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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB97/02335 (22) International Filing Date: 29 August 1997 (29.08.97) (30) Priority Data: 9618055.9 / 29 August 1996 (29.08.96) / GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NYCOMED IMAGING AS [NO/NO]; Nycoveien 1-2, N-0401 Oslo (NO). (71) Applicant (for GB only): COCKBAIN, Julian, Roderick, Michaelson [GB/GB]; Frank B. Dehn & Co., 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4EL (GB). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GULBRANDSEN, Trygve [NO/NO]; Nycomed Imaging as, Nycoveien 1-2, N-0401 Oslo (NO). INGOLDSTAD, Odd, Einar [NO/NO]; Nycomed Imaging as, Nycoveien 1-2, N-0401 Oslo (NO). HOLMAAS, Lars, Terje [NO/NO]; Nycomed Imaging as, Nycoveien 1-2, N-0401 Oslo (NO). (74) Agents: COCKBAIN, Julian et al.; Frank B. Dehn & Co., 179 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4EL (GB).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF CONTRAST AGENTS (57) Abstract The invention provides a process for the preparation of an N-alkyl-acylamino-phenyl-carboxylic acid or carboxylic acid derivative by liquid phase acylation and subsequent N-alkylation of a corresponding amino-phenyl-carboxylic acid (or carboxylic acid derivative), the improvement comprising the addition of an alkylating agent to a solution containing the reaction products of said acylation, to effect said N-alkylation.		