**Synthesis of MK-5172**

**Significance:** MK-5172 is a hepatitis C virus protease inhibitor. Key steps in the synthesis depicted are (1) the regioselective SNAr reaction of dichloroquinoxaline A with prolinol derivative B and (2) construction of the 18-membered macrocycle using a macrolactamization (F → G).

**Comment:** The medicinal chemistry route to MK-5172 is based on a ring-closing metathesis strategy (S. Harper et al. ACS Med. Chem. Lett. 2012, 3, 332). The best regioselectivity (20:1) and minimization of double substitution in the SNAr reaction of A with B was achieved using 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU) as the base in polar solvents such as DMSO, NMP, or DMAc.

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