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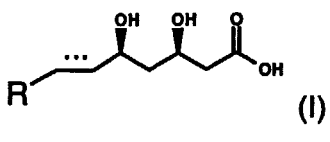
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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF HMG-COA REDUCTASE INHIBITORS



(I)

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a process for the manufacture of a compound of formula (I) or a salt, especially a pharmaceutically acceptable salt with a base, thereof or a lactone thereof wherein the element (II) represents $-CH_2-CH_2-$ or -CH=CH- and R represents a cyclic residue.