

Synthesis of a BACE1 Inhibitor

Category

Synthesis of Natural Products and Potential Drugs

Key words

BACE1 inhibitor

Alzheimer's disease

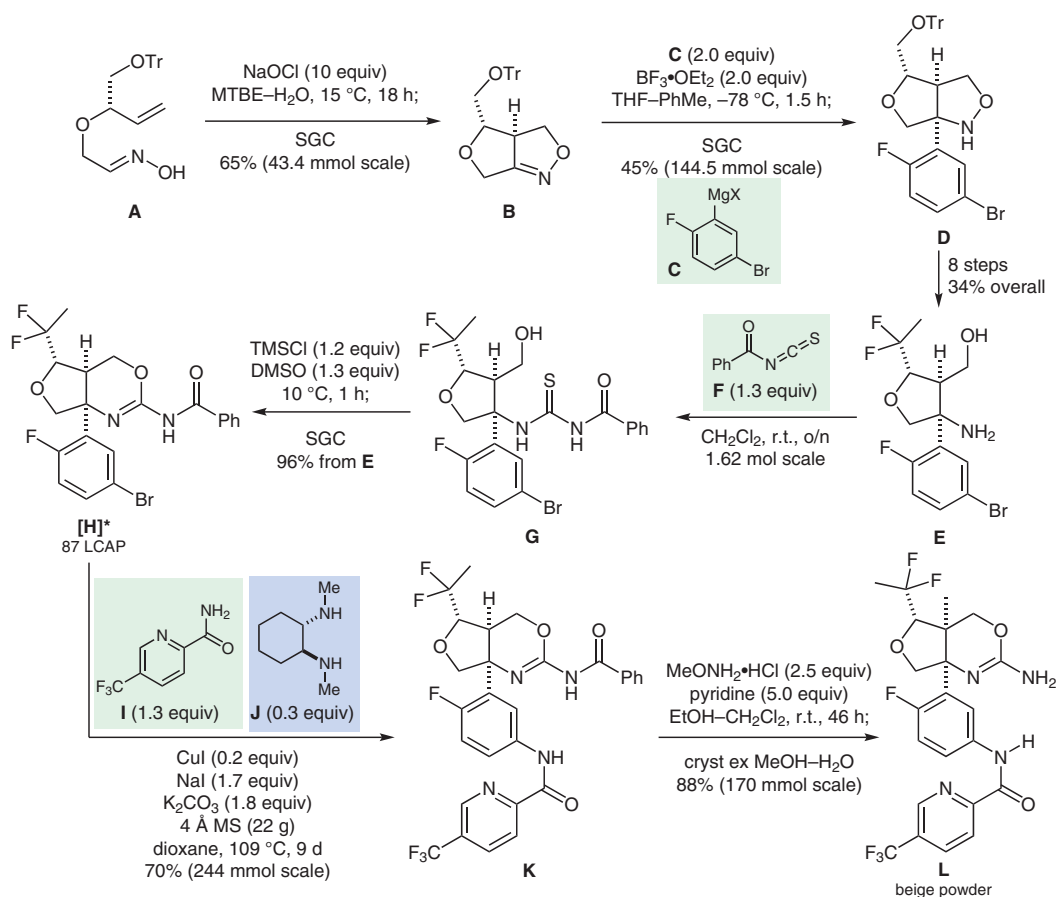
thioureas

2-amino-1,3-oxazines

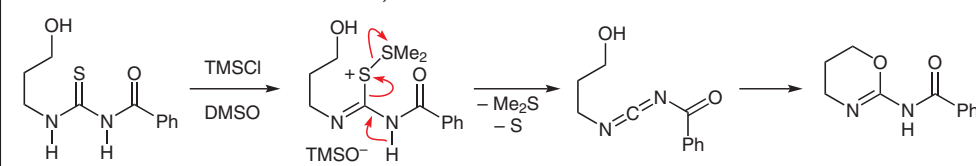
N-arylation

copper(I) iodide

Synfact
of the
Month



Mechanism for the formation of 2-amino-1,3-oxazines from thioureas:



Significance: The target molecule **L**, an inhibitor of the β -amyloid cleaving enzyme 1 (BACE1), is of interest for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. A synthesis of **L** was recently disclosed (US 2019 0106434 A1) that features the reaction of *N*-benzoyl thiourea **G** with TMSCl in DMSO at 10 $^\circ\text{C}$ to give 2-amino-1,3-oxazine **I** in 96% yield. Eight simpler examples of the cyclization reaction are described.

Comment: The key cyclization reaction **G** \rightarrow **H** can be performed by reacting either TMSCl or HCl with DMSO to form sulfonium salts, which can activate the thiourea, enabling the elimination of dimethyl sulfide and sulfur to form a carbodiimide intermediate, which cyclizes to form the 2-amino-1,3-oxazine. The overall yield for the 18-step synthesis is 7.5%.