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(54) Title: AN IMPROVED PROCESS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF SERTRALINE

(57) Abstract: A process for preparing (±)-cis-4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-N-methyl-1-naphthalenamine (sertraline) and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof comprising hydrogenation of 4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydro-N-methyl-1-naphthalenimine (sertraline-1-imine) in the presence of a polar solvent using palladium / alumina as a catalyst at a temperature ranging from 25°C to 35°C to obtain (±)-cis/trans-sertraline with the (±)-cis racemate of sertraline as the major product.
### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC: C07C 209/52 (2006.01); C07C 211/42 (2006.01)

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

C07C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of database and, where practicable, search terms used)

REGISTRY, CAPLUS, CASREACT, EPDOC, WPI

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>WO 2006129324 A2 (HETERO DRUGS LIMITED, PARThASARADH REDDY, BANDI, RAJNARAK REDDY, KURA, RAJ REDDY, APOLU, MURALIDBARA REDDY, DASARI, SAMBI REDDY, JONNALA) 07 December 2006 (07.12.2006)</td>
<td>1-14</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>US 7276629 B2 (HERSKOWITZ MORDECHAY, KALY A MARK, HERSKOWITZ MORDECHAY) 02 October 2007 (02.10.2007)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>DE 198 12054 A1 (HOECHST SCHERING AGREVO GMBH) 23 September 1999 (23.09.1999)</td>
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</tbody>
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- "&" document member of the same patent family

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