(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
20 March 2003 (20.03.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/022853 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: C07D 493/04 // (C07D 493/04, 307:00, 307:00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP02/10062

(22) International Filing Date:
6 September 2002 (06.09.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
01203416.1 10 September 2001 (10.09.2001) EP

(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **TIBOTEC PHARMACEUTICALS LTD.** [IE/IE]; Unit 4, Block 4B, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Blanchardstown, 15 Dublin (IE).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **KESTELEYN, Bart, Rudolf, Romanie** [BE/BE]; Weidelandstraat 18, B-9290 Berlare (BE). **SURLERAUX, Dominique, Louis, Nestor, Ghislain** [BE/BE]; Diegemstraat 48, B-1830 Machelen (BE).

(74) Agent: **DAELEMANS, Frank**; Tibotec-Virco Comm. VA, Generaal De Wittelaan L11 b3, B-2800 Mechelen (BE).

(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, 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, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:
— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

Published:
— *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

WO 03/022853 A1

(54) Title: METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF HEXAHYDRO-FURO[2,3-B]FURAN-3-OL

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for the preparation of hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-ol as well as novel intermediates for use in said method. More in particular the invention relates to a stereoselective method for the preparation of hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-ol, and to a method amenable to industrial scaling up.