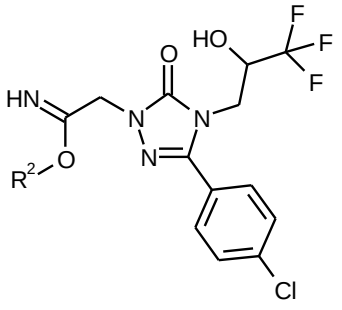
Claims

1. A process comprising steps [C] reacting a compound of the general formula (XI),

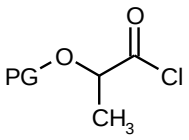


(XI)

wherein

R^2 is (C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

in a first step [C-1] in the presence of a base, with an acid chloride of the general formula (XII)

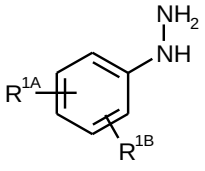


(XII)

wherein

PG is a protecting group,

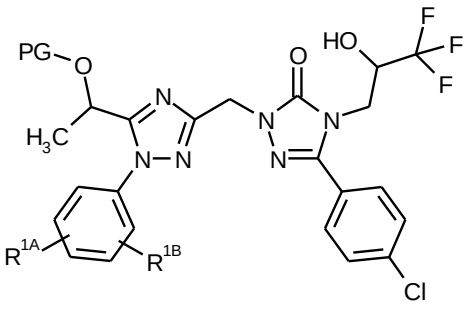
and reacting the resultant intermediate in a second step [C-2] in the presence of a base, with a phenylhydrazine compound of the general formula (XIII)



(XIII)

where R^{1A} and R^{1B} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, methyl, monofluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, ethyl, methoxy, difluoromethoxy and trifluoromethoxy

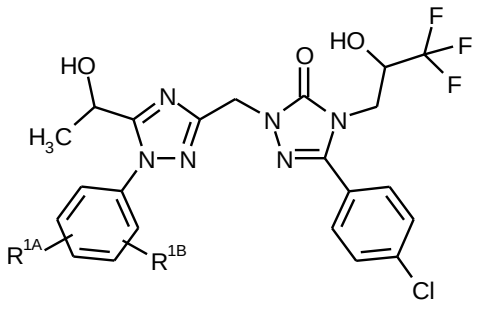
to produce a 1,2,4-triazolyl compound of the general formula (XIV)



(XIV)

where PG is a protecting group, and R^{1A} and R^{1B} have the same definitions as for compound XIII,

and reacting compound XIV in a third step [D] by detachment of the protecting group PG to produce a compound of the general formula (I)



(I)

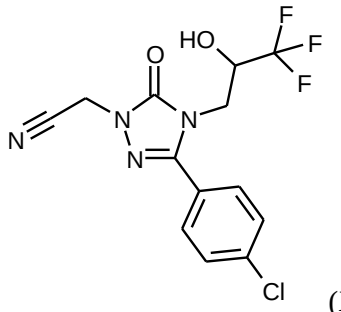
where R^{1A} and R^{1B} have the same definitions as for compound XIII.

2. The process according to Claim 1, wherein the process is conducted as a one-pot reaction in the presence of a suitable solvent and the intermediate that results from step [C-1] is then converted without isolation, in step [C-2].

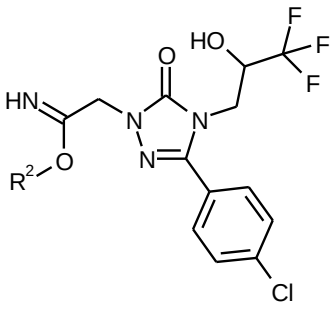
3. The process according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the process is conducted as a one-pot reaction in the presence of a solvent and the 1,2,4-triazolyl compound of the general formula (XIV) obtained from step [C-2] is converted without isolation, in a step [D] to a compound of the general formula (I).

4. The process according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, wherein R^{1A} and R^{1B} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine and chlorine, wherein at least one of the substituents is not hydrogen.

5. The process according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, which comprises, prior to step [C], a step [B], wherein in step [B] a compound of the formula (X)


(X)

is reacted with a basic (C_1-C_4)-alkoxylate, to give an imino ester compound of the general formula (XI)

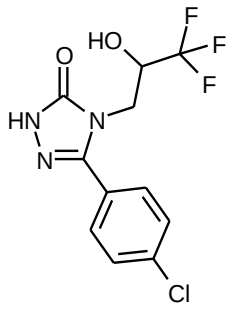

(XI)

wherein

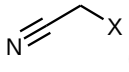
R^2 is (C_1-C_4)-alkyl.

6. The process according to Claim 5, wherein the process is conducted as a one-pot reaction in the presence of a solvent and the imino ester compound of the general formula (XI) that results from step [B] is then converted without isolation in a step [C].

7. The process according to Claim 5, wherein the process comprises, prior to step [B], a step [A], wherein in step [A] a compound of the general formula (II)

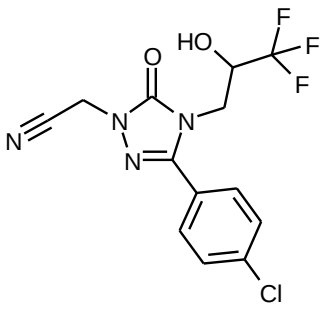

(II)

is reacted with a nitrile compound (IX)


(IX)

where X is a leaving group,

to produce a compound of the general formula (X)



(X).

8. The process of Claim 1, wherein

R^2 is methyl; or

PG is acetyl.

9. The process of Claim 5, wherein the basic (C_1-C_4)-alkoxylate is sodium methoxide; or

R^2 is methyl.

10. The process of Claim 7, wherein X is chloride or bromide.