

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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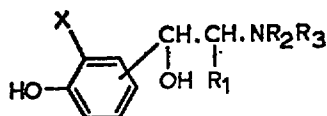


(54) PHENYLAMINOETHANOL DERIVATIVES

(71) We, ALLEN & HANBURYS LIMITED, a British Company of Three Colts Lane, Bethnal Green, London, E.2., do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to novel-1-phenyl-2-aminoethanol derivatives having biological activity, and to compositions containing the same, and to processes for preparing such derivatives. It is an improvement of the invention described in Patent No. 1,200,886.

In the specification of that Patent there are disclosed compounds of the formula:



and physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof, in which:—

R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a straight or branched chain alkyl radical containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

R_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a benzyl group;

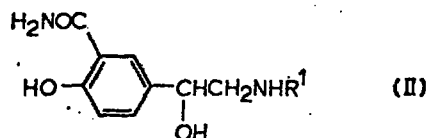
R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a straight or branched chain alkyl radical containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, which radical may be substituted by hydroxyl groups, amino groups or heterocyclic rings, containing one or more heteroatoms, for example morpholino, or represents a cycloalkyl, aralkyl or aryloxyalkyl radical, which radicals may optionally be substituted, for example by one or more alkoxy or hydroxy groups; and

X represents a hydroxyalkyl or hydroxyaralkyl radical having a straight or branched alkyl chain containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or a carboxyl radical, or an alkoxy carbonyl radical of the formula $-\text{COOR}_4$, (where R_4 represents a straight or branched chain alkyl radical containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms), or represents a radical of the formula $-\text{CONHOH}$ or $-\text{CONHNH}_2$ or an amido radical of the formula $-\text{CONR}_5\text{R}_6$ (where R_5 and R_6 , which may be the same or different, each represent a hydrogen atom or an arylalkyl radical or a straight or branched chain alkyl radical containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms which may be substituted by hydroxyl or amino groups or where R_5 and R_6 together with the adjacent nitrogen atom form a heterocyclic ring which may contain further hetero-atoms).

These compounds possess either stimulant or blocking actions on β -adrenergic receptors.

This invention relates to certain novel-1-phenyl-2-aminoethanols which fall within the general formula I given above but which have been found to have the special and particular utility of blocking both the α - and β -adrenergic receptors. They may be used as hypotensive agents and in the treatment of peripheral disorders, such as Raynaud's disease, with a minimum of side effects. They are also of value in the treatment of angina pectoris.

The invention therefore provides as new compounds, compounds of the formula:



and physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof, in which R^1 is

- (a) an arylalkyl group, the alkyl portion of which contains from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and the aryl portion of which may be substituted by one or more alkoxy groups or hydroxy groups
- (b) an aryloxyalkyl group, the alkyl portion of which contains from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and the aryloxy portion of which is substituted with one or more alkoxy or hydroxy groups.

Preferred compounds according to the invention are those in which the alkyl portion of the group (a) or group (b) contains from 3 to 4 carbon atoms; in which, where the aryl portion or aryloxy portion contains an alkoxy substituent, this contains from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, preferably 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and is in particular a methoxy or ethoxy group.

A preferred aryl group is the phenyl group. A preferred aryloxy group is the phenoxy group. More than one aryl or aryloxy group may be attached to the alkyl group and the definition aralkyl and aryloxyalkyl extends to such possibilities. An example of such a case is 1-methyl-3,3-diphenylpropyl.

Preferred compounds according to the invention are:—

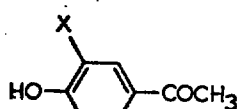
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(*p*-methoxy- α -methylphenethylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(2-*p*-methoxyphenoxy-1-methyl-ethyl-amino)ethyl]salicylamide.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(3-*p*-methoxyphenyl-1-methyl-propylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(2-*o*-methoxyphenoxy-1-methyl-ethyl-amino)ethyl]salicylamide.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(3-*p*-hydroxyphenyl-1-methylpropyl-amino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-4-phenylbutylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3,3-diphenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
- 5-[2-(1,1-dimethyl-3-phenylpropylamino)-1-hydroxyethyl]salicylamide.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-*p*-tolyl-propylamino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride.
- 5-[1-hydroxy-2-[3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-methylpropyl-amino]ethyl]-salicylamide hydrochloride.

The invention extends to the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts of the compounds of formula II, and these are in general preferred for administration. Preferred salts include the hydrochloride, sulphate, maleate, tartrate and citrate.

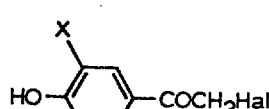
The compounds according to the invention may exist in isomeric form by virtue of the fact that they contain at least one asymmetric carbon atom. The invention includes all possible optically active forms and racemic mixtures of the compounds. The racemic mixtures may be resolved by conventional methods, for example by salt formation with an optically active acid, followed by fractional crystallization. The compounds which include an asymmetric centre in the group R^1 have two centres of asymmetry and can exist as four optical enantiomorphs. An example of the separation of a racemic mixture of such a compound into two racemic diastereoisomeric modifications is given hereinafter.

The 1-phenyl-2-aminoethanol derivatives of the invention may be prepared by a number of processes.

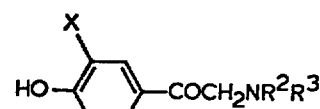
In one process, the compounds of the invention are prepared by reacting the ketones of general formula III with a halogen, preferably bromine, to form the halo-ketones of formula IV, followed by condensation with an amine NHR^2R^3 , in which R^2 represents hydrogen, benzyl or the group R^1 , and R^3 represents hydrogen or benzyl, to give the aminoketones of formula V.



(III)



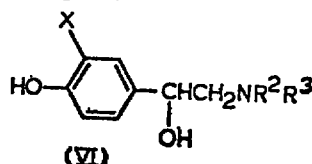
(IV)



(V)

X represents the group $-\text{CONH}_2$, or a group convertible thereto.

The carbonyl group is then reduced to a CHOH group with a suitable reducing agent, for example a complex metal hydride such as sodium borohydride, or by catalytic hydrogenation, to give the 1-phenyl-2-aminoethanol derivatives of formula VI.



(VI)

The compounds of formula VI in which X is a $-\text{CONH}_2$ group, R^2 represents the radical R^1 , and R^3 is a hydrogen atom are compounds of the invention. Other compounds of formula VI may be converted to compounds of the invention by the following procedures.

The group X is conveniently an alkoxycarbonyl radical of formula $-\text{COOR}^4$, where R^4 is a straight or branched chain alkyl radical containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms. This group may be converted to a $-\text{CONH}_2$ group at any convenient stage in the synthesis of the compounds of formula II, by reaction with ammonia or an ammonia yielding compound.

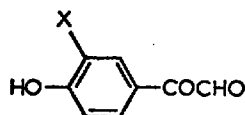
The compounds of formula V in which R^2 and/or R^3 represent benzyl groups may be converted into the compounds of formula VI in which R^2 and/or R^3 represents hydrogen atoms by catalytic hydrogenolysis.

The compounds of formula VI in which R^2 and R^3 represent hydrogen atoms may be converted into the compounds of formula VI in which R^2 is the radical R^1 by condensation with an appropriate aldehyde or ketone, followed by reduction of the azomethine so formed, with for example a complex metal hydride or hydrogen and a noble metal catalyst. For example, when the carbonyl compound used in this reaction is 4-phenyl-2-butanone, $\text{CH}_3\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$, the resulting R^1 radical is $-\text{CH}(\text{Me})\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$.

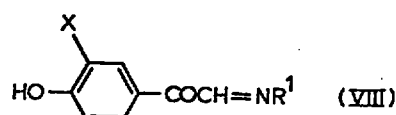
Alternatively, the compounds of formula V in which both R^2 and R^3 represent benzyl groups may be subjected to reductive alkylation with an appropriate carbonyl compound, to give the compounds of formula VI in which R^2 is R^1 , and R^3 is hydrogen, in one step.

It will of course be understood that the reactions used for converting the group $-\text{COOR}^4$ to a $-\text{CONH}_2$, for reducing the carbonyl group to the CHOH group, and for converting the group $-\text{CH}_2\text{NR}^2\text{R}^3$ to $-\text{CH}_2\text{NHR}^1$ may be carried out in any desired order at any convenient stage in the synthesis of the compounds of formula II.

In an alternative process for the production of the compounds according to the invention, a glyoxal of formula VII, in which X has the meaning given below, is used as the starting material. On reaction with an amine of formula R^1NH_2 , the glyoxal yields an intermediate azomethine of formula VIII, which is then reduced, with for example, a complex metal hydride e.g. sodium borohydride, or hydrogen and a noble metal catalyst, followed if necessary by conversion of the group X to $-\text{CONH}_2$, to give a compound of formula II.



(VII)



(VIII)

This method is described in our co-pending Application No. 61880/68 (Ser. No.) the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by way of reference.

The phenolic hydroxy group of the starting materials and intermediate compounds may if desired be protected, e.g. as a benzyl ether or an acetate, during the synthesis. The protecting group is removed when required by hydrolysis or catalytic hydrogenolysis.

The compounds according to the invention may be formulated for use in human or veterinary medicine for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes. The invention therefore includes within its scope pharmaceutical compositions comprising as active ingredients compounds of general formula II or physiologically acceptable addition salts thereof. As stated preferred salts include the hydrochloride, sulphate, maleate, acetate, fumarate, lactate and citrate. Such compositions may be presented for use in a conventional manner with the aid of carriers or excipients and formulatary agents as required, and with or without supplementary medicinal agents. These compositions include, for instance, solid or liquid preparations for oral use, suppositories and injections. Oral administration is most convenient in the form of tablets which may be prepared according to conventional methods and may be coated if desired. Injections may be formulated with the aid of physiologically acceptable carriers and agents as solutions, suspensions, or as dry products for reconstitution before use. The doses of the active ingredient which may be used may vary within a wide range. Suitable doses are generally within the range of 5 mg to 1000 mg preferably 20 mg to 200 mg.

The following Examples illustrate the invention:—

EXAMPLE 1

5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl] salicylamide hydrochloride

Method 1

(a) 5-Bromoacetylsalicylamide (2.6 g), N-benzyl-N-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropyl) amine (4.8 g) and methyl ethyl ketone (50 ml) were heated at reflux for 40 minutes. The solvent was removed and the residue was treated with benzene. The secondary amine hydrobromide was filtered off and discarded, and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness. The residue was treated with an excess of ethanolic hydrogen chloride when 5-[N-benzyl-N-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropyl)glycyl]salicylamide hydrochloride (1.15 g) crystallised out, m.p. 139—141°.

(b) 5-[N-benzyl-N-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropyl)glycyl]salicylamide hydrochloride (0.75 g), 10% mixture of PdO and PtO on carbon catalyst (0.1 g) and ethanol (20 ml) were shaken at room temperature and pressure with hydrogen until uptake ceased. The catalyst was filtered off and the filtrate evaporated to dryness. The residue was crystallised from ethanol to give 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl] salicylamide hydrochloride as a white solid (0.40 g), m.p. 188°.

Method 2

5-(N,N-dibenzylglycyl)salicylamide (2.25 kg), benzylacetone (990 g), 10% mixture of PdO and PtO on carbon (150 g), methanol (10 litres) and glacial acetic acid (378 ml) were stirred at 50° in an atmosphere of hydrogen until 586 litres of hydrogen had been absorbed. The catalyst was filtered off, and the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure to a viscous gum, which was dissolved in ethanol (4 litres). Hydrogen chloride (216 g) in ethanol (2.16 litres) was added, followed by ether (5 litres). The hydrochloride was filtered off and dried.

The crude solid (1.79 kg) was recrystallised from a mixture of ethanol (10 litres) and ethyl acetate (15 litres) to give 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl] salicylamide hydrochloride as a white solid, (1.33 kg), m.p. 187—9°.

EXAMPLE 2

5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl] salicylamide

(a) 5-(2-Amino-1-hydroxyethyl)salicylic acid methyl ester hydrochloride (5 g) in ammonium hydroxide (d. 0.880; 100 ml), was allowed to stand for 8 hours at room temperature. Removal of the solvent under reduced pressure left 5-(2-amino-1-hydroxyethyl) salicylamide hydrochloride, which crystallised from methanol-ethyl acetate as white needles (3.5 g), m.p. >360°.

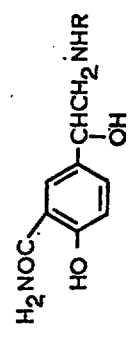
(b) The amine hydrochloride from the previous experiment (2.3 g), in methanol, was neutralised with a solution of sodium hydroxide (0.4 g) in methanol (10 g). The mixture was concentrated and refluxed for 1 hour with 4-phenyl-2-butanone (1.5 g) in ethanol (100 ml), cooled and reduced by hydrogen at room temperature and pressure, in the presence of a 10% platinum — charcoal catalyst (1.0 g).

On completion of the reduction, the catalyst and solvent were removed to leave an oil, which was extracted with ethyl acetate, and filtered to remove inorganic material. Evaporation of the solution gave a residue which was triturated with ether to yield 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl] salicylamide as a white solid, m.p. 136—139°.

Crystallization from ethyl acetate-cyclohexanone raised the melting point to 141—143°.

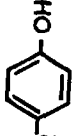
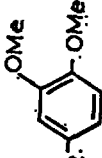
The compounds shown in Table I were prepared by reacting 5-(2-amino-1-hydroxyethyl) salicylamide hydrochloride with the appropriate carbonyl compound, using the general method of Example 2(b).

TABLE I



Example No.	Name of Compound	R	Melting Point °C	Yield %
3	5-[1-hydroxy-2-(p-methoxy-α-methylphenethyl-amino)ethyl]salicylamide		153	73.5
4	5-[1-hydroxy-2-(2-p-methoxyphenoxy-1-methylethylamino)ethyl]salicylamide		113	42
5	5-[1-hydroxy-2-(3-p-methoxyphenyl-1-methylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide		151	63
6	5-[1-hydroxy-2-(3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride		200	28
7	5-[1-hydroxy-2-(2-o-methoxyphenoxy-1-methylethylamino)ethyl]salicylamide		127	53

TABLE I (continued)

Example No.	Name of Compound	R	Melting Point °C	Yield %
8	5-[1-hydroxy-2-(3- <i>p</i> -hydroxyphenyl-1-methylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride	$\begin{array}{c} \text{OH} \\ \\ \text{---CH---CH}_2\text{---CH}_2\text{---} \\ \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{array}$ 	170	47
9	5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-4-phenylbutylamino)ethyl]salicylamide	$\begin{array}{c} \text{---CH---(CH}_2\text{)}_3\text{---} \\ \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{array}$ 	151	42
10	5-[2-(1-methyl-3,3-diphenylpropylamino)-1-hydroxyethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride	$\begin{array}{c} \text{---CH---CH}_2\text{CH Ph}_2 \\ \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{array}$	177	50
11	5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3- <i>p</i> -tolyl-propylamino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Me} \\ \\ \text{---CH---CH}_2\text{---CH}_2\text{---} \\ \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{array}$ 	220 (as hydrochloride) 235	20
12	5-{1-hydroxy-2-[3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-methylpropylamino]ethyl} salicylamide hydrochloride	$\begin{array}{c} \text{---CH---CH}_2\text{---CH}_2\text{---} \\ \\ \text{CH}_3 \end{array}$ 	115—118	40

EXAMPLE 13

5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(1,1-dimethyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide

5 A solution of 5-glyoxyloylsalicylic acid methyl ester hydrate (1.58 g) and 1,1-dimethyl-3-phenylpropylamine (1.2 g) in methanol (20 ml) was refluxed for 30 minutes and then evaporated. The residue was dissolved in ethanol (50 ml) and was hydrogenated at room temperature and pressure in the presence of 10% platinum-charcoal (0.5 g). Addition of methanol (50 ml), glacial acetic acid (0.45 ml) and more catalyst facilitated the reduction.

10 When hydrogenation was complete, catalyst and solvent were removed, and the residual oil was neutralised with sodium bicarbonate and extracted into ethyl acetate. The organic layer was shaken with concentrated hydrochloric acid, washed with water, dried over magnesium sulphate and evaporated. The yellow oily residue crystallised from ethyl acetate-ether to give 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1,1-dimethyl-3-phenyl-propylamino)-ethyl]salicylic acid methyl ester hydrochloride, m.p. 170° (40% yield).

15 A solution of the above hydrochloride (0.6 g) in methanol (10 ml) and ammonium hydroxide (d. 0.880; 10 ml) was allowed to stand at room temperature for 48 hours. On evaporation, a residue was obtained which was neutralised with sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with ethyl acetate. When dried and evaporated, the solution gave the amide as a white solid, m.p. 154° (63% yield).

20 A similar reductive alkylation using 5-glyoxyloyl salicylamide hydrate and 1,1-dimethyl-3-phenylpropylamine yielded the same compound.

EXAMPLE 14

25 The separation of 5-[1-hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropyl-amino)-ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride into the two racemic modifications, Isomer 1 and Isomer 2

(a) Isomer 1

30 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide (3.3 g) from Example 2(b) above and benzoic acid (1.2 g) were mixed and dissolved in hot ethanol (7 ml). Ether (20 ml) was added and the solution was filtered. A further quantity of ether (80 ml) was then added, and the solution was allowed to stand at 0° for 17 hours. The fine white solid was filtered off and dried at 25° *in vacuo* to give the benzoate (2.0 g), m.p. 83—85°. The filtrate was reserved for the preparation of Isomer 2.

35 The benzoate was dissolved in ethanol (4 ml), ether (50 ml) was added, and the solution was allowed to stand at 0° for 17 hours. The solid was filtered off and dried at 25° *in vacuo* to give the benzoate of Isomer 1 (1.5 g) m.p. 90—92°.

A solution of the above compound in ethanol was treated with a slight excess of ethanolic hydrogen chloride to give the hydrochloride of Isomer 1, (1 g), m.p. 220°.

(b) Isomer 2

40 The filtrate from the preparation of the crude benzoate of Isomer 1 was evaporated and the residue was crystallised from ethyl acetate to give a white crystalline solid (2.0 g), m.p. 135.6°. Recrystallisation from ethyl acetate gave the benzoate of Isomer 2, (1.5 g) m.p. 141—142°.

45 A solution of the above compound in ethanol was treated with a slight excess of ethanolic hydrogen chloride, followed by an equal volume of ether, to give the hydrochloride of Isomer 2, (1.0 g), m.p. 174°.

50 The following Examples are of pharmaceutical compositions according to the invention. The references to active ingredient in these Examples means a compound according to the invention and in particular one of the specific compounds the preparation of which is described in the foregoing Examples.

EXAMPLE 15

Capsules

To prepare 10,000 capsules each containing 20 mg. active ingredient

55 Mix together 200 g. powdered active ingredient with a sufficient quantity of microcrystalline cellulose B.P.C. and fill into No. 3 hard gelatin capsules so that each capsule contains about 120 mg. of the mixture.

Capsules may similarly be prepared each containing 50 mg. of active ingredient.

EXAMPLE 16

Tablets

60 To prepare 5,000 tablets each containing 100 mg. active ingredient

Mix together 500 g. active ingredient, 490 g. microcrystalline cellulose B.P.C., 5 g.

magnesium stearate and 5 g. stearic acid B.P. Compress the powders on a suitable tableting press to produce tablets each 1/4" in diameter and weighing about 200 mg.

- 5 To prepare 5,000 tablets each containing 200 mg. active ingredient
 5 Mix together 1,000 g. active ingredient, 500 g. lactose and 175 g. maize starch
 and sufficient of a 2% aqueous solution of sodium hydroxyethyl cellulose to produce
 a damp cohesive mass. Pass the damp mass through a No. 14 mesh B.S.S. sieve and
 dry in a fluidised bed dryer at 60°C. Pass the dried granules through a No. 22 B.S.S.
 10 sieve and mix with 60 g. dried maize starch and 15 g. magnesium stearate. Compress
 the lubricated granules on suitable tableting press using 3/8" deep concave punches to
 produce tablets each weighing about 350 mg.
 These tablets may be film coated with suitable film forming materials such as
 methyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose or ethyl cellulose or mixtures of these
 materials using standard techniques.
 15 The tablets may also be sugar coated by the standard sugar coating techniques. 15

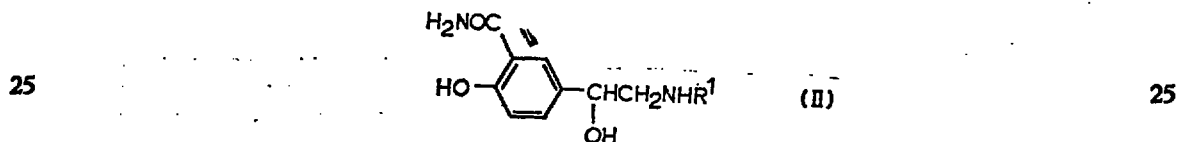
EXAMPLE 17

Injection

- To prepare an injection containing 10 mg. active ingredient per ml.
 Dissolve 10 g. active ingredient and 7.5 g. sodium chloride in 950 ml. water for
 20 injection. When solution is complete make up to 1 litre with more water for injection. 20
 Subdivide the solution into suitable size ampoules (1 ml., 5 ml., or 10 ml.) seal and
 sterilize by heating in an autoclave.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. Compounds of the general formula:



and physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof, in which R¹ is

- (a) an arylalkyl group, the alkyl portion of which contains from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and the aryl portion of which may be substituted by one or more alkoxy groups or hydroxy groups; or
 - (b) an aryloxyalkyl group, the alkyl portion of which contains from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and the aryloxy portion of which is substituted with one or more alkoxy or hydroxy groups.
2. Compounds as claimed in claim 1 in which the alkyl portion of the group (a) or of the group (b) contains 3 or 4 carbon atoms.
 3. Compounds as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 in which the aryl or aryloxy portions of the groups (a) and (b) contain an alkoxy substituent which contains from 1 to 6 carbon atoms.
 4. Compounds as claimed in claim 3 in which the alkoxy substituent contains from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.
 5. Compounds as claimed in claim 4 in which the alkoxy substituent is a methoxy or ethoxy group.
 6. Compounds as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5 in which the aryl portion is phenyl or the aryloxy portion is phenoxy.
 7. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
 8. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(p-methoxy-α-methylphenethylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
 9. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(2-p-methoxyphenoxy - 1 - methyl-ethylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
 10. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(3-p-methoxyphenyl - 1 - methylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
 11. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(3-phenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride.
 12. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(2-o-methoxyphenoxy - 1 - methylethylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
 13. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(3-p-hydroxyphenyl - 1 - methylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride.
 14. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-4-phenylbutylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
 15. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3,3-diphenylpropylamino)ethyl]salicylamide.
 16. 5-[2-(1,1-Dimethyl-3-phenylpropylamino)-1-hydroxyethyl]salicylamide.
 17. 5-[1-Hydroxy-2-(1-methyl-3-p-tolyl-propylamino)ethyl]salicylamide hydrochloride.

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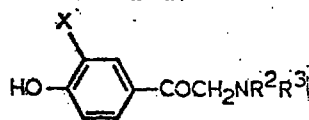
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18. 5-{1-Hydroxy-2-[3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl) - 1 - methylpropylamino]ethyl}-salicylamide hydrochloride.

19. A process for the preparation of compounds as claimed in claim 1 which comprises reducing a compound of the formula:



(V)

in which X is a $-\text{CONH}_2$ group or a group convertible thereto R^2 represents hydrogen, benzyl or the group R^1 and R^3 represents hydrogen or benzyl, in which the phenolic hydroxy group may be protected to convert the carbonyl group to a $-\text{CHOH}$ group if necessary with subsequent conversion of the group X to a $-\text{CONH}_2$ group and the groups R^2 and R^3 to R^1 and hydrogen and subsequent removal of any protective group, the product of desired being isolated as a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt.

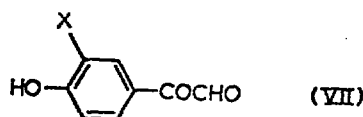
20. A process as claimed in claim 19 in which the compound V used as starting material is one in which X represents $-\text{CONH}_2$, R^2 represents a group R^1 and R^3 represents hydrogen.

21. A process as claimed in claim 19 or claim 20 in which X represents an alkoxy carbonyl group of the formula $-\text{COOR}^4$, in which R^4 is a straight or branched chain alkyl radical containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and this is converted to a group $-\text{CONH}_2$ by reaction with ammonia or an ammonia yielding compound.

22. A process as claimed in any of claims 19 to 21 in which R^2 and R^3 in the compound of formula VI herein specified represent hydrogen atoms or benzyl groups and compounds of formula II are prepared therefrom by the steps of conversion of the benzyl groups to hydrogen atoms by catalytic hydrogenolysis and condensing the resulting compound of formula VI in which R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen with an aldehyde or ketone containing the group R^1 to provide an azomethine and reducing the azomethine so formed.

23. A modification of the process as claimed in claim 22 in which a compound of the formula VI herein specified in which both R^2 and R^3 are benzyl is subjected to reductive alkylation with an appropriate carbonyl compound to give a compound of formula VI in which R^2 represents R^1 and R^3 represents hydrogen.

24. A process for the preparation of compounds as claimed in claim 1 which comprises the steps of condensing a glyoxal of the formula:



(VII)

in which X has the meaning given in claim 19 with an amine of the formula R^1NH_2 in which R^1 has the meaning given in claim 19, reducing the so-formed azomethine and if necessary converting the group X to a $-\text{CONH}_2$ group.

25. A process as claimed in claim 19 substantially as herein described with reference to the Examples.

26. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1 in association with a non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

27. Compositions as claimed in claim 26 in solid or liquid form adapted for oral use.

28. Compositions as claimed in claim 27 in tablet form.

29. Compositions as claimed in claim 26 adapted for administration for injection.

30. Compositions as claimed in any of claims 26 to 29 in dosage unit form in which each dosage unit contains from 5 to 1000 mg. of active ingredient.

31. Compositions as claimed in claim 30 in which each dosage unit contains from 20 to 200 mg. of active ingredient.

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