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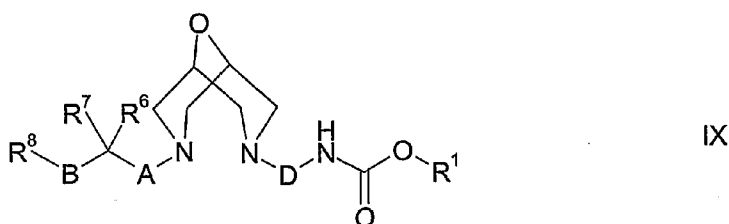
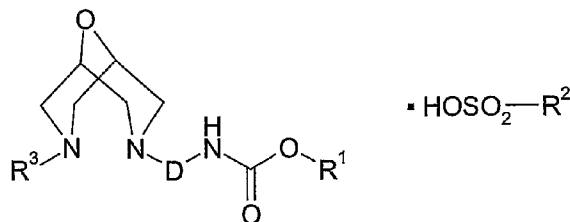
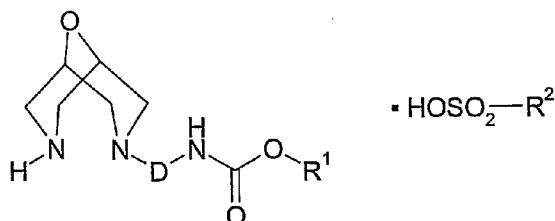
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF *N,N'*-DISUBSTITUTED OXABISPIDINES

(57) Abstract: There is provided a process for the preparation of a sulfonic acid salt of formula I, or a solvate thereof, which process comprises hydrogenating a sulfonic acid salt of formula II, or a solvate thereof; in the presence of a solvent system consisting essentially of water, a C<sub>3-5</sub> secondary alkyl alcohol and no more than 15% v/v of another organic solvent, wherein the sulfonic acid salt of formula I is optionally, without isolation, converted to a compound of formula IX, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable derivative thereof, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, A, B and D have meanings given in the description.



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