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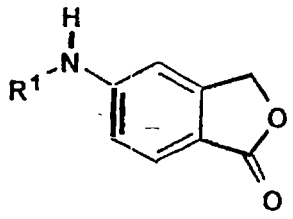
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF CITALOPRAM

(57) Abstract

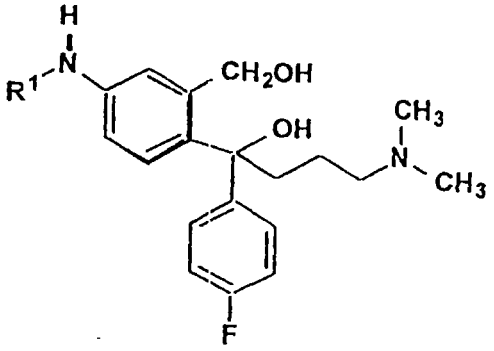
A method for the preparation of citalopram is described comprising reaction of a compound of Formula (IV) wherein R^1 is H or C_{1-6}alkylcarbonyl successively with a Grignard reagent of 4-halogen-fluorophenyl and a Grignard reagent of 3-halogen-N,N-dimethylpropylamine, effecting ring closure of the resulting compound of Formula (VI) and converting the resulting 1,3-dihydroisobenzofuran compound to the corresponding 5-cyano derivative, i.e. citalopram.



(IV)



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(VI)



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