

The invention concerns the method for the preparation of citalopram involving transformation of compounds of the formula VIII, 1-[(3-dimethylamino)prop-3-yl]-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-Z-1,3-dihydrobenzofuran, wherein Z represents halogen in the compound of the formula IV, 5-carboxy-1-(3-(N,N-dimethylamino)prop-1-yl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3-dihydroisobenzofuran with subsequent transformation of compound of the formula IV into citalopram. Also disclosed are methods for the preparation of compound of the formula IV.