Total Syntheses of Benzastatin E and Virantmycin

Significance: The first synthesis of the natural (−)-antipode of Virantmycin is reported. Virantmycin is a potent inhibitor of RNA and DNA viruses. It is isolated from *Streptomyces nitrosporeus*. The related benzastatins inhibit glutamate toxicity and lipid peroxidation.

Comment: The difficult stereoselective construction of a chiral quaternary center was accomplished by a stereospecific rearrangement of an α,α-disubstituted indoline-2-methanol B via aziridinium ion C.