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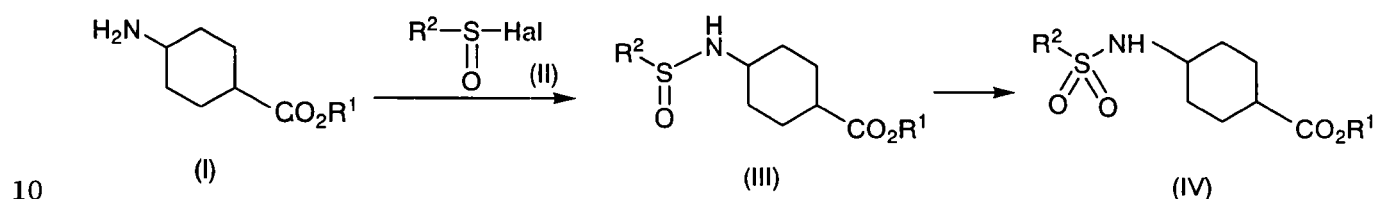


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Abstract

Disclosed is a process for the preparation of Compound (III), salt or solvate thereof by reacting Compound (I), salt or solvate thereof with
5 Compound (II) in a toluene solvent in the presence of an additive such as water or an alcohol. Also disclosed is a process for the preparation of Compound (IV) comprising hydrolyzing the obtained Compound (III) if necessary, and then oxidizing.

[Formula 1]



In the formula, R¹ is hydrogen, optionally substituted lower alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted aryl lower alkyl, and R² is optionally substituted lower alkyl, optionally substituted cycloalkyl or optionally substituted aryl lower alkyl.