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ACTION

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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF 2-(6-SUBSTITUTED-1,3-DIOXANE-4-YL)ACETIC ACID DERIVATIVES

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the preparation of 2-(6-substituted-1,3-dioxane-4-yl)acetic acid derivatives of formula (1), where X stands for a leaving group, and R₁, R₂, and R₃ each independently stand for an alkyl group with 1-3 carbon atoms from 4-hydroxy-6-X-substituted-methyl-tetrahydropyran-2-one compounds, where X is as defined above, with the aid of an acetalization agent, in the presence of an acid catalyst. The invention also relates to the novel compounds of formula (1) as well as salts and acids to be prepared from these, with the OR₃ group in formula (1) being replaced by an OY group, where X, R₁ and R₂ have the meanings defined above and where Y stands for an alkaline (earth) metal or a substituted or unsubstituted ammonium group or stands for hydrogen, and to the novel compounds of formula (2). The products concerned are, after conversion into the t-butyl ester of 2-(6-hydroxymethyl-1,3-dioxane-4-yl)acetic acid, important as intermediary products in the preparation of statins.