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(54) Title: METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF CITALOPRAM

(57) Abstract: Disclosed is a method for the preparation of citalopram comprising conversion of a compound of Formula VIII 1-[(3-dimethylamino)prop-3-yl]-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-Z-1,3-dihydroisobenzofuran wherein Z is halogen, to a compound of Formula IV 5-carboxy-1-(3-(N,N-dimethylamino)prop-1-yl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3-dihydroisobenzofuran followed by conversion of the compound of Formula IV into citalopram. Methods for the preparation of the compound of Formula IV are also disclosed.

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