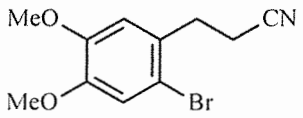
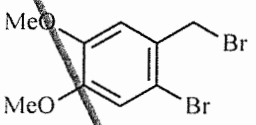
## CLAIMS

1. Process for the synthesis of the compound of formula (I):




(I),

characterised in that the compound of formula (VIII):




(VIII)

is subjected to the action of a base in the presence of acetonitrile in an organic solvent to yield the compound of formula (I).

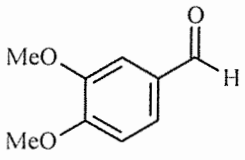
2. Process according to claim 1, characterised in that the base used to carry out the conversion of the compound of formula (VIII) into the compound of formula (I) is selected from *n*-butyllithium, lithium diisopropylamide, potassium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide, potassium *tert*-butoxide and potassium hydroxide.

3. Process according to claim 2, characterised in that the base used to carry out the conversion of the compound of formula (VIII) into the compound of formula (I) is *n*-butyllithium.

4. Process according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the organic solvent used to carry out the conversion of the compound of formula (VIII) into the compound of formula (I) is tetrahydrofuran.

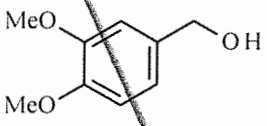
5. Process according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the conversion of the compound of formula (VIII) into the compound of formula (I) is carried out at a temperature between -65°C and 25°C, inclusive.

6. Process according to claim 1, characterised in that the compound of formula (VIII) is prepared starting from the compound of formula (IX):



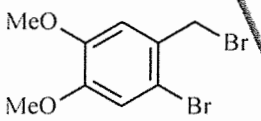

(IX),

which is converted, by a reduction reaction, into the compound of formula (X):




(X),

which is converted, by a bromination reaction, into the compound of formula (VIII):

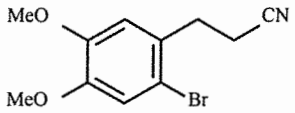



(VIII) .

7. Process for the synthesis of ivabradine, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and hydrates thereof, characterised in that the compound of formula (VIII) is converted into the compound of formula (I) according to the process of claim 1, and then the compound of formula (I) is converted into ivabradine, which may be converted into addition salts thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid selected from hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, sulphuric acid, phosphoric acid, acetic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, lactic acid, pyruvic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, glutaric acid, fumaric acid, tartaric acid, maleic acid, citric acid, ascorbic acid, oxalic acid, methanesulphonic acid, benzenesulphonic acid and camphoric acid, and into hydrates thereof.

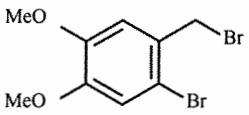
## CLAIMS

1. A process for the synthesis of a compound of formula (I):




(I),

wherein the compound compound of formula (VIII):




(VIII)

is subjected to the action of a base in the presence of acetonitrile in an organic solvent to yield the compound of formula (I).

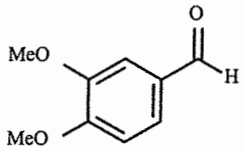
2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the base used to carry out the conversion of the compound of formula (VIII) into the compound of formula (I) is selected from n-butyllithium, lithium diisopropylamide, potassium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide, potassium tert-butoxide and potassium hydroxide.

3. The process according to claim 2, wherein the base used to carry out the conversion of the compound of formula (VIII) into the compound of formula (I) is n-butyllithium.

4. The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic solvent used to carry out the conversion of the compound of formula (VIII) into the compound of formula (I) is tetrahydrofuran.

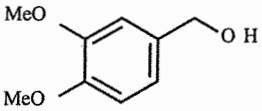
5. The process according to claim 1, wherein the conversion of the compound of formula (VIII) into the compound of formula (I) is carried out at a temperature between -65.degree. C. and 25.degree. C., inclusive.

6. The process according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (VIII) is prepared starting from a compound of formula (IX):



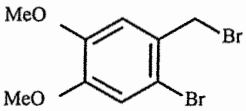

(IX),

which is converted, by a reduction reaction, into a compound of formula (X):




(X),

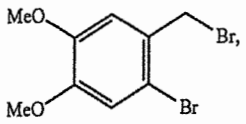
which is converted, by a bromination reaction, into a compound of formula (VIII):




(VIII) .

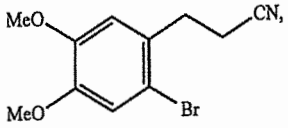
7. A process for the synthesis of ivabradine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein a compound of formula (VIII) :

(VIII)

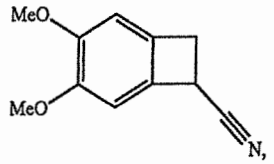



is subjected to the action of a base in the presence of acetonitrile in an organic solvent to yield a compound formula (I) :

(I)

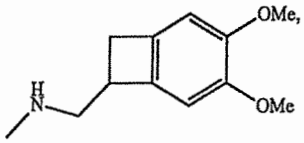


which compound of formula (I) is subjected to an intramolecular cyclization reaction in a basic medium to yield a compound of formula (III):



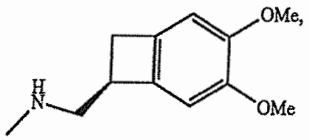

(III)

which compound of formula (III) is subjected to reduction conditions to yield a compound of formula (IV):



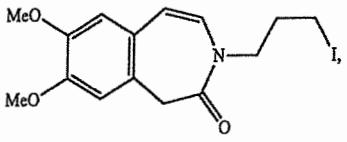

(IV)

which compound of formula (IV) is subjected to optical resolution conditions to yield a compound of formula (V):



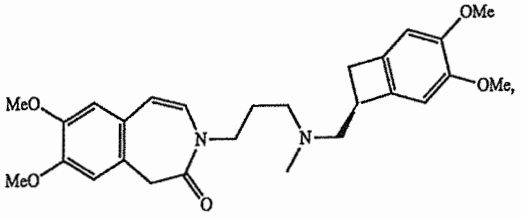

(V)

which compound of formula (V) is reacted with a compound of formula (VI):




(VI)

to yield a compound of formula (VII):




(VII)

which compound of formula (VII) is subjected to catalytic hydrogenation conditions to yield ivabradine, which may optionally be converted into an addition salt thereof via treatment with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid selected from hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, sulphuric acid, phosphoric acid, acetic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, lactic acid, pyruvic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, glutaric acid, fumaric acid, tartaric acid, maleic acid, citric acid, ascorbic acid, oxalic acid, methanesulphonic acid, benzenesulphonic acid and camphoric acid.