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(54) Title: IMPROVED PROCESS FOR HYDROXYAZAPIRONES

(57) Abstract: This invention describes a process for preparing hydroxyazapirones of Formula I from azapirones of Formula II. The process comprises treating azapirones with a strong base, monitoring enolate formation of the azapirone by IR spectroscopy, and reacting the enolate with a source of molecular oxygen in the presence of a reductant. The process is suitable for large scale production of hydroxyazapirones.