**Synthesis of Alsmaphorazine B**

**Significance:** Alsmaphorazine B is an indole alkaloid endowed with an isoxazolidine embedded in the hexacyclic skeleton. Biosynthetically, this natural product is believed to originate from the related alkaloid akuammicine. Hong and Vanderwal present a short synthetic route employing an oxidation/Cope elimination/cycloaddition sequence to enable the transformation of akuammicine into alsmaphorazine B.

**Comment:** A previously employed intramolecular Heck reaction provided high-yielding access to akuammicine from D. Oxidation followed by SmI2-mediated deoxygenation gave alstolucines B and F. Oxidation with DMDO followed by base induced Cope elimination yielded hydroxylamine G, which upon oxidation to the nitrone underwent 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition to H. Finally, α-hydroxylation furnished alsmaphorazine B in 15 steps and 11% overall yield.

**Key words**
- alsmaphorazine B
- akuammicine
- Heck reaction
- Cope elimination
- 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition
- isoxazolidine alkaloids