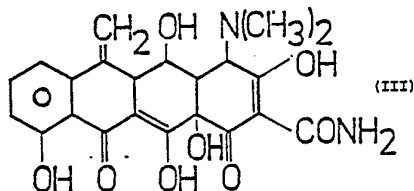
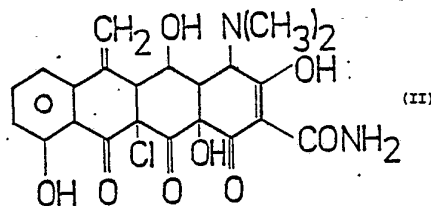
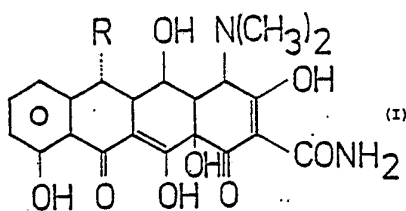




## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification<sup>4</sup> : <b>C07C 103/19, B01J 27/057</b></p>	<p><b>A1</b></p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 89/ 02429</b> (43) International Publication Date: 23 March 1989 (23.03.89)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/HU88/00063 (22) International Filing Date: 16 September 1988 (16.09.88) (31) Priority Application Number: 4164/87 (32) Priority Date: 18 September 1987 (18.09.87) (33) Priority Country: HU  (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CHINOIN GY- OGYSZER ÉS VEGYÉSZETI TERMÉKEK GYÁRA RT.[HU/HU]; Tó út 1-5, H-1045 Budapest IV (HU).  (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only) : SZALAY, Erzsébet [HU/ HU]; Damjanich út 23, H-1071 Budapest (HU). LUGOSI, György [HU/HU]; József út 9, H-2152 Göd-felső (HU). KÁLLAY, U., Tamás [HU/HU]; Gépmadár út 16, H-1106 Budapest (HU). NÁD, Zsuzsanna [HU/HU]; Spáhi út 20, H- 1022 Budapest (HU). JELINEK, István [HU/HU]; Mogyoró- ódi út 117, H-1141 Budapest (HU). SIMONIDESZ, Vilmos [HU/HU]; Erdősor út 32, H-1046 Budapest (HU). GYÖRI, Péter [HU/HU]; Gyakorló út 32, H-1106 Budapest (HU). NAGY, Lajos [HU/HU];</p>		<p>Vásárhelyi K. út 16, H-2000 Szentendre (HU). LUGOSI, Márta [HU/HU]; József út 9, H-2132 Göd-felső (HU). SÁN- TÁNE SINGOLA, Ilona [HU/HU]; Csobánka tér 2, H-1039 Budapest (HU). BESENYI, Gábor [HU/HU]; Bocskai út 106, H-1153 Budapest (HU). SIMÁNDI, László [HU/HU]; Zöldlomb út 15/a, H-1025 Budapest (HU).  (74) Agent: PATENTBUREAU DANUBIA; P.O. Box 198, H-1368 Budapest (HU).  (81) Designated States: AT (European patent), BE (European pa- tent), BR, CH (European patent), DE (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), IT (Euro- pean patent), JP, KR, LU (European patent), NL (Euro- pean patent), SE (European patent), SU, US.  Published With international search report.</p>

## (54) Title: IMPROVED PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF TETRACYCLINE DERIVATIVES



## (57) Abstract

The invention relates to a process for the preparation of tetracycline derivatives of formula (I), and acid addition salts thereof, wherein R stands for  $-CH_3$  or  $=CH_2$ , by dehalogenating and hydrating chloromethacycline or acid addition salt thereof of formula (II), or by hydrating methacycline or acid addition salts thereof of formula (III), by a treatment with hydrogen gas in the presence of a noble metal alloy catalyst on carrier and organic solvent which comprises performing hydrating under pressure of 0.1-1.0 MPa with an alloy catalyst consisting of the alloy palladium or platinum and selenium and/or tellurium used at a ratio of 1:0.01-0.5 related to the amount of the starting tetracycline and carrying out, if desired dehalogenation and hydration in one step.

**FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY**

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AT	Austria	FR	France	ML	Mali
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	MR	Mauritania
BB	Barbados	GB	United Kingdom	MW	Malawi
BE	Belgium	HU	Hungary	NL	Netherlands
BG	Bulgaria	IT	Italy	NO	Norway
BJ	Benin	JP	Japan	RO	Romania
BR	Brazil	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	SD	Sudan
CF	Central African Republic	KR	Republic of Korea	SE	Sweden
CG	Congo	LI	Liechtenstein	SN	Senegal
CH	Switzerland	LK	Sri Lanka	SU	Soviet Union
CM	Cameroon	LU	Luxembourg	TD	Chad
DE	Germany, Federal Republic of	MC	Monaco	TG	Togo
DK	Denmark	MG	Madagascar	US	United States of America
FI	Finland				

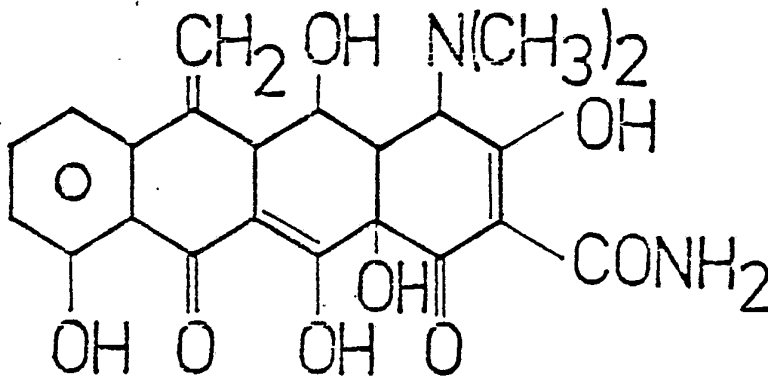
## IMPROVED PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF TETRACYCLINE DERIVATIVES

The present invention relates to an improved process  
 5 for the preparation of doxycycline and methacycline and  
 acid addition salts thereof by catalytic dehalogenation  
 and hydrogenation by using a tellurian and/or selenium  
 containing alloy catalyst latter being prepared according  
 to this invention as well.

10

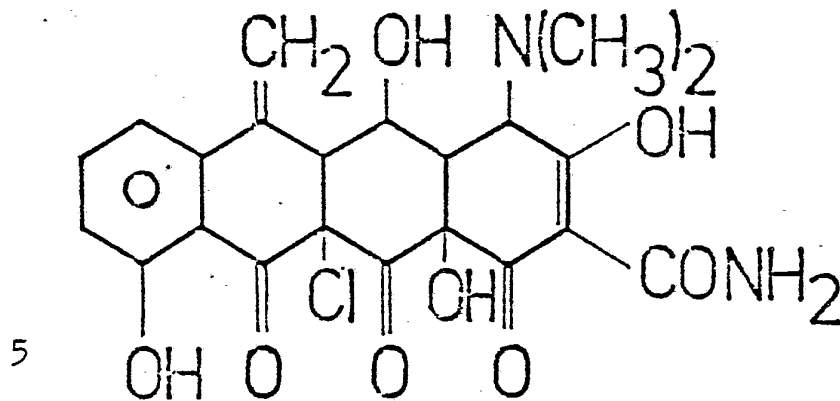
The following abbreviations are used throughout the  
 specification:

"methacycline": 4-dimethylamino-1,4,4a,5,5a,6,11,12a-octa-  
 hydro-3,5,10,12,12a-pentahydroxy-6-methylene-1,11-dioxo-2-  
 15 naphtacene-carboxamide of the formula

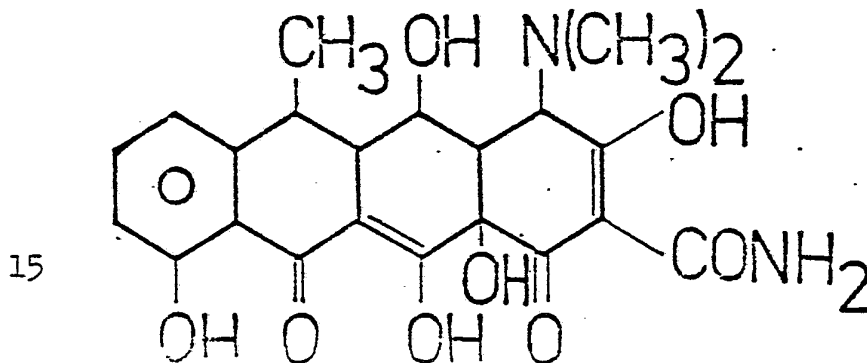


20

"chloro-methacycline": 4-dimethylamino-1,4,4a,5,5a,6,11,12-  
 12a-nonahydro-3,5,10,12a-tetrahydroxy-11a-chloro-6-methylene-  
 25 1,11,12-trioxo-2-naphtacene-carboxamide of the formula



"doxycycline":  $\alpha$ -6-desoxy-5-hydroxy-tetracycline, i.e.  
 4-dimethylamino-1,4,4a,5,5a,6,11,12a-octahydro-3,5,10,12-  
 12a-pentahydroxy-6 $\alpha$ -methyl-1,11-dioxo-2-naphthacene-carbox-  
 10 amide of the formula



" $\beta$ -doxycycline" is the  $\beta$ -isomer of doxycycline  
 R stands for  $-\text{CH}_3$  or  $=\text{CH}_2$

20

It is known that methacycline and doxycycline are very effective representatives of the tetracycline type antibiotics.

25 Several processes are known for the preparation thereof using oxytetracycline as starting material and preparing chloromethacycline followed by dehalogenation and if desired by hydrating the obtained methacycline to doxycycline.

Dehalogenation was solved - among other methods - by introducing hydrogen gas in the presence of a catalyst, see e.g. Example 9 of HU-PS 150909, wherein rhodium precipitated on active coal was used.

5 This process, however, was not satisfactory as reaction products were produced which were difficult to separate from side-products and the conversion was not complete either. Therefor the use of secondary or tertiary phosphines has been recommended in HU-PS 169 605. This  
10 process was accompanied with the disadvantage that an equimolar amount of tertiary or secondary phosphines was needed, resulting in a great amount of waste, being poisonous, and the formed phosphine oxide could be converted again to phosphine only by a multi-step reaction.

15 The introduction of hydrogen gas in the presence of a catalyst was also used for the saturation of the double bond of the methylene group at the 6-position on methacycline in order to produce doxycycline.

20 In the course of hydration 6-desoxy-5-hydroxy-tetracycline of the formula (IV) can occur in the form of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -isomers. Only the  $\alpha$ -isomer is valuable as medicine, i.e. doxycycline. The amount of the  $\alpha$ -isomers  
25 during hydration determines if the hydration process is successful, i.e. if hydrogenation can be carried out selectively, to produce mainly  $\alpha$ -isomer with good yield and pure quality.

It has been known that 6-desoxy-5-hydroxy-tetracycline could be prepared with a yield of 60 % by using a 5 % palladium or rhodium catalyst on a carrier, but the product was a 1:1 mixture of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -isomers, which was followed by the separation of the  $\alpha$ -isomer accompanied by further losses (US-PS 3 200 149). The ratio of the formation of the  $\alpha$ -isomer can considerably be improved, if the noble metal catalyst on a carrier is poisoned by carbon monoxide, quinoline sulphur or other sulphur compounds. Thus the yield of the  $\alpha$ -isomer could be increased to 40-50 %, but even so the product had to be further purified due to the remaining 10 %  $\beta$ -isomer impurities (HU-PS 156 925). In order to improve the stereoselectivity of hydrogenation an alloy catalyst consisting of the metals of platinum group, copper, silver or gold has been used and a doxycycline yield of about 70 % has been disclosed with 1 to 10 %  $\beta$ -isomer impurities (HU-PS 167 250).

A 92 %  $\alpha$ -isomer content has been achieved by using a catalyst containing palladium atoms located on ultra-microporous active coal, without poisoning, with a yield of 76 % (HU-PS 169 667).

Hydration could be performed by using Raney nickel and Raney cobalt as a catalyst according to GB-PS 1 296 340, but the formation of  $\alpha$ -isomer in the reaction mixtures amounted only to about 40 %. According to Finnish PS 67210 to palladium/charcoal catalyst a complex of bis-

(diphenylselenide) palladium(II)chloride was added resulting thus in a yield of 75 %, wherein the ratio of the  $\alpha$ -isomer was about 95 %. According to the disclosure this effect could not be achieved if diphenylselenide was not used in a complex form.

In order to give a complete review of the known processes, we mention those hydration processes, which are not close to our process, but wherein hydration was performed by using triphenyl phosphine rhodium complexes, being catalysts which are soluble in the reaction mixture (DE-OS 2 403 714) or by using further additives next to the complexes (HU-PS 169 753, 169 508, 173 508 and 187 465).

Doxycycline could thus be prepared with a good yield and selectivity.

Inspite of the significant development the known processes show many drawbacks. As already mentioned the use of the known heterogeneous catalysts does only partially solve the problem of stereoselectivity. A considerable amount of these catalysts had to be used, and so the ratio substrate-catalyst was not favourable. The relative great amount of the used solvent was also unfavourable. Although the catalysts can be removed from the reaction mixture by filtration, the solvent has to be recovered before use by a costly and inefficient procedure.

In case of homogeneous catalysis the catalyst is

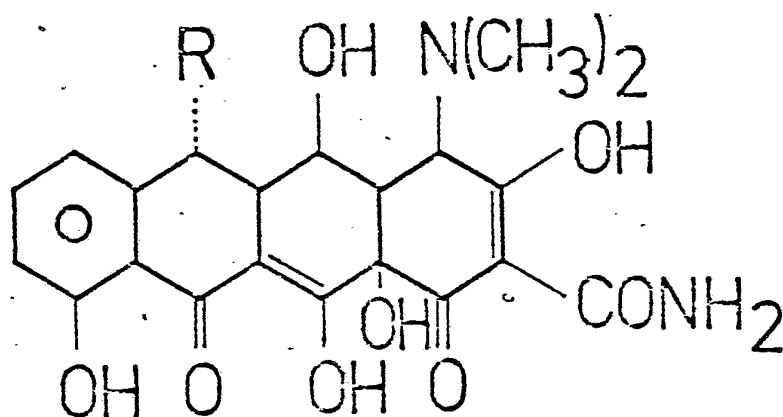
in solution, its isolation is not easy. Rhodium is very expensive, it is difficult to obtain, its recovery is complicated, expensive and it can contaminate the product.

5           According to the present invention methacycline and doxycycline resp. are prepared by process in heterogeneous layer, wherein dehalogenation can be performed with good yield and reduction takes place stereoselectively and the side reactions can be eliminated to such extent that no  
10 extra purification of the product is needed and the used catalyst can be prepared simply and the specific costs of the catalyst are low. It was further aimed that dehalogenation and hydration can be prepared without any extra equipment by using the same type of catalyst. Thus the just needed  
15 medicine can be prepared.

The present invention is directed to a process for the preparation of tetracycline derivatives and acid addition salts thereof of the general formula (I).

20

25





by dehalogenating and hydrating chloromethacycline or acid addition salt thereof of the formula II or by hydrating methacycline or acid addition salt thereof of the formula III by a treatment of same with hydrogen gas in the presence of a noble metal alloy catalyst on a carrier in the presence of an organic solvent comprising carrying out the hydrogenation at a pressure of 0.1-1.0 MPa with an alloy catalyst used at a ratio of 1:0.01-0.5 related to the starting tetracycline derivative consisting of an alloy of palladium or platinum or selenium and/or tellurium and performing, if desired the dehalogenation and hydration in one step.

As a carrier e.g. active charcoal, silica or aluminium oxide can be used.

In order to prepare the noble metal-containing catalyst one may proceed by treating the aqueous suspension of palladium or platinum on a carrier with a solution or suspension of organic or inorganic selenium or tellurium compounds and optionally by reducing the obtained compound. Such compounds can be selected from salts, oxides and other derivatives, such as selenious acid, diphenyl selenide etc.

One may use a different method according to which palladium or platinum salts and selenium or tellurium compounds may be dissolved in acidic water and a carrier, preferably active charcoal can be added to the carrier, followed by reduction.

The noble metal content of the catalyst may vary between 1 to 30 % by weight, preferably 5 to 10 % by weight, the used noble metal can be selected from palladium and platinum and the amount of the alloying components may vary between 1 to 70 % by weight related to the amount of the noble metal content.

As a solvent preferably lower alcohols, ketones, N,N-dialkyl amides, water and mixtures thereof may be used. It is not necessary to dissolve the starting material completely.

According to a preferred method methacycline may be prepared by saturating chloromethacycline with equimolar hydrogen gas at a pressure of 0.1-0.3 MPa in the presence of an alloy catalyst selected from palladium-selenium, palladium-tellurium, platinum-selenium and platinum-tellurium by using the catalyst in an amount of 1:0.01-0.2 related to the weight of chloromethacycline, wherein the amount of the alloying components amounts to 20-70 % by weight related to the noble metal content.

Methacycline may be recovered from the reaction mixture by any known method in the form of a base, acid addition salt or complex.

Main advantages of the dehalogenation according to the present invention: dehalogenation can be performed

without side reactions, the conversion of methacyclines  
to 5-12a lactones can be suppressed, the reaction takes  
place at atmospheric pressure and room temperature within  
a short time, the catalyst can be prepared simply and it  
5 is not pyrophoric or its activity does not weaken under  
storing or in the course of the reaction, thus it can be  
used several times without regeneration, thus the catalyst  
costs of the process are minimal, almost negligible.

10 In order to obtain doxycycline metacycline or  
chlorometacycline or a salt thereof can be treated with  
hydrogen gas in the presence of an alloy catalyst consisting  
of palladium-selenium, palladium-tellurium, platinum-  
selenium or platinum-tellurium at a pressure of 0.1-1.0 MPa  
15 with an amount of catalyst of 1:0.05-0.5, preferably  
0.15-0.25 related to the weight of methacycline, the  
amount of the alloying components is 1 to 40 % by weight.

If chloromethacycline or salts thereof are used  
20 as starting material then dehalogenation and the selective  
saturation of the double bond can be performed in one single  
step. As a solvent lower alcohol, ketones, dimethyl-  
formamide, water and mixtures thereof are used.

25 When the reaction is terminated the catalyst is  
filtered and may be used for further reactions. The product  
may be isolated from the filtrate by any known method, such  
as in the form of a salt of hydrogen halogenic acid, 5-

sulfo salicylic acid or in the form of hyclates.

Main advantages of the process for the preparation of doxycycline are as follows:

- 5 - the saturation of the exocyclic methylene bond in methacycline takes place substantially stereoselectively, i.e. the  $\beta$ -isomer content is reduced in doxycycline below 1 % by weight (according to HPLC),
- in the reactions starting with chloromethacycline de-
- 10 halogenation and hydration can be carried out in one single technological step, the reaction can be performed at atmospheric pressure and room temperature within a short time,
- the catalyst can be rapidly prepared simply, it is not
- 15 pyrophoric, and its activity does not decrease under storing or in the course of the hydration reaction and thus the catalyst costs of the process are minimal, almost negligible,
- the process may be continualized,
- the isomerisation side reaction occurring in heterogeneous
- 20 catalytical reactions, causing intensive decomposition are suppressed and therefor doxycycline can be obtained with good yield. This experience is highly suprising as the selenium is known to act as a catalyst in oxidation and isomerisation reactions.

25

Further details of the invention can be found in the following Examples:

Example 1

10 g 10 % by weight palladium/charcoal catalyst are suspended in 100 ml of water and 0.1 to 0.7 g of selenious acid are added as desired and the mixture is  
5 subjected to hydrogenation at room temperature under stirring. The mixture is then filtered, washed with water and acetone and dried. The activity of the catalyst is measured.

10 Example 2

1.33 g of palladium(II)chloride and 0.2-0.7 g of tellurium(IV)oxide are dissolved in 100 ml of 6N hydrochloric acid, whereafter 10 g of charcoal are added and the mixture is stirred for 3 hours and hydrated with  
15 hydrogen gas. The catalyst is filtered, washed to neutral and dried. Its activity is measured.

Example 3

5 g of 10 % by weight palladium/charcoal catalyst  
20 are suspended in 50 ml of ethanol, and as desired 0,15-1 g of diphenyl selenide are added, the suspension is boiled for 30 minutes, the catalyst is filtered and dried. Its activity is measured.

25 Example 4

10 g of 5 % by weight palladium/silica catalyst are suspended in 100 ml of water and as desired 0.1-0.4 g of selenious acid are added and we further proceed as given

in Example 1. The activity is measured.

Example 5

10 g of 5 % by weight platinum/active charcoal  
5 catalyst are suspended in 100 ml of water and as desired  
0.05 g to 0.4 g of selenious acid are added and we further  
proceed as disclosed in Example 1.

Example 6

10 1.77 g of palladium(II)chloride and as desired  
0.1-0.75 g of selenium dioxide are dissolved in 80 ml of  
12 N hydrochloric acid and 5 g of silicagel are added, the mixture is  
hydrated, filtered and dried. Its activity is measured.

15 The activity of the catalysts prepared according  
to the above Examples are qualified by a method known per  
se, by hydrating a cyclohexene model compound.

Preparation of methacycline

20

Examples 7 to 12

20 g of 11a-chloro-methacycline-p-toluene-sulfonate  
are reacted with hydrogen gas in 200 ml of solvent by using  
1-3 g alloy on carrier catalyst at room temperature at a  
25 pressure of 0.1-0.3 MPa. When the equimolar amount of  
hydrogen is taken up, the catalyst is filtered off, and  
working up may be performed as desired as follows:

- a) 20 g of 5-sulfosalicylic acid are added, it is crystallized and methacycline sulfosalicylate is isolated, or
- b) the filtrate is evaporated in vacuo, and 75 ml of methanol and 7.5 g of p-toluene sulfonic acid are added to the residue. The mixture is crystallized and methacycline tosylate is isolated, or
- c) the filtrate is evaporated in vacuo and 50 ml concentrated hydrochloric acid are added and methacycline hydrochloride is isolated. Yield: 85-95 %.

10

The quality of the products is thin layer chromatographically homogeneous (developing agent: a 95:5 mixture of tetrahydrofuran and water) on a silicagel carrier plate impregnated with a buffer of pH=6. Active ingredient content by biological value testing: 100 %.

15

The details are shown in Table I.

Table I

Example No.	Catalyst <sup>+</sup> pressure	Solvent <sup>++</sup>	Working up method	Product	Yield
7	1 g 5 % Pd/charcoal Se 20 %, 0.1 MPa	methanol- water 3:1	a)	20 g methacycline- sulfosalicylate	95.6 %
8	1 g 5 % Pt/charcoal Se 25 %, 0.2 MPa	acetone- water 4:1	a)	18.8 g methacycline- sulfosalicylate	90.0 %
9	2 g 10 % Pd/charcoal Se 40 %, 0.3 MPa	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	b)	17.9 g methacycline tosylate	95.6 %
10	2 g 3.5 % Pd/charcoal Te 50 %, 0.3 MPa	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	b)	16.4 g methacycline tosylate	88.0 %
11	2 g 5 % Pd/silicagel Se 30 %, 0.3 MPa	acetone- water 4:1	c)	12.45 g methacycline hydrochloride	87.0 %
12	1.5 g 10 % Pd/charcoal Se 30 %, 0.2 MPa	acetone- water 4:1	c)	12.2 g methacycline hydrochloride	85.0 %

<sup>+</sup> The noble metal content of the catalyst related to the weight of catalyst is given in % by weight and the amount of the alloying metal is determined in % by weight related to the noble metal content.

<sup>++</sup> The composition of the solvent is given in % by volume.



Preparation of doxycyclineExamples 13 to 20

47.3 g of methacycline hydrochloride or 63.6 g of  
5 methacycline p-toluene sulfonate are hydrated in 500-580  
ml of solvent by using 3.5 to 10 g of an alloy catalyst  
on carrier at room temperature and a pressure of 0.1 to 1.0  
MPa until the hydrogen uptake is completed. After filtering  
off the catalyst the filtrate can be worked up as follows:

10 a) 50 g of 5-sulfosalicylic acid are added to the filtrate  
and the product is crystallized and filtered, dried. Doxy-  
cycline sulfosalicylate is obtained as a product, or  
b) the filtrate is evaporated in vacuo, 250 ml methanol  
and 25 g of p-toluene sulfonic acid are added to the  
15 residue, the mixture is crystallized and doxycycline  
tosylate is isolated, or  
c) the filtrate is evaporated in vacuo, 180 ml of ethanol  
and 30 ml of hydrochloric acid are added to the residue  
and after dissolving and clarification 50 ml of hydro-  
20 chloric acid and ethanol in hydrochloric acid are added  
to the filtrate. The mixture is crystallized and doxy-  
cycline hyclate is isolated, or  
d) the filtrate is evaporated to dryness in vacuo, 250 ml  
of acetone are added to the residue and by introducing  
25 hydrochloric acid gas the doxycycline hydrochloride is  
recovered. Yield: 80-90 %. Quality of the product is homo-  
geneous according to thin layer chromatography.

Active ingredient content by biological value testing:

100 %.

Ratio of  $\alpha$ -isomer: 99 %, ratio of  $\beta$ -isomer: 0-0.6 %.

5 The details are shown in Table II.

Table II

Example No.	Catalyst <sup>+</sup> pressure	Solvent <sup>++</sup>	Working up method	Product	Yield
13	10 g 5 % Pd/charcoal Se 5 %, 0.3 MPa	acetone water 4:1	a)	62 g doxycycline- sulfosalicylate	89 %
14	5 g 5 % Pt/charcoal Se 8 %, 0.3 MPa	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	a)	61.5 g doxycycline- sulfosalicylate	88 %
15	8 g 10 % Pd/charcoal Se 20 %, 0.4 MPa	acetone- water 4:1	b)	54.1 g doxycycline- tosylate	88 %
16	5 g 3.5 % Pd/charcoal Te 15 %, 0.5 MPa	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	b)	50.5 g doxycycline- tosylate	82 %
17	10 g 5 % Pd/silicagel Se 10 %, 0.3 MPa	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	c)	43.1 g doxycycline- hyclate	85 %
18	4 g 10 % Pd/charcoal Se 15 %, 0.3 MPa	acetone- water 4:1	c)	42.6 g doxycycline- hyclate	83 %
19	6 g 10 % Pd/charcoal Se 12 %, 0.2 MPa	acetone- water 4:1	d)	40.6 g doxycycline- hydrochloride	88 %
20	10 g 5 % Pd/silicagel Se 7 %, 0.3 MPa	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	d)	39.2 g doxycycline- hydrochloride	85 %

<sup>+</sup> The noble metal content of the catalyst related to the weight of catalyst is given in % by weight and the amount of the alloying metal is determined in % by weight related to the noble metal content.

<sup>++</sup> The composition of the solvent is given in % by volume.

Examples 21-28

66.7 g of 11a-chloro-methacycline-p-toluene-sulfonate are subjected to hydration in 500-580 ml of solvent by using 3.5 to 10 g of an alloy catalyst on carrier at room temperature and a pressure of 0.1 to 1.0 MPa until the hydrogen uptake is completed. After filtering off the catalyst the filtrate can be worked up as follows:

- a) 50 g of 5-sulfosalicylic acid are added to the filtrate and the product is crystallized and filtered, dried. Doxycycline sulfosalicylate is obtained as a product, or
- b) the filtrate is evaporated in vacuo, 250 ml methanol and 25 g of p-toluene sulfonic acid are added to the residue, the mixture is crystallized and doxycycline tosylate is isolated, or
- c) the filtrate is evaporated in vacuo, 180 ml of ethanol and 30 ml of hydrochloric acid are added to the residue and after dissolving and clarification 50 ml of hydrochloric acid and ethanol in hydrochloric acid are added to the filtrate. The mixture is crystallized and doxycycline hyclate is isolated, or
- d) the filtrate is evaporated to dryness in vacuo, 250 ml of acetone are added to the residue and by introducing hydrochloric acid gas the doxycycline hydrochloride is recovered. Yield: 80-90 %. Quality of the product is homogeneous according to thin layer chromatography.

Active ingredient content by biological value testing: 100 %.

Ratio of  $\alpha$ -isomer: 99 %, ratio of  $\beta$ -isomer: 0-0.6 %.

The details are shown in Table III.

Table III

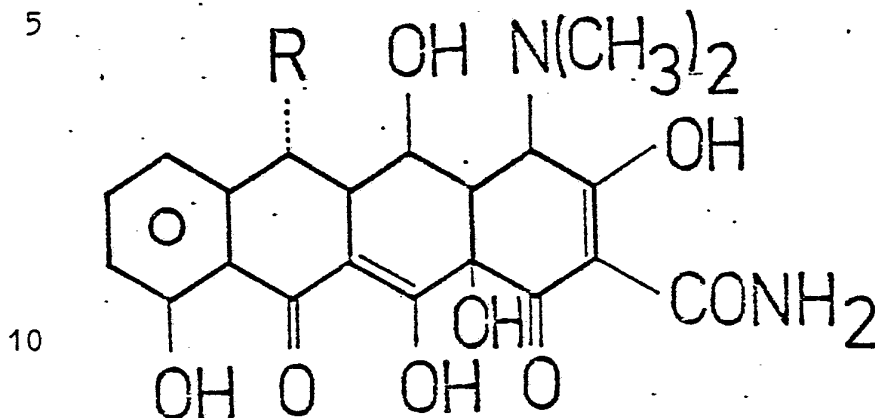
Example No.	Catalyst <sup>+</sup>	Solvent <sup>++</sup>	Pressure MPa	Working up method	Product	Yield
21	10 g 5 % Pd/charcoal Se 5 %	acetone- water 4:1	0.2-0.4	a/	61.5 g doxycycline sulfosalicylate	88 %
22	5 g 5 % Pd/charcoal Se 8 %	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	0.2-0.4	a/	59.2 g doxycycline sulfosalicylate	85 %
23	8 g 10 % Pd/charcoal Se 20 %	acetone-water 4:1	0.3-0.5	b/	53.6 g doxycycline- tosylate	87 %
24	5 g 3.5 % Pd/charcoal Te 15 %	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	0.4-0.5	b/	50.5 g doxycycline- tosylate	82 %
25	10 g 5 % Pd/silicagel Se 10 %	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	0.2-0.4	c/	42.1 g doxycycline- hyclate	82 %
26	4 g 10 % Pd/charcoal Se 15 %	acetone- water 4:1	0.4-0.5	c/	42.1 g doxycycline- hyclate	82 %
27	6 g 10 % Pd/charcoal Se 12 %	acetone- water 4:1	0.2-0.3	d/	39.2 g doxycycline- hydrochloride	85 %
28	10 g 5 % Pd/silicagel Se 7 %	methyl-ethyl- ketone/water 4:1	0.2-0.3	d/	38.3 g doxycycline- hydrochloride	83 %

<sup>+</sup> The nobel metal content of the catalyst related to the weight of catalyst is given in % by weight and the amount of the alloying metal is determined in % by weight related to the nobel metal content.

<sup>++</sup> The composition of the solvent is given in % by volume.

## CLAIMS:

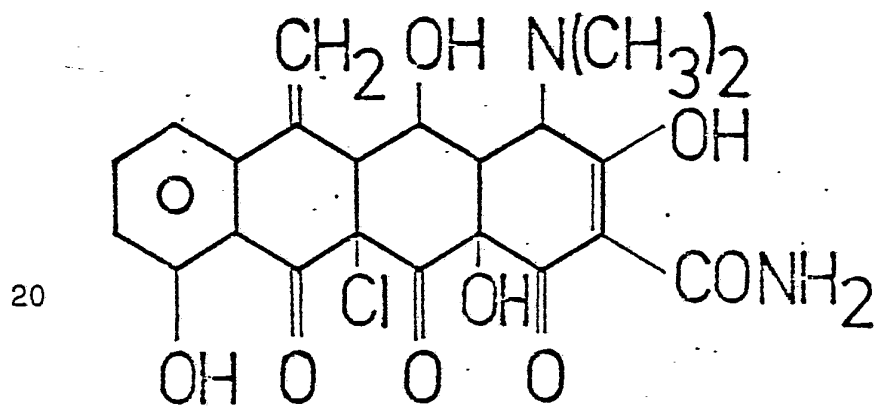
1. Process for the preparation of tetracycline derivatives of the formula



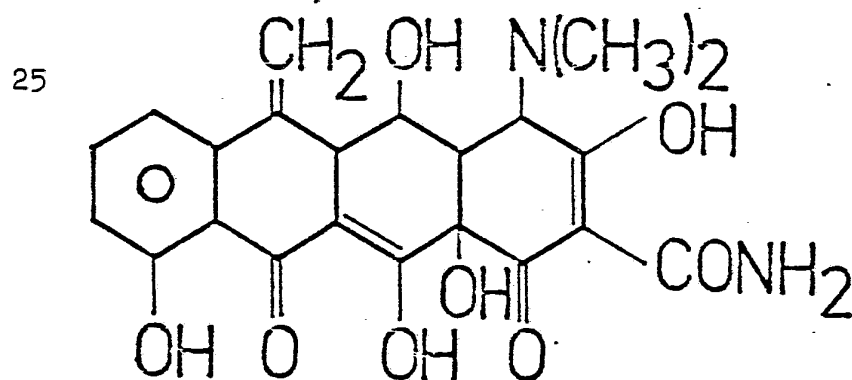
and acid addition salts thereof

wherein R stands for  $-\text{CH}_3$  or  $=\text{CH}_2$

by dehalogenating and hydrating chloromethacycline or acid addition salt thereof of the formula



or by hydrating methacycline or acid addition salts thereof of the formula



by a treatment with hydrogen gas in the presence of a noble metal alloy catalyst on carrier and organic solvent which comprises performing hydrating under pressure of 0.1-1.0 MPa with an alloy catalyst consisting of

5 the alloy palladium or platinum and selenium and/or tellurium used at a ratio of 1:0.01-0.5 related to the amount of the starting tetracycline and carrying out, if desired dehalogenation and hydration in one step.

10

2. Process as claimed in claim 1 which comprises preparing methacycline by saturating chloromethacycline with equimolar hydrogen gas in the presence of an alloy catalyst on carrier of palladium-selenium, palladium-tellurium or platinum-selenium or platinum-tellurium under a pressure of 0.1-0.3 MPa at a ratio of 1:0.01-0.2 catalyst related to the amount of chloromethacycline, wherein the amount of selenium and/or tellurium amounts to 20-70 % by weight related to the amount of palladium and/or platinum.

20

3. Process as claimed in claim 1 which comprises preparing doxycycline by treating methacycline or salts thereof with hydrogen gas in the presence of alloy on carrier catalyst consisting of palladium-selenium, palladium-tellurium, platinum-selenium or platinum-tellurium at a pressure of 0.1-1 MPa at a ratio of 1:0.05-5 catalyst related to the weight of methacycline, wherein the amount of the alloying components amounts to 1-40 % by weight.

25

4. Process as claimed in claim 1 which comprises preparing doxycycline by treating chloromethacycline or salts thereof with hydrogen gas in the presence of alloy on carrier catalyst consisting of palladium-selenium, 5 palladium-tellurium, platinum-selenium or platinum-tellurium at a pressure of 0.1-1 MPa at a ratio of 1:0.05-5 catalyst related to the weight of methacycline, wherein the amount of the alloying components amounts to 1-40 % by weight.

10 5. Process as claimed in any of the claims 2 to 4 which comprises using water, alcohols, ketones, preferably methanol, propanol, dimethylformamide, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone or mixtures thereof as a solvent.

15 6. Process as claimed in any of the claims 1 to 4 which comprises using as alloys for hydration alloys which contain 1-70 % by weight of selenium or tellurium and 99-30 % by weight of palladium or platinum.

20 7. Process for preparing an alloy-catalyst as claimed in claim 1 which comprises treating an aqueous suspension of palladium- or platinum catalyst on a carrier with a solution or suspension of organic or inorganic selenium or tellurium compounds and optionally reducing 25 the obtained compounds.



8. Process for preparing an alloy catalyst as  
claimed in claim 1 which comprises dissolving palladium or  
platinum salt and selenium or tellurium compound in acidic water,  
adding a carrier, preferably active charcoal to the mixture  
and reducing the obtained compound.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/HU 88/00063

<b>I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) <sup>4</sup>				
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC				
IPC <sup>4</sup> : C 07 C 103/19; B 01 J 27/057				
<b>II. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>				
Minimum Documentation Searched <sup>7</sup>				
Classification System	Classification Symbols			
Int.Cl. <sup>4</sup>	C 07 C 103/19; B 01 J 27/057, 23/54, 23/56, 27/00, 27/02, 35/00, 35/02, 37/16, 37/18			
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are included in the Fields Searched <sup>8</sup>				
AT				
<b>III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT <sup>9</sup></b>				
Category <sup>9</sup>	Citation of Document, <sup>11</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>12</sup>	Relevant to Claim No. <sup>13</sup>		
X	FI, B, 67 210 (SUOMEN LÄÄKETEHDAS OY SALCO) 31 October 1984 (31.10.84).	(1-8)		
A	AT, B, 332 969 (CHINOIN GYÓGYSZER) 25 October 1976 (25.10.76), see claims; example 1.	(1-8)		
A	DE, A1, 2 460 078 (MAGYAR TUDOMANYOS) 03 July 1975 (03.07.75), see claims; examples 3,4.	(1-8)		
A	AT, B, 281 285 (CHAS.PFIZER & CO.) 11 May 1970 (11.05.70), see claims.	(1-5)		
Y	US, A, 4 384 986 (LECLOUX et al.) 24 May 1983 (24.05.83), see claims; column 1, lines 33-52.	(7,8)		
Y	US, A, 3 962 139 (VAN DE MOESDIJK et al.) 08 June 1976 (08.06.76), see claims.	(7,8)		
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;"> <sup>9</sup> Special categories of cited documents: <sup>10</sup>                      "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance                      "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date                      "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)                      "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means                      "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;">                     "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention                      "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step                      "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.                      "Z" document member of the same patent family                 </td> </tr> </table>			<sup>9</sup> Special categories of cited documents: <sup>10</sup> "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "Z" document member of the same patent family
<sup>9</sup> Special categories of cited documents: <sup>10</sup> "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "Z" document member of the same patent family			
<b>IV. CERTIFICATION</b>				
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report			
11 November 1988 (11.11.88)	22 November 1988 (22.11.88)			
International Searching Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer			
AUSTRIAN PATENT OFFICE				

## III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)

Category *	Citation of Document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to Claim No
A	J.R. Anderson and M. Boudart "Catalysis: Science and Technology", published 1981, by Springer Verlag (Berlin, Heidelberg, New York), see pages 20-22; especially page 22, table 2.	(7,8)
A	Chemical Abstracts, Volume 89, no. 14, issued 1978, October 2 (Columbus, Ohio, USA), S. Bhan et al. "Ordered bcc. phases at high temperatures in alloys of transition metals and A-subgroup elements" see page 786, the abstract no. 121 060r, Z. Metallkd. 1978, 69(5), 333-6(Eng.).	(7,8)
A	Chemical Abstracts, Volume 102, no. 4, issued 1985, January 28 (Columbus, Ohio, USA), S. G. Rybkin et al. "Platinum,-tellurium system" see page 570, the abstract no. 33 485q, Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR, Neorg. Mater. 1984, 20(5), 828-30(Russ).	(7,8)
P,A	Chemical Abstracts, Volume 107, no. 18, issued 1987, November 2, (Columbus, Ohio, USA), T. Takabatake et al. "Superconductivity and phase relations in the palladium-selenium system" see page 559, the abstract no. 162 723f, J. Less-Common Met. 1987, 134(1), 79-89(Eng.).	(7,8)
-----		

Anhang zum internationalen Recherchenbericht über die internationale Patentanmeldung Nr.

Annex to the International Search Report on International Patent Application No. PCT/HU 88/00063

Annexe au rapport de recherche internationale relatif à la demande de brevet international n°.

In diesem Anhang sind die Mitglieder der Patentfamilien der im obengenannten internationalen Recherchenbericht angeführten Patentedokumente angegeben. Diese Angaben dienen nur zur Unterrichtung und erfolgen ohne Gewähr.

This Annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned International search report. The Austrian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

La présente annexe indique les membres de la famille de brevets relatifs aux documents de brevets cités dans le rapport de recherche internationale visé ci-dessus. Les renseignements fournis sont donnés à titre indicatif et n'engagent pas la responsabilité de l'Office autrichien des brevets.

Im Recherchenbericht angeführtes Patentdokument Patent document cited in search report Document de brevet cité dans le rapport de recherche	Datum der Veröffentlichung Publication date Date de publication	Mitglied(er) der Patentfamilie Patent family member(s) Membre(s) de la famille de brevets	Datum der Veröffentlichung Publication date Date de publication
FI-B - 67 210	31/10/1984	FI-AO- 821 825	21/05/1982
-C-	11/02/1985	FI-A - 821 825	22/11/1983
AT-B - 332 969	25/10/1976	AT-A - 4 575/74	15/02/1976
		BE-A1- 816 029	30/09/1974
		CS-B1- 175 748	31/05/1977
		DD-Z - 113 894	12/07/1975
		DK-A - 3 071/74	03/02/1975
		ES-A1- 427 070	16/07/1976
		FR-A1- 2 232 539	03/01/1975
		GB-A - 1 436 670	19/05/1976
		HU-P - 167 250	27/09/1975
		JP-A2-50-052 051	09/05/1975
		PL-P - 93 707	30/06/1977
		SU-D - 632 298	05/11/1978
DE-A1-2 460 078	03/07/1975	HU-P - 168 073	28/02/1976
		US-A - 4 021 374	03/05/1977
AT-B - 281 285	11/05/1970	BE-A - 710 727	13/08/1968
		BR-AO- 6 896 918	10/05/1973
		CH-A - 525 186	15/07/1972
		DE-A - 1 668 583	13/01/1972
		DK-B - 123 763	31/07/1972
		ES-A1- 350 345	16/11/1969
		FI-B - 43 313	30/11/1970
		FR-A - 1 557 970	21/02/1969
		GB-A - 1 195 456	17/06/1970
		IL-A1- 29 438	25/02/1971
		IT-A - 1 059 653	21/06/1982
		JP-B4-48-015 291	14/05/1973
		NL-A - 6 801 981	14/08/1968
		NO-B - 118 974	09/03/1970

		PL-P -	71	352	29/06/1974
		SE-B -	336	332	05/07/1971
		SU-D -	535	901	15/11/1976
		YU-A -		309/68	28/02/1978
		US-A -	3	444 198	13/05/1969
US-A-4	384 986				
	24/05/1983				
		BE-A1-	860	058	25/04/1978
		DE-A1-	2	748 210	11/05/1978
		FR-A1-	2	369 351	26/05/1978
		GB-A -	1	555 817	14/11/1979
		IT-A -	1	086 969	31/05/1985
		JP-A2-53-	056	125	22/05/1978
		LU-A -		76 107	16/05/1978
		NL-A -	7	711 816	03/05/1978
US-A-3	962 139				
	08/06/1976				
		BE-A1-	808	029	30/05/1974
		DE-A1-	2	359 600	12/06/1974
		DE-B2-	2	359 600	29/01/1976
		DE-C3-	2	359 600	13/01/1977
		FR-A1-	2	208 990	28/06/1974
		FR-B1-	2	208 990	29/09/1978
		GB-A -	1	456 369	24/11/1976
		IT-A -		997 831	30/12/1975
		JP-A2-49-	135	894	27/12/1974
		NL-A -	7	316 236	04/06/1974