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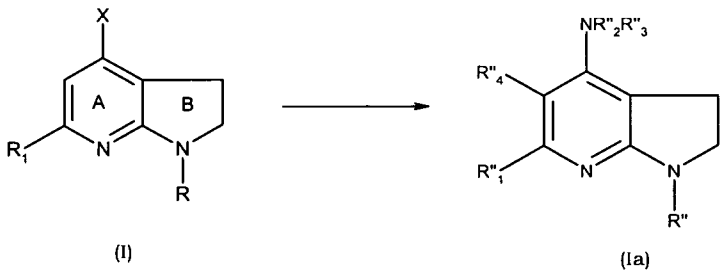
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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING BICYCLIC COMPOUNDS



(I) (Ia)

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a novel process for preparing compounds of formula (IA), which are potent and specific antagonists of corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF) receptors, from intermediate compounds of formula (I), by a coupling reaction catalysed by copper, formulae (I) (Ia) wherein X is halogen; and the other substituents are as defined in the description.

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