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Category
Synthesis of Natural Products and Drugs

Key Words
rearrangement aziridinium ion

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 via aziridinium ion C.

![Chemical structure](image-url)