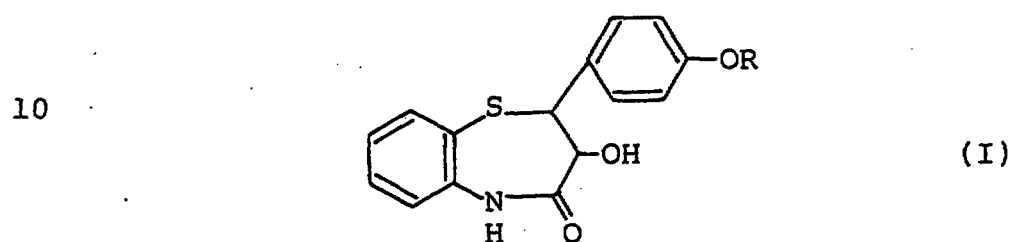


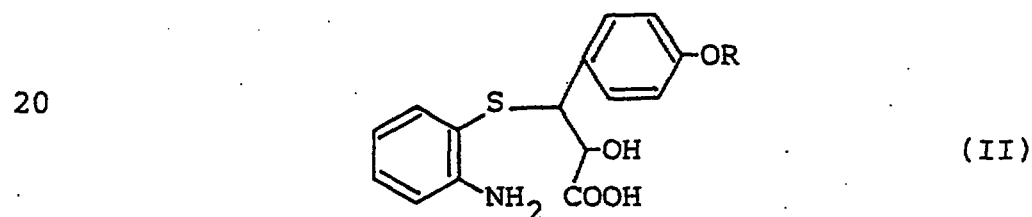
Abstract:

Process for preparing 1,5-benzothiazepine derivatives

5 There is disclosed a process for preparing 1,5-benzothiazepine derivatives represented by the formula:



wherein R is a lower alkyl group,
15 which comprises subjecting a propionic acid compound represented by the formula:



wherein R has the same meaning as defined above,
25 to intramolecular ring closing reaction in the presence of a sulfonic acid compound represented by the formula:



wherein R^1 represents a lower alkyl group or a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group.
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