Mechanochemical Generation of HCN from K$_3$[Fe(CN)$_6$]: A Novel Strecker Protocol

**Significance:** A Strecker reaction of carbonyl compounds, primary amines, and potassium ferricyanide was carried out in the presence of SiO$_2$ under ball-milling conditions to give the corresponding α-aminonitriles in 56–73% yield (eq. 1, 11 examples). The hydration of α-aminonitrile A also proceeded under ball-milling conditions to afford the corresponding amino amide in 51% yield (eq. 2).

**Comment:** In situ generation of HCN was found to take place through mechanochemical activation of potassium ferricyanide [K$_3$[Fe(CN)$_6$]] by ball-milling in the presence of SiO$_2$. The resulting HCN was trapped in situ by a Strecker reaction with benzaldehyde and benzylamine to give A.