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**CORRECTED EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

Note: Bibliography reflects the latest situation

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**AL LT LV MK RO SI**• **Suzuki, Masanobu****Tokyo 184-0004 (JP)**(30) Priority: **30.03.1998 JP 10409898**(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in  
accordance with Art. 76 EPC:**99909293.5 / 0 992 503**(71) Applicant: **Japan Tobacco Inc.****Tokyo 105-8422 (JP)**

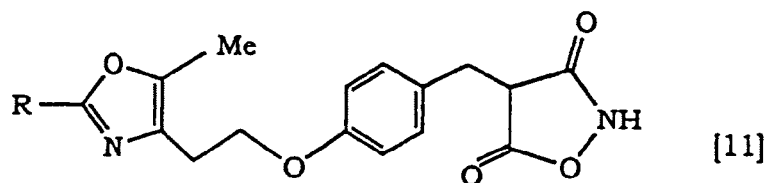
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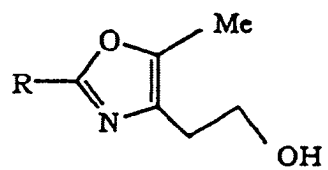
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**von Kreisler, Alek, Dipl.-Chem. et al****Patentanwälte,****von Kreisler-Selting-Werner,****Bahnhofsvorplatz 1 (Deichmannhaus)****50667 Köln (DE)**Remarks:This application was filed on 17-09 - 2003 as a  
divisional application to the application mentioned  
under INID code 62.(54) **Process for the production of 2-(5-methyl-4-oxazolyl)ethanol derivatives**

(57) The present invention relates to a novel method for producing a compound of the formula [11]



wherein R is an optionally substituted aromatic hydrocarbon group, an optionally substituted alicyclic hydrocarbon group, an optionally substituted heterocyclic group or an optionally substituted condensed heterocyclic group, which is useful as a therapeutic agent for diabetes. The method of the present invention is an industrially utilizable method that enables efficient production of the objective compound [11] from  $\beta$ -methyl L-aspartate via an important intermediate compound [6]



[6]

wherein R is as defined above, at high yield.