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## Concise total synthesis of (-)-protoemetinol

**Changjin Lim[1], Hyunyoung Moon[1], Kyeojin Kim[1], Jaehoon Sim[1], Seyeon Hwang[1], Hongchan An[1], Seung-Mann Paek[2]** and **Young-Ger Suh[1]**
[1]Seoul National University, Republic of Korea
[2]Gyeongsang National University, Republic of Korea

Benzo[α]quinolizidine alkaloids have received constant attention because of their multiple pharmacological interests. Particularly, emetine, which acts as a protein synthesis inhibitor and DNA interacting agent has been clinically used for the treatment of a protozoan infection. Recently, additional biological activities, including antiviral properties and NF-κB signaling inhibitory effects, were reported. Tubulosine also exhibits various biological activities such as broad cytotoxicity in cancer cell lines, antimalarial activity, HIV reverse transcriptase-inhibitory activity and HIF-1 transcriptional inhibitory activity. (-)-Protoemetinol could be an excellent intermediate for the synthesis of various benzo[α]quinolizidine alkaloids including emetine and tubulosine because the structure of protoemetinol is identical to that of the core upper part of those alkaloids. The stereoselective synthesis of (-)-protoemetinol has been accomplished through nine steps from a known homoallylic amine. The key steps of the synthesis involve the efficient preparation of an aza-Claisen rearrangement (ACR) precursor using cross metathesis and amide enolate-induced ACR followed by acid-catalyzed transannulation for the elaboration of the benzo[a]quinolizine skeleton and three stereogenic centers. This unique synthetic route envisages a unified and versatile strategy for the synthesis of 2,3-disubstituted benzo[a]quinolizidine.

### Biography

Changjin Lim has received his Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy from Seoul National University in 2011. He is currently a PhD candidate in the laboratory of Professor Young-Ger Suh at Seoul National University, South Korea.

koryoi0709@gmail.com

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