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(54) **Hydroxyalkyl starch derivatives and process for their preparation**

(57) The invention relates to a method for the preparation of a hydroxyalkyl starch derivative which comprises reacting hydroxyalkyl starch (HAS) via the optionally oxidised reducing end of the HAS with the amino

group M of a crosslinking compound which, apart from the amino group, comprises a specifically protected carbonyl group, namely an acetal group or a ketal group.

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