In one aspect, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition of ^{18}F-FACBC characterised in that said composition comprises:

(i) comprises 50-100 mM citrate buffer; ~~and,~~

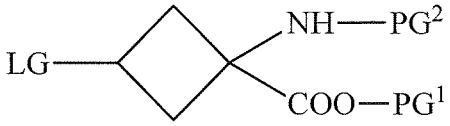
(ii) has a pH of 4.0-5.0, and

(iii) not more than 150 µg/mL 1-amino-3-hydroxyl-cyclobutane-1-carboxylic acid (hydroxyl-ACBC),

with the proviso that said composition does not comprise a sugar lactone or a sugar alcohol ~~radiostabiliser~~.

In another aspect, there is provided a method to obtain a radiopharmaceutical composition wherein said composition is as defined above and wherein said method comprises:

(i) reacting with a suitable source of [^{18}F]fluoride a precursor compound of Formula I:



(I)

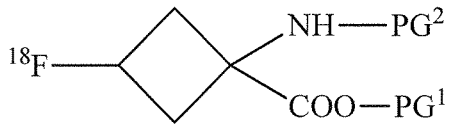
wherein:

LG is a leaving group selected from from methanesulfonic acid, toluenesulfonic acid, nitrobenzenesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, fluorosulfonic acid, and perfluoroalkylsulfonic acid;

PG^1 is a carboxy protecting group selected from methyl, ethyl, t-butyl and phenyl; and,

PG^2 is an amine protecting group selected from t-butoxycarbonyl, allyloxycarbonyl, phthalimide, and N-benzylideneamine;

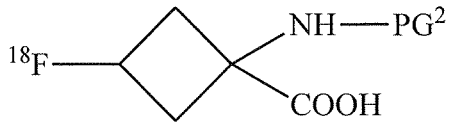
to obtain a compound of Formula II:



(II)

wherein PG^1 and PG^2 are as defined for Formula I;

(ii) reacting said compound of Formula II with a PG^1 deprotecting agent to obtain a compound of Formula III:



(III);

wherein PG^2 is as defined for Formula I;

(iii) reacting said compound of Formula III with a PG^2 deprotecting agent to obtain [^{18}F]FACBC;

(iv) formulating said [^{18}F]FACBC with citrate buffer to obtain said pharmaceutical composition.

Claims

(1) A pharmaceutical composition of ^{18}F-FACBC characterised in that said composition comprises:

(i) ~~comprises~~ 50-100 mM citrate buffer; ~~and,~~

(ii) has a pH of 4.0-5.0, and

(iii) not more than 150 µg/mL 1-amino-3-hydroxyl-cyclobutane-1-carboxylic acid (hydroxyl-ACBC),

with the proviso that said composition does not comprise a sugar lactone or a sugar alcohol ~~radiostabiliser~~.

(2) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in Claim 1 comprising 60-90 mM citrate buffer.

(3) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in either Claim 1 or Claim 2 comprising 75-85 mM citrate buffer.

(4) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-3 that has a pH of 4.1-4.5.

(5) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-4 that has an end of synthesis (EOS) radioactive concentration (RAC) of at least 1000 MBq/mL.

(6) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-5 that has an end of synthesis (EOS) radioactive concentration (RAC) of at least 1500 MBq/ml.

~~(7) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-6 which comprises not more than 150 µg/mL 1-amino-3-hydroxyl-cyclobutane-1-carboxylic acid (hydroxyl-ACBC).~~

(~~8~~7) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-~~7~~6 which comprises not more than 80 µg/mL hydroxyl-ACBC.

(~~9~~8) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-~~8~~7 which comprises not more than 0.15 µg/mL 1-amino-3-fluoro-cyclobutane-1-carboxylic acid (FACBC).

(~~10~~9) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-~~9~~8 which

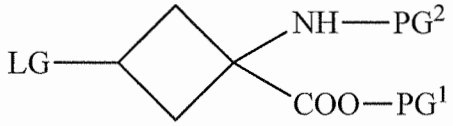
comprises not more than 0.10 μg/mL FACBC.

(10~~11~~) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-~~10~~ 9 which comprises not more than 2.0 μg/mL 1-amino-3-chloro-cyclobutane-1-carboxylic acid (chloro-ACBC).

(11~~12~~) The pharmaceutical composition as defined in any one of Claims 1-~~11~~ 10 which comprises not more than 1.0 μg/mL chloro-ACBC.

(12~~13~~) A method to obtain a radiopharmaceutical composition wherein said composition is as defined in any one of Claims 1-11~~12~~ and wherein said method comprises:

(i) reacting with a suitable source of [^{18}F]fluoride a precursor compound of Formula I:



(I)

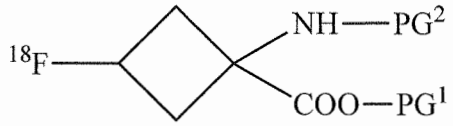
wherein:

LG is a leaving group selected from methanesulfonic acid, toluenesulfonic acid, nitrobenzenesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, fluorosulfonic acid, and perfluoroalkylsulfonic acid;

PG^1 is a carboxy protecting group selected from methyl, ethyl, t-butyl and phenyl; and,

PG^2 is an amine protecting group selected from t-butoxycarbonyl, allyloxycarbonyl, phthalimide, and N-benzylideneamine;

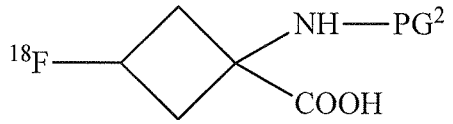
to obtain a compound of Formula II:



(II)

wherein PG^1 and PG^2 are as defined for Formula I;

(ii) reacting said compound of Formula II with a PG^1 deprotecting agent to obtain a compound of Formula III:



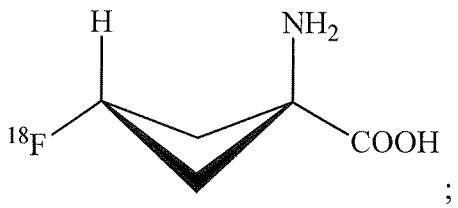
(III);

wherein PG^2 is as defined for Formula I;

(iii) reacting said compound of Formula III with a PG^2 deprotecting agent to obtain [^{18}F]FACBC;

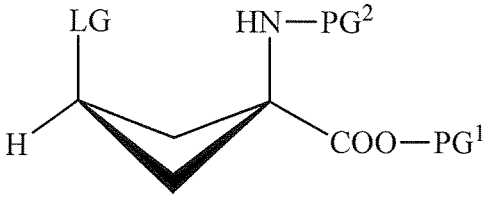
(iv) formulating said [^{18}F]FACBC with citrate buffer to obtain said pharmaceutical composition.

(~~14~~13) The method as defined in Claim ~~13~~12 wherein said [^{18}F]-FACBC is trans-1-amino-3-[^{18}F]-fluorocyclobutanecarboxylic acid (*anti*-[^{18}F]-FACBC):



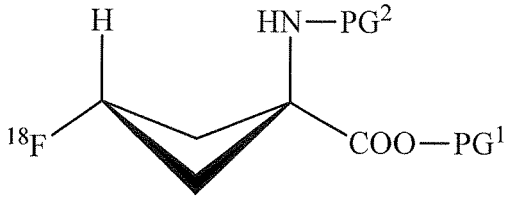
;

said compound of Formula I is a compound of Formula Ia:



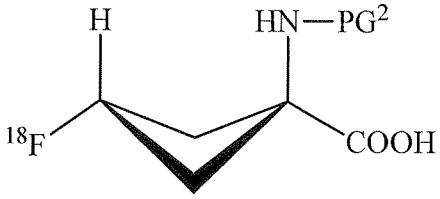
(Ia)

said compound of Formula II is a compound of Formula IIa:



(IIa); and,

said compound of Formula III is a compound of Formula IIIa:



(IIIa)

wherein PG^1 and PG^2 are as defined in Claim ~~14~~ 12 for Formula I.

(~~15~~14) The method as defined in either Claim ~~13~~ 12 or Claim ~~14~~ 13 wherein PG^1 is ethyl.

(~~16~~15) The method as defined in any one of Claims 12~~13~~-14~~15~~ wherein PG^2 is t-butoxycarbonyl.

(~~17~~16) The method as defined in any one of Claims 12~~13~~-15~~16~~ wherein said PG^1 deprotecting agent is NaOH.

(~~18~~17) The method as defined in any one of Claims ~~13~~12-16~~17~~ wherein said PG^2 deprotecting agent is HCl.

(~~19~~18) The method as defined in any one of Claims ~~13~~12-17~~18~~ which is carried out on an automated synthesis apparatus.