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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING 6-O-SUBSITUTED ERYTHROMYCIN DERIVATIVES

(57) Abstract: In one aspect, the invention relates to a process for preparing 6-O-substituted erythromycin derivatives comprising reacting 2'-substituted and optionally 4"-substituted 9-oxime erythromycin derivatives with an alkylating agent in the presence of a palladium catalyst and phosphine. In another aspect, the invention relates to processes for preparing 6-O-substituted erythromycin ketolides using the palladium-catalyzed alkylation reaction.