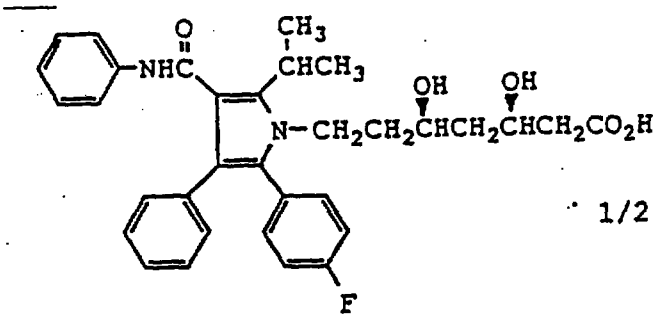
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ABSTRACT

An oral pharmaceutical composition is provided for treating hypercholestereolemia or hyperlipidemia containing an advantageous formulation for stabilizing the HMG-CoA coenzyme A inhibitor, CI-981 Hemi-Calcium, of formula (IA)



1/2 Ca

with effective amounts of calcium carbonate.

A method for preparing a CI-981 stabilizing composition is described.