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(54) Title: C-17 SPIROLACTONIZATION AND 6,7 OXIDATION OF STEROIDS

(57) Abstract: Novel processes for the C-17 spirolactonization and 6,7 oxidation of steroid compounds are provided. In certain preferred embodiments, the present invention provides for the preparation of steroid compounds which are useful in the preparation of methyl hydrogen 9,11α-epoxy-17α-hydroxy-3-oxopregn-4-ene-7α, 21-dicarboxylate, -lactone (otherwise referred to as eplerenone or epoxymexrenone).