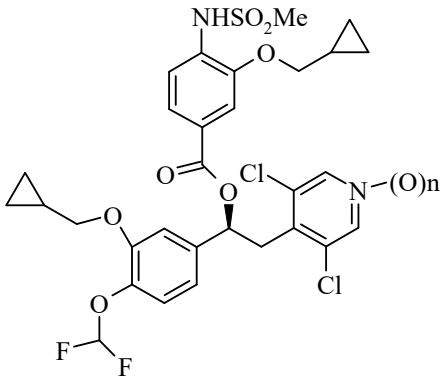
CLAIMS

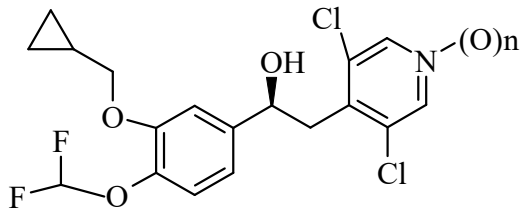
1. A process for preparing a compound of formula **(I)**



(I)

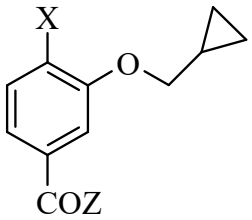
wherein n is 0 or 1, which process comprises:

a) reacting a compound of formula (II)



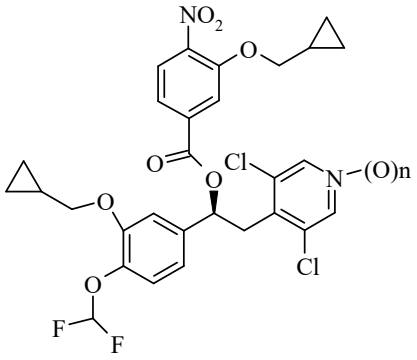
(II)

wherein n is 0 or 1, with a compound of formula (III)



(III)

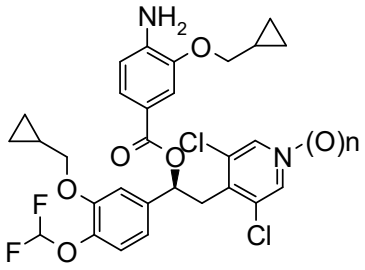
wherein X is selected from -$NHSO_2Me$ and -NO_2 and Z is selected from -OH, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, aryloxy, arylalkoxy, (C_1-C_6)alkylcarbonyloxy, arylcarbonyloxy and aryl(C_1-C_6)alkylcarbonyloxy to obtain a compound of formula **(I)** wherein n is 0 or 1 or a compound of formula (IV)



(IV)

wherein n has the above reported meanings; and, when a compound of formula (IV) is obtained in step (a):

b) reducing it to a corresponding compound of formula (V)

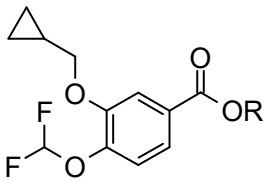


(V)

wherein n is 0 or 1, and reacting it with methanesulfonyl halide to obtain a compound of formula **(I)** wherein n has the above reported meanings;

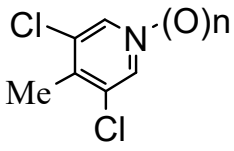
and wherein the compound of formula (II) is obtained according to step (c3) by:

c3) reacting an intermediate of formula B''



Intermediate B''

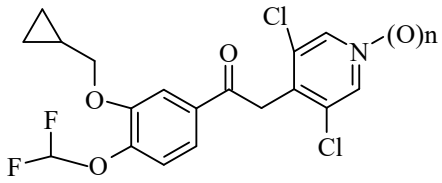
with an intermediate of formula D



Intermediate D

wherein R is a linear or branched (C_1-C_6) alkyl group or a arylalkyl group and n has

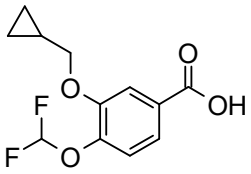
the above reported meanings, to obtain directly a compound of formula (VII)



(VII)

and subsequently enantioselectively reducing it to obtain a compound of formula (II) wherein n has the above reported meanings; and wherein all of the compounds of formula **(I)**, (II), (IV), (V) or (VII) wherein n is 1 can be obtained by oxidizing the corresponding compounds wherein n is 0.

2. A process according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate of formula B" wherein R is a linear or branched (C_1-C_6) alkyl group or an arylalkyl group, is obtained by converting intermediate B'



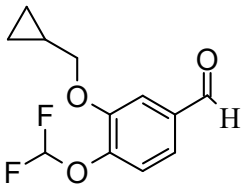
Intermediate B'

by reaction with thionyl chloride, hydrogen chloride or sulfuric acid in methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n-butanol, t-butanol, benzyl alcohol with or without other solvent, or by reaction with the relative alkyl halide in the presence of solvents selected from methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n-butanol, t-butanol, dimethyl formamide, dimethyl acetamide, N-methyl pyrrolidone, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, ethyl acetate, isopropyl acetate, acetonitrile, dichloromethane, and mixtures thereof and a base selected from sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, sodium bicarbonate, potassium hydroxide, potassium carbonate, potassium bicarbonate, lithium hydroxide, lithium carbonate, caesium hydroxide, caesium carbonate, caesium bicarbonate, triethylamine, diisopropylethyl-amine,

N-methylmorpholine and pyridine.

3. A process according to claim 2, wherein the intermediate of formula B" wherein R is a linear or branched (C_1-C_6) alkyl group or an arylalkyl group, is obtained by converting the Intermediate B' in the presence of potassium carbonate in dimethyl formamide or dimethyl acetamide.

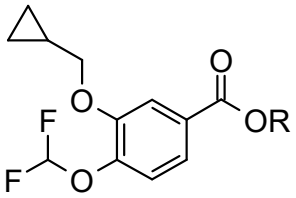
4. A process according to claim 2 or 3 wherein the intermediate B' is prepared by a process comprising the oxidation of intermediate B



Intermediate B

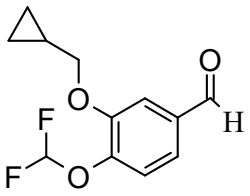
with an oxidizing agent selected from hydrogen peroxide, peracetic acid, m-chloroperbenzoic acid, persulfuric acid or Oxone® ($KHSO_5$*1/2$KHSO_4$*1/2K_2SO_4) in a solvent selected from water, methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n-butanol, t-butanol, dimethyl formamide, dimethyl acetamide, N-methyl pyrrolidone, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, 2-methoxyethyl ether, isopropyl acetate, acetonitrile, and mixtures thereof.

5. A process according to claim 1 wherein the intermediate B''



Intermediate B''

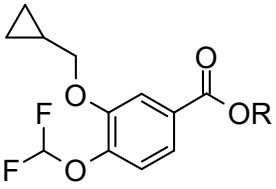
wherein R is a linear or branched (C_1-C_6) alkyl group or an arylalkyl group, is prepared by a process comprising the oxidation of the intermediate B



Intermediate B

with Oxone ® ($KHSO_5$*1/2$KHSO_4$*1/2K_2SO_4) in the corresponding alkyl alcohol as solvent.

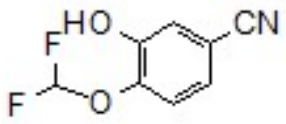
6. A process according to claim 1 wherein the intermediate B''



Intermediate B''

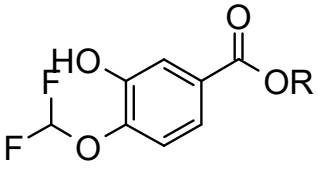
wherein R is a linear or branched (C_1-C_6) alkyl group or an arylalkyl group, is prepared by a process comprising:

- the conversion of the intermediate C'



Intermediate C'

into the intermediate C''



Intermediate C''

by Pinner reaction with sulfuric acid in the corresponding alkyl alcohol as solvent, followed by alkylation with cyclopropyl bromide in the presence of a solvent selected from toluene, benzene, xylene, tetrahydrofuran, dioxane, 2-methoxyethyl ether, diethyl ether, isopropyl ether, t-butylmethyl ether, ethyl

acetate, isopropyl acetate, acetonitrile, dichloromethane, chloroform, chlorobenzene and mixtures thereof and a base selected from sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, sodium bicarbonate, sodium hydride, potassium hydroxide, potassium carbonate, potassium bicarbonate, lithium hydroxide, lithium carbonate, caesium hydroxide, caesium carbonate, caesium bicarbonate, triethylamine, diisopropylethyl-amine, N-Methylmorpholine, 1,8-Diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene, 1,4-Diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane, pyridine and 4-dimethylaminopyridine.