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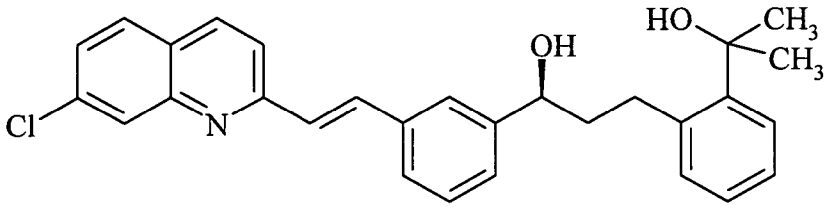
(54) **Title:** PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TERTIARY ALCOHOLS



(A)

(57) **Abstract:** Tertiary alcohols are prepared by reacting carboxylic esters with Grignard reagents in ethereal solvents in the presence of lanthanum trichloride and lithium chloride. The method is particularly suitable for the production of (α*S*)-α-[3-[(1*E*)-2-(7-chloro-2-quino- linyl)ethenyl]phenyl]-2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)benzenepropanol of formula (A) which is an intermediate in the production of montelukast.

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