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(54) Title: METHOD OF PREPARING DERIVATIVES/OLIGOMERS OF EPICATECHIN AND APPLICATIONS THEREOF

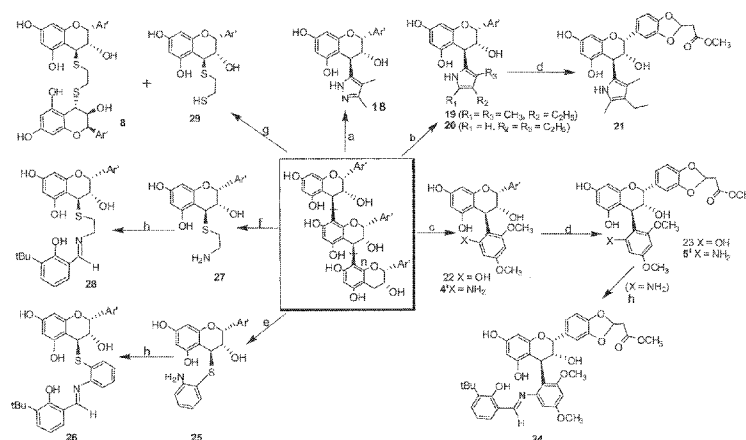


FIGURE 4

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the preparation of a class of novel, optically active compounds derived from oligomeric proanthocyanidins (OPCs), more particularly to oligomers of epicatechin. These compounds include multidentate ligands and their metal complexes for use in catalysis. Methods of depolymerising proanthocyanidins to form catechins, and particularly depolymerising proanthocyanidins derived from plant sources to form novel epicatechins having application in catalysis are disclosed.