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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/27954 (22) International Filing Date: 21 December 1999 (21.12.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/113,437 23 December 1998 (23.12.98) US (71) Applicant: BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB COMPANY [US/US]; P.O. Box 4000, Princeton, NJ 08543-4000 (US). (72) Inventors: LI, Wenying; 6221 Town Place, Middletown, CT 06457 (US). MATSON, James, A.; 475 Wallingford Road, Cheshire, CT 06410 (US). HUANG, Xiaohua; 12 Ascoli Drive, Wallingford, CT 06492 (US). LAM, Kin, Sing; 33 Sara Circle, North Haven, CT 06473 (US). MCCLURE, Grace, A.; 18 Foote Hill Road, Northford, CT 07472 (US). (74) Agents: SWITZER, Joan et al.; Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, P.O. Box 4000, Princeton, NJ 08543-4000 (US).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>
(54) Title: MICROBIAL TRANSFORMATION METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN EPOTHILONE		
(57) Abstract A microbial method for the preparation of an epothilone containing a terminal hydroxyalkyl group, comprising contacting at least one epothilone having a terminal alkyl group with an enzyme or microorganism capable of catalyzing the selective hydroxylation of said alkyl group to a hydroxyalkyl group, and effecting said hydroxylation.		