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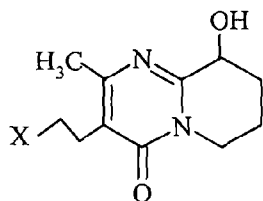
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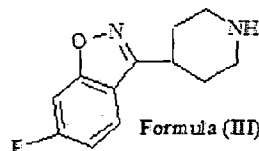
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CIPLA LIMITED** [IN/IN]; Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008 (IN).
- (71) Applicant (for MW only): **COTTRILL, Emily, Elizabeth, Helen** [GB/GB]; A.A. Thornton & Co, 235 High Holborn, London WC1V 7LE (GB).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **PUPPALA, Ravikumar** [IN/IN]; H. No. 920, 3 C Cross, 9th A Main, 1st Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore - 560043, Karnataka (IN). **PATHI, Srinivas, Laxminarayan** [IN/IN]; No. 530, 7th Cross, 4th Main, III Block, HBR Layout, Bangalore - 560043, Karnataka (IN). **KANKAN, Rajendra, Narayanrao** [IN/IN]; 1204 Heritage, Hir-anandani Gardens, Powai, Mumbai 400 076, Maharashtra (IN).
- (74) Agent: **COTTRILL, Emily, Elizabeth, Helen**; A.A. Thornton & Co, 235 High Holborn, London WC1V 7LE (GB).
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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PALIPERIDONE



Formula (II)



Formula (III)

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a process for the preparation of paliperidone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the process comprises condensing a compound of formula (II) with a compound of formula (III) or a salt thereof, in a suitable solvent and a base, in the presence of a catalyst and an inhibiting agent, wherein the inhibiting agent is added to the reaction system before the compound of formula (II) and compound of formula (III) have reacted or as the reaction of the compound of formula (II) and compound of formula (III) is initiated, and optionally converting the paliperidone to a salt thereof, wherein X is a suitable leaving group. The present invention also provides substantially pure paliperidone or a salt thereof, paliperidone or a salt thereof as prepared by the process and uses of the paliperidone or salt thereof.