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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF SULFONYL HALIDES AND SULFONAMIDES FROM SULFONIC ACID SALTS

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides synthetic processes for the preparation of sulfonyl halides of Formula Ar- (R) 2-SO₂-X and sulfonamides of Formula Ar-(R)₂-SO₂-NR₄R₅, where the constituent variables are as defined herein, that are useful as intermediates in the preparation of pharmaceuticals. The sulfonyl halides are prepared by reacting a sulfonic acid salt with a halogen substitution reagent in the presence of a catalytic amount of water and in the presence of a co-catalyst. The so prepared halides can then be further reacted with an amine to obtain the sulfonamides.



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