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**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 T = 298 K  
 Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002 \text{ \AA}$   
 R factor = 0.036  
 wR factor = 0.066  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 18.8

For details of how these key indicators were  
 automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

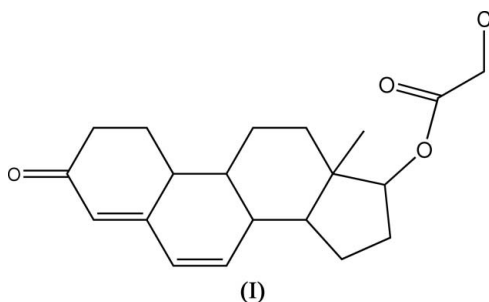
**13-Methyl-3-oxo-2,3,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,-  
 15,16,17-dodecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]-  
 phenanthren-17-yl 2-chloroacetate**

The title compound,  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClO}_3$ , is built up from four fused rings, three of which are six-membered and one five-membered. The ring adjacent to the five-membered ring adopts a chair conformation.

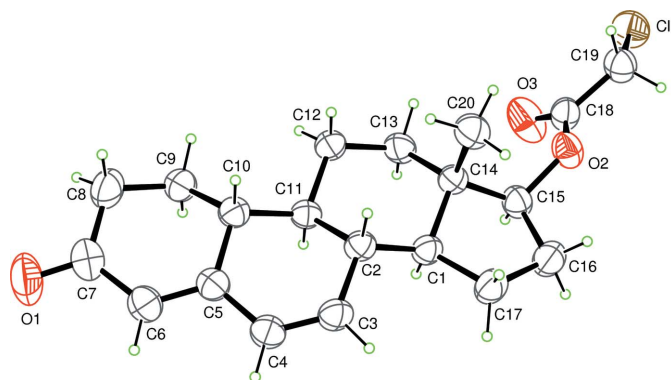
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**Comment**

Testosterone derivatives have a high biological activity and have been widely used in preparing hormone-based drugs (Alvarez-Ginarte *et al.*, 2005). As part of our continuing interest in the structure–activity relationship of testosterone derivatives, we have isolated the product, (I), from the reaction of 2-chloroacetyl chloride and 17-hydroxy-13-methyl-1,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-2H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-3(8H)-one, as colorless crystals suitable for X-ray crystallographic analysis.



The molecular structure of (I) is illustrated in Fig. 1. It is built up from four fused rings, three of which are six-membered and one five-membered. The C1/C2/C11–C14 ring fused with the five-membered ring adopts a chair conformation (Cremer & Pople, 1975).



**Figure 1**  
 The structure of (I), showing the atom-labeling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.

## Experimental

The title compound, (I), was prepared according to the procedure of Rao & Hu (2005). An ethanol solution of (I) was concentrated gradually at room temperature to afford colorless chunks.

### Crystal data

$C_{20}H_{25}ClO_3$	$Z = 4$
$M_r = 348.85$	$D_x = 1.285 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 7.499$ (2) Å	$\mu = 0.23 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$b = 15.365$ (5) Å	$T = 298$ (1) K
$c = 15.647$ (4) Å	Chunk, colorless
$V = 1802.9$ (9) Å <sup>3</sup>	$0.26 \times 0.21 \times 0.14 \text{ mm}$

### Data collection

Rigaku R-AXIS RAPID diffractometer	17271 measured reflections
$\omega$ scans	4116 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan (ABSCOR; Higashi, 1995)	2498 reflections with $F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)$
$T_{\min} = 0.918$ , $T_{\max} = 0.969$	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.034$
	$\theta_{\max} = 27.5^\circ$

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.24 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.036$	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.19 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
$wR(F^2) = 0.066$	Extinction correction: Larson (1970), equation 22
$S = 1.01$	Extinction coefficient: 112 (15)
4116 reflections	Absolute structure: Flack (1983), with 1758 Friedel pairs
219 parameters	Flack parameter: 0.054 (5)
H-atom parameters constrained	
$w = 1/[1.0800\sigma(F_o^2)]/(4F_o^2)$	
$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$	

H atoms were included in the riding-model approximation, with C–H = 0.93–0.98 Å and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  or  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{methyl C})$ .

Data collection: *PROCESS-AUTO* (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: *PROCESS-AUTO*; data reduction: *CrystalStructure* (Rigaku/MSK, 2004); program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR97* (Altomare *et al.*, 1993); program(s) used to refine structure: *CRYSTALS* (Betteridge *et al.*, 2003); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3 for Windows* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *CrystalStructure*.

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