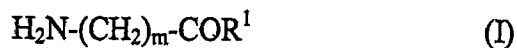


Abstract

5 Polyamides are produced by reacting aminocarboxylic acid compounds of the general formula I



10 where R^1 is OH, O-C₁₋₁₂-alkyl or NR²R³, where R² and R³ are independently hydrogen, C₁₋₁₂-alkyl or C₅₋₈-cycloalkyl, and m is an integer from 3 to 12,

optionally in a mixture with aminonitriles and their hydrolysis products and optionally in the presence of water,

15 in a liquid phase at elevated pressure and elevated temperature in the presence of metal oxides as heterogeneous catalysts, the metal oxides being used in a form which permits mechanical removal from the reaction mixture and being removed from the reaction mixture during or after the polymerization.