.50 mg EE and 15 tablets with 2.5 mg or 1 mg lynestrenol+0.050 mg EE).

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In order to obtain adequate effectiveness with this type of preparation it is essential during the first phase to employ at least 0.050 mg EE per tablet. With a lower oestrogen content contraceptive reliability is violently disturbed. An attempt was then made, if possible whilst retaining the good properties of the normo-phasic preparation, to impart success to the trend towards preparations with a lower content of oestrogen.

It was then found that if during an initial phase the oestrogen is combined with a low dose of gestagen, during a second phase a lower dose of oestrogen is administered combined with a higher dose of gestagen, and during a third phase a combination is administered which contains a quantity of oestrogen which is equal to or less than that during the second phase, and a quantity of gestagen which is equal to or greater than that during the second phase, a combination-type preparation is obtained which combines excellent cycle control and good contraceptive properties with a low content of oestrogen.

The present invention hence relates to a multi-phase combination-type sequential preparation for oral contraception consisting of 20—22 tablets each containing a gestagen and an oestrogen, and is characterised in that an initial phase consists of 5—8 tablets, each of which contains a low dose of gestagen and a relatively high dose of oestrogen, a second phase of 5—8 tablets each with a gestagen dose which is greater than that during the first phase, and an oestrogen dose which is less than that during the first phase, and a third phase consisting of 5—11 tablets each having a gestagen dose equal to or greater than that during the second phase and an oestrogen dose equal to or less than that during the second phase, wherein the gestagen is desogestrel or the 3-oxo derivative thereof, and the oestrogen is ethinyloestradiol.

The amount of gestagen per tablet expressed in mg desogestrel during the first phase is not more than 0.050 mg and is normally between 0.020 mg and 0.050 mg. In the second phase the amount of gestagen per tablet is 1.5—5 times greater than during the first phase and is usually between 0.040 mg and 0.200 mg expressed in mg desogestrel. During the third phase the amount of gestagen is 3—6 times as great as during the first phase and is normally between 0.060 mg and 0.250 mg expressed in mg desogestrel.

The amount of oestrogen per tablet expressed in mg EE is during the first phase less than 0.050 mg and is preferably between 0.030 and 0.045 mg. In the second phase the amount of oestrogen is less than during the first phase and is then preferably between 0.020 and 0.035 mg expressed in mg EE. In the third phase the amount of oestrogen is equal to or less than that during the second phase and is then preferably between 0.015 and 0.030 mg expressed in mg EE.

In this way it is possible to ensure that the total quantity of oestrogen in the 20—22 tablets of one cycle does not exceed the amount which corresponds to 0.750 mg EE. Preferably this total quantity is not greater than 0.700 mg expressed in mg EE. It should be pointed out that with numerous known combination-type sequential preparations the daily dose of oestrogen is normally 0.050 mg EE which, for 20—22 days, gives a total oestrogen quantity of 1.0—1.1 mg EE.

If we look at the ratio between the total amount of gestagen and the total amount of oestrogen in the 20—22 tablets, it can be seen that this ratio too can be of importance. A high ratio figure can on the one hand indicate a small total quantity of oestrogen, but on the other hand can point to a large total quantity of gestagen. Naturally it is important that also the total quantity of gestagen should be as low as possible without causing a deterioration in the contraceptive reliability of the preparation. Preferably the total amount of gestagen in the 20—22 tablets, expressed in mg desogestrel, is between 2 and 4 times larger than the total amount of oestrogen expressed in mg EE.

In this patent application (except for the examples) when reference is made to tablets, this means other oral dosage units as well such as pills, capsules, coated tablets, granules. The oral dosage units are obtained by mixing the desired quantity of gestagen and oestrogen using the normal pharmaceutically acceptable aids such as fillers, binders, disintegration means, colouring agents, flavours and lubricants, and bringing the mixture into the form of a pharmaceutical moulding, or filling capsules therewith.

If required the combination-type preparation according to the invention can be supplemented by a number of placebos (6—10) in order to bridge the period in which no active substances need to be administered, so that the daily habit of swallowing a tablet does not need to be interrupted and it is only necessary to remember to start a new cycle after withdrawal bleeding, i.e. to start a new packaging unit (strip).

It is recommended that the placebos and the tablets in the three phases be distinguished from each other by giving them different shape and/or colour.

Preferably date indications should be provided on the packagings in which the preparation according to the invention is packed, indicating on what date in the cycle the pharmaceutical moulding corresponding with the data indication should be taken.

The combination-type preparation can be packed in a tube or box or in strip packaging. In the event of a small box being used which can have circular, square or other shape, the tablets are accommodated separately therein, usually along the periphery of the box, and a series of date indications, either adjustable or not, is provided on the box which corresponds with the days on which each of the tablets has to be taken.

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Another practical form of packaging is strip packaging or push-through packaging whereby each tablet is sealed in a separate compartment and where, on the strip or the packaging, date indications are provided or other sort of indications which denote the sequence in which the tablets should be taken.

5 The invention will now be explained with the aid of the following examples, which are preferred specific embodiments of the invention and are to be construed as merely illustrative and not limitative as to the remainder of the disclosure in any way whatsoever.

### Example I

#### 10 Composition of tablets

In the first phase (7 tablets)

0.025 mg desogestrel

0.040 mg EE

15

8.000 mg potato starch

2.400 mg polyvinyl pyrrolidone

20

0.800 mg stearic acid

0.800 mg silica

0.080 mg dl- $\alpha$ -tocopherol

25

make up to 80.000 mg with lactose

In the second and third phases (14 tablets)

0.125 mg desogestrel

30

0.030 mg EE

8.000 mg potato starch

35

2.400 mg polyvinyl pyrrolidone

0.800 mg stearic acid

0.800 mg silica

40

0.080 mg dl- $\alpha$ -tocopherol

make up to 80.000 mg with lactose

#### 45 Example II

##### Composition of tablets

Same as in Example I, except that in the second and third phases 0.025 mg EE is used instead of 0.030 mg EE.

#### 50 Example III

##### Composition of tablets

In the first phase (7 tablets)

0.050 mg desogestrel

55

0.040 mg EE

16.000 mg maize starch

1.900 mg polyvinyl pyrrolidone

60

1.500 mg talc powder

0.080 mg magnesium stearate

65

make up to 80.000 mg with lactose

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In the second phase (7 tablets)  
0.100 mg desogestrel

0.030 mg EE

5 and otherwise identical with the composition in the first phase;  
In the third phase (7 tablets)

0.200 mg desogestrel

10 0.020 mg EE

and otherwise identical with the composition in the preceding phases.

### Example IV

15 Composition of tablets

In the first phase (7 tablets)  
0.025 mg desogestrel

0.040 mg EE

20 8.000 mg potato starch

2.400 mg polyvinyl pyrrolidone

25 0.800 mg stearic acid

0.800 mg silica

0.080 mg dl- $\alpha$ -tocopherol

30 make up to 80.000 mg with lactose

In the second phase (7 tablets)  
0.075 mg desogestrel

35 0.030 mg EE

and otherwise identical with the composition in the first phase.

In the third phase (7 tablets)  
0.125 mg desogestrel

40 0.025 mg EE

and otherwise identical with the composition in the preceding phases.

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### Example V

Composition of tablets

In the first phase (7 tablets)  
0.040 mg desogestrel

50 0.040 mg EE

5.000 mg potato starch

55 2.000 mg polyvinyl pyrrolidone

0.050 mg dl- $\alpha$ -tocopherol

0.250 mg magnesium stearate

60 make up to 50.000 mg with lactose

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In the second phase (7 tablets)  
0.075 mg desogestrel

0.030 mg EE

5 and otherwise identical with the composition in the first phase.  
In the third phase (7 tablets)

0.125 mg desogestrel

10 0.030 mg EE

and otherwise identical with the composition in the preceding phases.

### Example VI

15 Composition of coated tablets

In the first phase (7 tablets)

0.050 mg 3-oxo-desogestrel

0.040 mg EE

20 16.000 mg maize starch

1.900 mg polyvinyl pyrrolidone

25 1.500 mg talc powder

30.510 mg lactose

50.000 mg

30 which is processed together with a normal sugar mixture to give coated tablets of roughly 80 mg.  
In the second phase (7 tablets)

0.075 mg 3-oxo-desogestrel

35 0.030 mg EE

and otherwise identical with the composition in the first phase.

In the third phase (7 tablets)

0.150 mg 3-oxo-desogestrel

40 0.025 mg EE

and otherwise identical with the composition in the preceding phases.

45 Example VII

Composition of tablets

In the first phase (5 tablets)

0.025 mg desogestrel

50 0.040 mg EE

8.000 mg potato starch

2.400 mg polyvinyl pyrrolidone

55 0.800 mg stearic acid

0.800 mg silica

60 0.080 mg dl- $\alpha$ -tocopherol

make up to 80.000 mg with lactose

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In the second phase (7 tablets)  
0.075 mg desogestrel

0.030 mg EE

5 and otherwise identical with the composition in the first phase.  
In the third phase (9 tablets)

0.125 mg desogestrel

10 0.025 mg EE

and otherwise identical with the composition in the preceding phases.

### Example VIII

15 Composition of tablets

In the first phase (6 tablets)  
0.040 mg desogestrel

0.040 mg EE

20 0.012 mg indogotine

8.000 mg potato starch

25 2.400 mg polyvinyl pyrrolidone

0.800 mg stearic acid

0.080 mg dl- $\alpha$ -tocopherol

30 make up to 80.000 mg with lactose

In the second phase (8 tablets)  
0.075 mg desogestrel

35 0.030 mg EE  
and otherwise identical with the composition in the second phase, whereby however 0.012 mg indigotine is replaced by 0.020 mg sun yellow FCF.

40 In the third phase (7 tablets)  
0.150 mg desogestrel

0.025 mg EE

45 and otherwise identical with the composition in the preceding phases, whereby however the colouring agent is omitted.

### Example IX

A preparation according to Example I was administered to 720 fertile women daily for 7 days (first phase) and daily for the following 14 days (second and third phase) per woman. The subsequent 7 days during which the menstrual bleeding occurred remained without administration. This regimen of administration was maintained for about 8 months, resulting in a total number of 5363 treatment cycles.

55 During the entire treatment period no pregnancies occurred. Cycle control was excellent. The incidence of breakthrough bleedings and spottings was low. Also other side effects were on a low level.

### Example X

A preparation according to Example III was administered to 710 fertile women daily for 7 days (first phase), daily for the following 7 days (second phase) and daily for the subsequent 7 days (third phase) per woman. Another 7 days during which the menstrual bleeding occurred remained without administration. This regimen of administration was maintained for about 6 months, resulting in a total number of 3982 treatment cycles.

65 During the entire treatment period no pregnancies occurred. Cycle control was excellent. The number of drop-outs was very small indicating the low incidence of side effects.

**Claims**

1. A multi-phase combination-type sequential preparation for oral contraception consisting of 20—22 tablets each containing a gestagen and an oestrogen characterized in that a first phase 5 consists of 5—8 tablets, each of which contains a gestagen and an oestrogen, a second phase of 5—8 tablets each containing a gestagen in a dose which is greater than that during the first phase and an oestrogen in a dose which is smaller than that in the first phase, and a third phase of 5—11 tablets each 10 of which contains a gestagen in a dose equal to or greater than that during the second phase and an oestrogen in a dose equal to or less than that in the second phase, wherein the gestagen is desogestrel or the 3-oxo derivative thereof, and the oestrogen is ethinyloestradiol, the amount of gestagen in each 15 of said first phase tablets being less than or equal to 0.050 mg, the amount of oestrogen in each of said first phase tablets being less than 0.050 mg, the amount of gestagen in the three phases being in the ratio of 1:1.5 to 5:3 to 6.
2. Preparation according to claim 1, characterized in that the amount of ethinyloestradiol per 15 tablet in the first phase is between 0.030 and 0.045 mg, in the second phase between 0.020 and 0.035 mg and in the third phase between 0.015 and 0.030 mg.
3. Preparation as in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the total amount of ethinyloestradiol in the 20—22 tablets is less than 0.750 mg and preferably <0.700 mg.
4. Preparation as in claims 1—3, characterized in that the total amount of gestagen in the 20—20 tablets expressed in mg desogestrel is between 2 and 4 times as great as the total amount of ethinyloestradiol expressed in mg.
5. Preparation as in claims 1—4, characterized in that the first phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains, as the gestagen 0.025 mg desogestrel and, as the oestrogen, 0.040 mg ethinyloestradiol, the second phase consists of 7 tablets each containing 0.125 mg desogestrel and 25 0.030 mg ethinyloestradiol, and the third phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains the same amount of gestagen and oestrogen as in the second phase.
6. Preparation as in claims 1—4 characterized in that the first phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains, as the gestagen, 0.025 mg desogestrel and, as the oestrogen, 0.040 mg ethinyloestradiol, the second phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains 0.125 mg desogestrel 30 and 0.025 mg ethinyloestradiol, and the third phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains the same amount of gestagen and oestrogen as in the second phase.
7. Preparation as in claims 1—4 characterized in that the first phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains, as the gestagen, 0.050 mg desogestrel and, as the oestrogen, 0.040 mg ethinyloestradiol, the second phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains 0.100 mg desogestrel 35 and 0.030 mg ethinyloestradiol, and the third phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains 0.200 mg desogestrel and 0.020 mg ethinyloestradiol.
8. Preparation as in claims 1—4 characterized in that the first phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains, as the gestagen, 0.025 mg desogestrel and, as the oestrogen, 0.040 mg ethinyloestradiol, the second phase consists of 7 tablets each of which contains 0.075 mg desogestrel 40 and 0.030 mg ethinyloestradiol, and the third phase consist of 7 tablets each of which contains 0.125 mg desogestrel and 0.025 mg ethinyloestradiol:

**Revendications**

- 45 1. Une préparation séquentielle combinée multiphasique pour la contraception orale constituée de 20—22 comprimés contenant chacun un progestatif et un oestrogène, caractérisée par le fait qu'une première phase est constituée de 5—8 comprimés contenant chacun un progestatif et un oestrogène, une seconde phase de 5—8 comprimés contenant chacun un progestatif à une dose qui est supérieure à celle de la première phase et un oestrogène à une dose qui est inférieure à celle de la première phase, et une troisième phase de 5—11 comprimés contenant chacun un progestatif en une dose égale ou supérieure à celle de la seconde phase et un oestrogène en une dose égale ou inférieure à celle de la seconde phase, le progestatif étant le desogestrel ou son dérivé 3-oxo et l'oestrogène étant l'éthinyloestradiol, la quantité de progestatif dans chacun desdits comprimés de la première phase étant inférieure ou égale à 0,050 mg, la quantité d'oestrogène dans chacun desdits comprimés de la première phase étant inférieure à 0,050 mg, la quantité de progestatif dans les trois phases étant dans le rapport de 1/1,5 à 5/3 à 6.
2. Préparation selon la revendication 1, caractérisée par le fait que la quantité d'éthinyloestradiol par comprimé dans la première phase est comprise entre 0,030 et 0,045 mg, dans la seconde phase entre 0,020 et 0,035 mg et dans la troisième phase entre 0,015 et 0,030 mg.
- 50 3. Préparation selon la revendication 1 ou 2, caractérisée par le fait que la quantité totale d'éthinyloestradiol dans les 20—22 comprimés est inférieure à 0,750 mg et de préférence <0,700 mg.
4. Préparation selon l'une des revendications 1 à 3, caractérisé par le fait que la quantité totale de progestatif dans les 20—22 comprimés exprimée en mg de desogestrel est comprise entre 2 à 4 fois la quantité totale d'éthinyloestradiol exprimée en mg.
- 55 5. Préparation selon l'une des revendications 1 à 4, caractérisé par le fait que la première phase

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est constituée de 7 comprimés dont chacun contient comme progestatif 0,025 mg de desogestrel et comme oestrogène 0,040 mg d'éthinyloestradiol, la seconde phase est constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun 0,125 mg de desogestrel et 0,030 mg d'éthinyloestradiol et la troisième phase est constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun la même quantité de progestatif et d'oestrogène que

5 dans la seconde phase.

6. Préparation selon l'une des revendications 1 à 4, caractérisée par le fait que la première phase est constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun comme progestatif 0,025 mg de desogestrel et comme oestrogène 0,040 mg d'éthinyloestradiol, la seconde phase est constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun 0,125 mg de desogestrel et 0,025 mg d'éthinyloestradiol et la troisième phase est

10 constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun la même quantité de progestatif et d'oestrogène que dans la seconde phase.

7. Préparation selon l'une des revendications 1 à 4, caractérisée par le fait que la première phase est constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun comme progestatif 0,050 mg de desogestrel et comme oestrogène 0,040 mg d'éthinyloestradiol, la seconde phase est constituée de 7 comprimés

15 contenant chacun 0,100 mg de desogestrel et 0,030 mg d'éthinyloestradiol et la troisième phase est constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun 0,200 mg de desogestrel et 0,020 mg d'éthinyloestradiol.

8. Préparation selon l'une des revendications 1 à 4, caractérisé par le fait que la première phase est constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun comme progestatif 0,025 mg de desogestrel et comme oestrogène 0,040 mg d'éthinyloestradiol, la seconde phase est constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun 0,075 mg de desogestrel et 0,030 mg d'éthinyloestradiol et la troisième phase est

20 constituée de 7 comprimés contenant chacun 0,125 mg de desogestrel et 0,025 mg d'éthinyloestradiol.

### 25 Patentansprüche

1. Sequentielles Multiphasenpräparat vom Kombinationstypus für orale Empfängnisverhütung, bestehend aus 20 bis 22 Tabletten, von denen jede ein Gestagen und ein Oestrogen enthält, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass eine erste Phase aus 5 bis 8 Tabletten besteht, von denen jede ein Gestagen und ein Oestrogen enthält, eine zweite Phase aus 5 bis 8 Tabletten besteht, von denen jede ein Gestagen in einer Dosis, welche grösser ist als diejenige während der ersten Phase und ein Oestrogen in einer Dosis, welche kleiner ist als diejenige in der ersten Phase, enthält, und eine dritte Phase aus 5 bis 11 Tabletten besteht, von denen jede ein Gestagen in einer Dosis, die gleich oder grösser ist als diejenige während der zweiten Phase, und ein Oestrogen in einer Dosis, welche gleich oder kleiner ist als diejenige in der zweiten Phase, enthält, wobei das Gestagen Desogestrel oder dessen 3-Oxo-derivat ist und das Oestrogen Aethinylöstradiol ist, und wobei die Menge an Gestagen in jeder der Tabletten der ersten Phase weniger als oder gleich 0,050 mg, die Menge an Oestrogen in jeder der Tabletten der ersten Phase weniger als 0,050 mg beträgt und die Menge an Gestagen in den drei Phasen im Verhältnis von 1:1,5 bis 5:3 bis 6 steht.

40 2. Präparat nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die Menge an Aethinylöstradiol pro Tablette in der ersten Phase zwischen 0,030 und 0,045 mg, in der zweiten Phase zwischen 0,020 und 0,035 mg und in der dritten Phase zwischen 0,015 und 0,030 mg beträgt.

3. Präparat wie in Anspruch 1 oder 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die Gesamtmenge an Aethinylöstradiol in den 20 bis 22 Tabletten weniger als 0,750 mg und vorzugsweise <0,700 mg

45 beträgt.

4. Präparat wie in den Ansprüchen 1 bis 3, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die Gesamtmenge an Gestagen in den 20 bis 22 Tabletten, ausgedrückt in mg Desogestrel, zwischen der zwei- bis vierfachen Menge der Gesamtmenge an Aethinylöstradiol, ausgedrückt in mg, beträgt.

5. Präparat wie in den Ansprüchen 1 bis 4 dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die erste Phase aus 7

50 Tabletten besteht, von welchen jede als das Gestagen 0,025 mg Desogestrel und als das Oestrogen 0,040 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält, die zweite Phase aus 7 Tabletten besteht, von denen jede 0,125 mg Desogestrel und 0,030 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält, und die dritte Phase aus 7 Tabletten besteht, von denen jede dieselbe Menge an Gestagen und Oestrogen enthält wie in der zweiten Phase.

6. Präparat wie in den Ansprüchen 1 bis 4, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die erste Phase aus 7

Tabletten besteht, von welchen jede als das Gestagen 0,025 mg Desogestrel und als das Oestrogen 0,040 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält, die zweite Phase aus 7 Tabletten besteht, von welchen jede 0,125 mg Desogestrel und 0,025 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält, und die dritte Phase aus 7 Tabletten besteht,

von welchen jede dieselbe Menge an Gestagen und Oestrogen enthält wie in der zweiten Phase.

7. Präparat wie in den Ansprüchen 1 bis 4, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die erste Phase aus 7

Tabletten besteht, von denen jede als das Gestagen 0,050 mg Desogestrel und als das Oestrogen 0,040 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält, die zweite Phase aus 7 Tabletten besteht, von denen jede 0,100 mg Desogestrel und 0,030 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält, und die dritte Phase aus 7 Tabletten besteht,

von denen jede 0,200 mg Desogestrel und 0,020 mg Aethinylöstradiol enthält.

8. Präparat wie in den Ansprüchen 1 bis 4, dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass die erste Phase aus 7