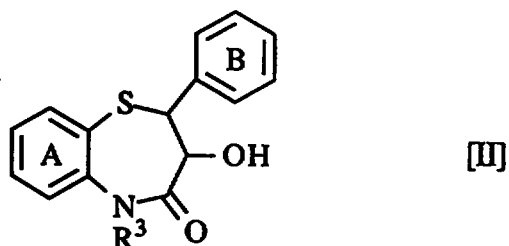


PROCESS FOR PREPARING 1,5-BENZOTHAZEPINE DERIVATIVE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

A novel process for preparing 1,5-benzothiazepine derivative [II]:



wherein Ring A and Ring B are substituted or unsubstituted benzene ring, and R^3 is H, (di-lower alkylamino)-lower alkyl or substituted or unsubstituted piperazinyl-lower alkyl, or a salt thereof, in high yield and in a single step from a novel 3-(2-amino-substituted or unsubstituted phenylthio)-2-hydroxy-3-substituted or unsubstituted phenylpropionamide compound. Said 1,5-benzothiazepine derivative [II] is useful as an intermediate for preparing medicaments such as diltiazem hydrochloride.