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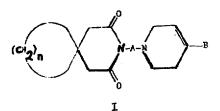
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(54) Azaspiroalkanes

(57) Compounds of the general formula



(n = 4 or 5; $A = (CH_2)_{2-5}$; B = Ph optionally substituted by a C_{1-4} alkyl or alkoxy group or a halogen atom) and their salts are traquilisers. They

are prepared by standard methods, eg. dehydration of the corresponding 4-hydroxy-4-phenylpiperidine derivatives or their salts.

The preparation of 8-(4-bromobutyl)-8-azaspiro[4,5]decane-7,9-dione is described.

SPECIFICATION

N-[(4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-1-yl) alkylene]azaspiroalkanediones and N-[(4-hydroxy-4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl) alkylene]azaspiroalkanediones

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Field of the Invention

N-[(4-Phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-1-yl)alkylene]-azaspiroalkanediones and N-[(4-hydroxy-4-phenylpiperidin-1-yl)alkylene]-azaspiroalkanediones are heterocyclic carbon compounds having a six-membered hetero ring including one nitrogen atom with the spiro system incorporating this 10 hetero ring (Class 546, Subclass 16).

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Background of the Invention

8-(4-Phenyl-1-piperazinylalkylene)-8-azaspiro[4,5]decane-7,9-diones and 3-(4-phenyl-1-piperazinylalkylene)-3-azaspiro[5,5]-undecane-2,4-diones have been prepared as psychotropic agents.

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15 These are described in:

Wu, Y. H., U.S. Patent No. 3,398,151 patented Aug. 20, 1968. Wu, Y. H., U.S. Patent No. 3,558,777 patented Jan. 26, 1971.

Wu, et al., J. Med. Chem., 12, 876-881 (1969).

The Wu and Wu, et al. compounds incorporate a piperazine ring system in their structures 20 (Formula 3) and in this respect differ from the compounds of this invention (Formula 1 and Formula 2) which contain tetrahydropyridyl and piperidinyl systems, respectively.

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Azaspiroalkylene (3)

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Other variations of the (3) structure, specifically substitution of various heterocycles for the aryl portion, have been described:

Wu, et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,717,634 patented Feb. 20, 1973. 40

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Wu, et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,976,776 patented Aug. 24, 1976. Wu, et al., J. Med. Chem., 15, 447-479 (1972).

Certain 4-substituted-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridyl compounds have been described as antipsychotic agents. Tetrahydropyridylbutyro-phenones of formula (4)

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(4)

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were described in:

Wise, L. D., et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,218,456 patented Aug. 19, 1980.

These compounds, with butyrophenone- and aryloxy-substituents on the tetrahydropyridine 55 ring, are structurally quite different from compounds comprising the present invention.

Anti-psychotic agents of formula (5) were described in:

McKenzie, et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,221,714 patented Sept. 9, 1980.

These compounds, with their particular substituents on the tetrahydro-pyridine moiety, show increasing dissimilarity of structure compared with the subject compounds of this application.

15 Summary of the Invention

This invention is concerned with a new series of CNS-active compounds characterized by the following general structural formula (I) and the non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof.

30 In the foregoing formula, n is the integer 4 or 5; A is a divalent straight alkylene chain of 2 to 5 30 carbon atoms inclusive; B is

wherein R is hydrogen, lower alkyl from 1 to 4 carbon atoms inclusive, lower alkoxy of from 1 to 4 carbon atoms inclusive, or halogen.

40 Also disclosed and claimed are compounds of Formula (II) which are useful intermediates for 40 the preparation of (I).

50 In Formula II, n, A, and B are the same as for formula I.

Detailed Description of the Invention

Several processes may be employed for preparation of compounds of Formula 1. These processes may be adapted to variation in order to produce other compounds embraced by this invention but not specifically disclosed. Variations of methods to produce the same compounds in somewhat different fashion will also be evident to one skilled in the art. Certain examples will be given for specific illustration.

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In this scheme, n, A, and R have the same meanings as previously assigned to Formula I. The symbol X refers to a suitable displacement group such as chloride, bromide, iodide, sulfate, phosphate, tosylate, or mesylate. Process 1 is carried out under reaction conditions suitable for the preparation of tertiary amines by alkylation of secondary amines. The reactants are heated in 15 a suitable organic liquid at temperatures of about 60°C. to about 150°C. in the presence of an acid binding agent. Benzene, ethanol, acetonitrile, toluene, and n-butyl alcohol are preferred examples of the organic liquid reaction media. The preferred acid binding agent is potassium carbonate but other inorganic and tertiary organic bases may be employed including other alkali and alkaline earth metal carbonates, bicarbonates, or hydrides and the tertiary amines.

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The intermediate azaspirodecane- and undecanediones of Formula III are prepared by reaction of the suitable glutarimide with a dihaloalkane using Process 1 conditions.

The intermediate 4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridines of Formula V, some of which are described in the chemical literature or are commercially available, can also be obtained by dehydration, as in the method of Example 3, of 4-phenyl-4-hydroxy-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridines 25 of Formula IV shown below.

Process 2

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$$\frac{1}{1}$$
 $\frac{1}{1}$ \frac

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In this scheme, as before, n, A, and R have the same meansings as previously assigned to Formula I. The first step of Process 2, reaction of III and IV, is carried out under conditions similar to Process 1, an identical type of reaction. The second step of Process 2, conversion of II to I, is carried out under reaction conditions appropriate for dehydration reactions. While 40 many processes for dehydration are suitable, such as heating II in H₃PO₄ with added P₂O₅ (see Example 5), the preferred process involves stirring II in trifluoroacetic acid at ambient room temperature for 12 to 24 hours (see Example 3).

Intermediary 4-phenyl-4-hydroxypiperidines (IV) are prepared according to the following scheme utilizing standard synthetic organic reaction procedures (Grignard agent addition, and 45 catalytic hydrogenolytic de-benzylation).

Other processes which may be employed for synthesizing [I] follow. 55

Process 3

$$60 \xrightarrow{(CH_2)_n} + H_2NA-N \longrightarrow I$$

65 VII VI 65

BNSDOCID: <GB___2094801A__I_>

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This process, wherein n, A, and R have the same meanings as previously assigned Formula I, consists of reacting a spiro-substituted glutaric anhydride of Formula (VI), many of which are described in chemical literature or are commercially available, with a 1-(ω-aminoalkyl)-4-aryl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine of Formula (VII). Adaptable methods useful for synthesis of com-5 pounds of Formula (V) may be found in the literature or described herein. An example would be reaction of an ω-cyanoalkyl halide with a suitable 4-aryl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine for an easily convertable precursor such as IV), followed by reduction of the resulting nitrile to the amine (VII). In general, the reaction of VI and VII is preferably carried out at elevated temperature in an inert organic reaction solvent - pyridine is a preferred solvent. Temperatures in the order of 10 100° to 200°C are preferred. A reaction period of at least 2 hrs. may be sufficient, although 10 longer reaction times are customarily employed in the interest of obtaining maximum yield.

Process 4

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$$(CH_2)_n$$
 $(CH_2)_n$ (CH_2)

In this embodiment of the subject invention, intermediate compounds of Formula VIII, wherein n, R, and X have the same meanings as given hereinabove, are reacted with a specific 25 glutarimide using conditions described in Process 1, of which this, Process 4, is a variant. 25 Compounds of Formula VIII are prepared by the following scheme.

To synthesize compounds of Formula VIII, a 4-aryl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridine (V) is combined with three equivalents of a dihaloalkane in an inert organic solvent in the presence of a strong base. Strong bases which may be employed consist of alkali metal oxides, hydrides, amides, or 35 carbonates with sodium carbonate and potassium carbonate being particularly preferred. 35 Suitable organic solvents, usually with boiling points in the range of about 80° to 160°C, include liquid hydrocarbons, hydrocarbon nitriles, dimethylformamide, hydrocarbon ehers, and the like. The reaction is conveniently carried out at the boiling point of the medium selected. Suitable reaction periods range from 2 to 24 hrs. with the duration of the reaction period 40 depending to some extent upon the temperature and reaction solvent selected. In general, 40 formation of quaternary compounds of Formula VII are facilitated by higher reaction temperatures.

Process 5 illutrates the reaction of one equivalent of an intermediate compound of Formula IX, wherein A, R, and X are as hereinabove defined, with one equivalent of a specific glutarimide using the reaction conditions outlined above for Process 4.

The haloalkyl reactant of Formula IX is prepared according to standard organic procedures. By 55 way of example, reaction of the tetrahydropyridines of Formula V with alkanol halides of the 55 formula HO-A-X provides intermediates of the Formula X.

65 This intermediate is then esterified according to conventional techniques well known to the art to 65

provide the Formula IX reactants. For instance, thionyl chloride acting upon the compounds of Formula X provides the Formula IX intermediates in which X is chlorine. In a similar fashion, bromides and iodides are prepared. Phosphates, sulfates, tosylates, mesylates corresponding to Formula IX are obtained with conventional laboratory techniques.

The foregoing embodiments of the process of the present invention for the preparation of compounds of Formula I are considered to be a unitary process. Thus, the 4-phenyltetrahydropyridylalkylene-azaspiroalkanediones of Formula I are prepared in accordance with the unitary process of the present invention by reacting a tetrahydropyridine, or its precursor, depicted by Formula XI

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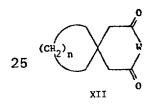
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wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen (Formula IV and V), H₂N-A-(Formula VII), X-A- (Formula IX), or (CH₂)_n = (Formula VIII), and A, n, and X are as hereinbefore defined; and Z is 4-hydroxy (for the precursor), or Z is a 3,4-double bond; with a spiroglutaric 20 acid derivative, depicted by Formula XII

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wherein n is as hereinbefore defined and W is O (Formula VI) when Y is H₂N-A-; or W is N-H 30 when Y is X-A- or $(CH_2)_n =$; or W is N-A-X when Y is hydrogen; in an inert organic liquid mdium 30 at an elevated temperature. In the instances when the precursor-type intermediates of Formula XI, Z is 4-hydroxy, were used as reactants, a dehydration step must intervene for preparation of the invention compounds of Formula I.

Biological testing of the subject compounds of formula I in animals demonstrates psychotropic 35 acivity of the sort which characterizes tranquilizers. The term tranquilizer used herein encompasses anxioselective and neuroleptic actions. Conventional screening tests can be utilized in determining the psychotropic profile of the instant compounds such as:

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Conditioned avoidance response in fasted rats treated orally. These data were obtained by the method described in the above Wu, et al. patents and publications.

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2. Dopamine receptor binding assay reflecting neuroleptic acitivity (Burt, Crease, and Synder, Molec. Pharmacol. 12:800 (1976); Burt, Crease, and Snyder, Science 196;326 (1977); Crease, Burt, and Snyder, Science 192:481 (1976).

3. Apomorphine stereotype behavior test in non-fasted rats which determines the ability of 45 centrally acting compounds to block apomorphine-induced stereotyped behavior. This preclinical test gives an indication of potential neuroleptic efficacy (Janssen, et al., Arzneimittel-Forsch., 17:841 (1966)).

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The compounds of the present invention may be administered to mammals to exert their anxioselective and neuroleptic effects in the same way and in similar dosage amounts as was 50 suitable for the compounds cited in the above Wu, et al. patents which are incorporated herein in entirety by reference.

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Accordingly, another embodiment of the present invention concerns a process for eliciting a tranquilizing effect in a psychotic or neurotic mammal which comprises administering to said mammal a non-toxic effective tranquilizing dose of from 0.01 to 40 mg, per kg. of body weight 55 of said mammal of a Formula I compound or a non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

Appropriate pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents, and adjuvants as set forth in the aforementioned Wu, et al. patents together with the instant compounds may be employed to prepare desired compositons for use in the tranquilzing process. Thus, an embodiment of the 60 invention is directed to a pharmaceutical composition in dosage unit form suitable for systemic administration to a mammalian host comprising a pharmaceutical carrier and an amount of a compound claimed in Claim 1 to provide an effective dose of from 0.1 to 40 mg. per kg. of body weight of said host.

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65 Description of Specific Embodiments

	The compounds which constitute this invention, their methods of preparation, and their biologic actions will appear more fully from a consideration of the following examples and appended claims which are given for the purpose of illustration only and are not to be construed as limiting the invention in sphere or scope.	
5	In examples whih follow, used to illustrate the foregoing processes, temperatures are expressed in degrees centrigrade (°). Melting points are uncorrected. The nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectral characteristics refer to chemical shifts (δ) expressed as parts per million (ppm) versus tetramethylsilane (TMS) as reference standard. The relative area reported	5
10	for the various shifts in the H NMR spectral data corresponds to the number of hydrogen atoms of a particular functional type in the molecule. The nature of the shifts as to multiplicity is reported as broad single (bs), singlet (s), multiplet (m), doublet (d), triplet (t), or doublet of doublets (dd). Abbreviations employed are DMSO-d ₆ (deuterodimethylsulfoxide), CDCl ₃ (deuterodinethylsulfoxide), and are otherwise conventional. The infrared (IR) spectral descriptions include only	10
15	absorption wave numbers (cm ⁻¹) having functional group identification value. The IR determinations were employed using potassium bromide (KBr) as diluent. The elemental analyses are reported as percent by weight.	15
	Process I EXAMPLE 1	
20	8-[4-(4-Phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-1-yl)butyl]-8-azaspirol[4.5]decane-7,9-dione Hydrochlo- ride (la; $n = 4$, $A = butyl$, $B = phenyl$) A solution of 0.02 mole each of 4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine (V), 8-(4-bromobutyl)-8-	20
25	azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (III), and triethylamine in 30 ml. ethanol was heated in a high pressure reaction vessel at 150°C. for 6 hrs., sealed under a nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction solution was evaporated to dryness <i>in vacuo</i> and the residue partitioned between CHCl ₃ and H ₂ O. The CHCl ₃ layer was dried (MgSO ₄), filtered and concentrated to a residue which was dissolved in 20 to 30 ml. ethanol and acidified with ethereal HCl. The solid was collected by filtration and recrystallized from ethanol to give 2.5 g. of the hydrochoride salt, m.p.	25
30	215–217°C. Anal. Calcd. for C ₂₄ H ₃₂ N ₂ O ₂ ·HCl: C, 69.14; H, 7.98; N, 6.72. Found: C, 68.82; H, 7.78; N,	30
	6.60. NMR (DMSO-d ₆): 1.52 (12,m); 2.64 (4,s); 3.11 (6,m); 3.68 (4,m); 6.14 (1,m); 7.39 (5,m). IR (KBr): 690, 745, 1119, 1350, 1360, 1680, 1725, 2570, and 2930 cm ⁻¹ .	
35	EXAMPLE 2	35
	8-(4-Bromobutyl)-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (IIIa; n = 4, A = butyl, X = Br) A slurry of 33.4 g. (0.2 mole) of 3,3-tetramethylene glutarimide, 86.4 g. (0.4 mole) of 1,4- dibromobutane, and 89% (0.6 mole) of K ₂ CO ₃ (pulverized) in 500 ml. toluene was refluxed for 20 hrs. The reaction mixture was filtered while hot. The filtrate was concentrated and distilled in	
40	vacuo to afford a 58% yield of product, b.p. 160-167°C/0.1 mmHg.	40
45	Process 2 Dehydration EXAMPLE 3 8-[4-(4-[2-Methoxyphenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-1-yl)butyl]-8-azaspirol[4.5]decane-7,9-dione Hydrochloride (Ic; n = 4, A = butyl, B = 2-methoxyphenyl) 8-[4-(4-Hydroxy-4-(2-methoxyphenyl]-1-piperidinyl)butyl]-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (IIC, 3 g.) was stirred at room temperature in 20 ml. trifluoroacetic acid for 18 hrs. The reaction	45
50	solution was concentrated <i>in vacuo</i> to a residue which was partitioned between dilute NH ₄ OH solution and CHCl ₃ . The organic layer was dried (Na ₂ SO ₄) and concentrated to an oil which was converted to the hydrochloride salt with ethereal HCl in ethanol. The crude salt was isolated and recystallized twice in acetonitrile-ethyl ether to give 1.5 g. of product (50%), m.p. 159–161°C. <i>Anal.</i> Calcd. for C ₂₅ H ₃₄ N ₂ O ₃ ·HCl: C, 67.18; H, 7.90; N, 6.27. Found: 67.11; H, 7.68; N,	50
55	6.33. NMR (DMSO-d _e): 1.49 (12,m); 2.60 (4,s); 3.04 (6,m); 3.64 (4,m); 3.74 (3,s); 5.74 (1,m); 7.00 (4,m); 11.15 (1,bs). IR (KBr): 760, 1125, 1255, 1355, 1435, 1670, 1722, 2480, and 2955 cm ⁻¹ .	55
60	Process 2 Hydrolysis intermediate EXAMPLE 4 8-[4-(4-Hydroxy-4-[2-methoxyphenyl]-1-piperidinyl) butyl]-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione Hy-	60
υU	drochloride (IIc; $n = 4$, $A = butyl$, $B = 2$ -methoxyphenyl) 4-Hydroxy-4-(2-methoxyphenyl)piperidine (2 g., IVc whre $R = 2$ -MeO-prepared as set forth below); 8-[4-(1-bromobutyl)]-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (2.4 g, IIIa); K_2CO_3 (2.3 g.); and	
65	KI (0.15 g) were combined in 80 ml. acetonitrile and refluxed for 18 hrs. The reaction mixture was filtered while hot and the filtrate concentrated <i>in vacuo</i> to a residue which was dissolved in	65

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70 ml. CHCl₃. The CHCl₃ solution was washed twice, using 50 ml. H₂O; dried with MgSO₄; filtered and concentrated to 3.7 g. of oil. Conversion of the oil to the hydrochloride salt (ethanol and ethereal HCl) and recrystallization for ethanol gave a 73% yield of product, m.p. 246-248°C. Anal. Calcd, for C₂₅H₃₆N₂O₄·HCl: C, 64.58; H, 8.03; N, 6.03. Found: C, 64.33; H, 7.82; N, 6.02. NMR (DMSO-d₆): 1.56 (14,m); 2.64 (4,s); 3.10 (8,m); 3.68 (2,m); 3.84 (3,s); 5.30 (1,bs); 7.09 (3,m); 7.54 (1,m); 10.80 (1,bs). IR (KBr): 755, 1120, 1238, 1350, 1430, 1672, 1720, 2710, 2930, and 3300 cm⁻¹. 10 **Process 4 Dehydration EXAMPLE 5** 8-[4-(4-[4-Chlorophenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-1-yl)butyl]-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione Hydrochloride (lb; n = 4, A = butyl, B = 4-chlorophenyl) 8-(4-(4-[4-Chlorophenyl]-4-hydroxy-1-piperidinyl)butyl]-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione hydro- 15 chloride (II, 2 g) was added in portions to a stirred reaction medium consisting of 2 g. P₂O₅ in 10 ml. H₃PO₄. After completion of addition the stirred mixture was heated to 170° and kept in that range for 3 hr. After being allowed to cool and stand at room temprature for 12 hours, the reaction mixture was hydrolyzed, while being kept cool with an ice bath, using 10 ml. H₂O. The 20 hydrolyzed mixture was made basic, using sat'd Na₂CO₃ solution, and extracted with ether. The 20 ether extract was dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated to a residual oil which was converted to the hydrochloride salt using a dilute ethanolic solution of HCl. Addition of ether caused precipitation of solid which was collected by filtration and dried to give 0.5 g. product (26%), m.p. 222-224°C. Anal. Calcd. for C₂₄H₃₁ClN₂O₂·HCl: C, 63.86; H, 7.15; N, 6.21. Found: C, 63.52; H, 7.18; 25 25 NMR (DMSO-d_s): 1.52 (12,m); 2.64 (4,s); 3.12 (6,m); 3.67 (4,m); 6.19 (1,m); 7.45 (4,m); 11.35 (1,bs). IR (KBr): 810, 1125, 1355, 1670, 1723, 2580, and 2955 cm⁻¹. 30 30 **EXAMPLE 6** 8-[4-(4-[4-Chlorophenyl]-4-hydroxy-1-piperidinyl)butyl]-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione Hydrochloride (IIb; n = 4, A = butyl, B = 4-chlorophenyl) 4-(4-Chloropheny)-4-hydroxypiperidine (4 g., IVb where R = 4-Cl-prepared as set forth

35 below); IIIa (5.7 g.,); Et₃N (1.9 g.) were all dissolved in 50 ml. ethanol and heated at 150°C. in a sealed reaction vessel for 6 hr. After cooling, the reaction mixture was concentrated to a residue and partitioned between CHCl₃ and IM NaOH. The CHCl₃ layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated to 18.6 g. of grease-like residue. This material was dissolved in

ethanol and acidified with ethereal HCl. Filtration gave 6.9 g. of HCl salt, m.p. 242-244°C. Anal. Calcd, for C₂₄H₃₃ClN₂O₃·HCl·1/4H₂O: C, 61.41; H, 7.31; N, 5.97. Found: C, 60.88;

H, 7.34; N, 5.88.

1. A compound selected from the group consisting of a compound having the formula (I) 45 45

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n is the integer 4 or 5;

Ι

A is a divalent straight alkylene chain of 2 to 5 carbon atoms inclusive;

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wherein R is hydrogen, lower alkyl from 1 to 4 carbon atoms inclusive, lower alkoxy of from 1 to 4 carbon atoms inclusive, or halogen;

and the non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, 8-[4-(4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-1-yl)butyl]-8-azaspi-5 ro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (la) or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

3. The compound of claim 1, 8-[4-(4-[4-chlorophenyl]-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-1-yl)butyl]-8-azaspirol[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (lb) or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

4. The compound of claim 1, 8-[4-(4-[2-methoxyphenyl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridin-1-yl)butyl]-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (Ic) or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt 10 thereof.

5. The process for eliciting a tranquilizer effect in a psychotic or neurotic mammal which comprises administering to said mammal a non-toxic effective tranquilizing dose of from 0.01 to 40 mg. per kg. of body weight of said mammal of a compound claimed in claim 1 by the oral or a parenteral route.

6. A pharmaceutical composition in dosage unit form suitable for systemic administration to a mammalian host comprising a pharmaceutical carrier and an amount of a compound claimed in claim 1 to provide an effective non-toxic dose of from 0.01 to 40 mg. per kg. of body weight of said host.

7. A compound selected from the group consisting of a compound having the formula (II)

wherein n, A, and B are the same as recited above in Claim 1.

30 8. The compound of Claim 7, 8-[4-(4-[4-chlorophenyl]-4-hydroxy-1-piperidinyl)butyl]-8-azas- 30 piro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (IIb) or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

9. The compound of Claim 7, 8-[4-(4-hydroxy-4-[2-mthoxyphenyl]-1-piperidinyl)butyl]-8-azaspiro[4.5]decane-7,9-dione (IIc) or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

10. A process for preparing azaspiroalkanediones having the formula

45 wherein n is a cardinal number which is 4 or 5, A is a divalent straight chain alkylene moiety containing from 2 to 5 carbon atoms, B is a group of the formula

wherein R is hydrogen, lower alkyl having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or halogen, by reacting a tetrahydropyridine or its precursor, having the formula

wherein Y is hydrogen, H_2NA -, XA- or $(CH_2)_n$ = in which A, n and Y are as defined above, and Z is a 4-hydroxy (in the case of the precursor), or Z is a 3,4-double bond with a spiroglutaric acid derivative and having the formula

in which n is as defined above and W is 0 when Y is H_2NA -or W is NH when \dot{Y} is XA-, or W is 10 $(CH_2)_n = 0$, of W is NAX when Y is hydrogen, in an inert organic liquid medium at an elevated temperature, but when in the precursor type intermediate of the aforesaid formula

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20 are used as reactants, then the process further includes a dehydration step.

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11. A pharmaceutical compound as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 4 for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body.

12. A compound according to Claim 8 for use as a tranquilizer.

A compound according to Claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore specifically described in 25 each of the examples for the use hereinbefore specifically described.

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14. A compound as described in Claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore specifically described in each of the examples.

15. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6 substantially as hereinbefore specifically described in examples.

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16. A process for making a compound as defined in Claim 10 substantially as hereinbefore specifically described in the examples.

17. A compound when produced by a process as claimed in any one of claims 10 and 16.

18. A compound as defined in Claim 7 substantially as hereinbefore described in the examples.

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