Additions & Corrections

A Review of U.S. Patents in the Field of Organic Process Development Published during December 2002 through March 2003

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(*Org. Process Res. Dev.* **2003**, *7*, 459–470).

On page 470, paragraphs three and four of the patent summary for U.S. Patent 6,538,148 Process for Preparing Gabapentin should read as follows:

This ester **76a** is formed in a novel alkylation reaction between the ethyl bromoacetate and the anion **75** which is prepared by Birch reduction of **74**. The alkylation of **75** is the key step in this process. The ester **76a** is then hydrogenated to the cyclohexyl compound **77a**, and base hydrolysis gives the acid **79**. Reduction of the CN group in **79** to the amino group gives **41**, and this is carried out by a procedure covered by a 1992 Warner-Lambert patent (U.S. 5,132,451) using Raney Ni.

The alternative route shown below is via the trimethoxy compound **76b** which is formed from **75** and the bromo compound **80**. **76b** can be converted to **41** by acid hydrolysis to **79** followed by hydrogenation. Alternatively, hydrogenation of **76b** gives **77b** which on acid hydrolysis gives **78** which is hydrogenated to give **41**.

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