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(54) **Title:** PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF PAROXETINE

(57) **Abstract**

A process for the production of paroxetin is described, wherein N–substituted derivatives of 4–(*p*–fluorophenyl)–3–hydroxymethyl–1,2,3,6–tetrahydropyridine are treated according to the following sequence of reactions: (a) hydrogenation catalysed by transition metal complexes with chiral diphosphinic ligands; (b) –OH derivatisation and nucleophilic substitution, the substitutent being sesamol; (c) N–dealkylation. The process is highly stereospecific and brings about the formation of intermediates enriched with the desired isomeric components, which are converted into paroxetine in quantitative yields.