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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING AN INTERMEDIATE TO MU OPIOID RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS

(57) Abstract: The invention provides an efficient method for preparing 3-*endo*-(S- azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-3-yl)benzamide by hydrogenation, under controlled conditions, of an amino-protected 3-(8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-2-en-3-yl)benzamide intermediate in which the amino-protecting group is removable by catalytic hydrogenation.