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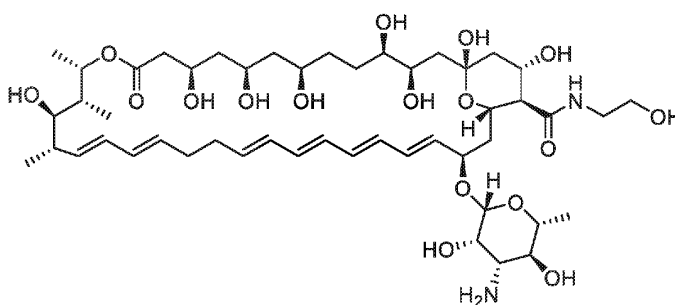


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** Methods for preparing a polyene macrolide antifungal with improved aqueous solubility. The method involves providing a polyene macrolide antifungal having a carboxylic acid group; activating the carboxylic acid group; introducing a primary amine to the activated polyene macrolide antifungal; reacting for a time sufficient to convert the carboxylic acid to an amide, and quenching the reaction, thus yielding a polyene macrolide amide or salt thereof. Also provided are water-soluble polyene macrolide derivatives.



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