Total Syntheses of Highly Oxidized *ent*-Kaurenoids Pharicin A, Pharicinin B, 7-O-Acetylpseurata C, and Pseurata C: A [5+2] Cascade Approach

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- Ent-kaurene diterpenoids are majority of the isodon diterpenoids isolated to date.
- They as potential medicinal leads resulted in the discovery of several promising congeners embedded with a highly oxygenated bicyclo[3.2.1] octane ring system.
- Excisanin A (1) has been found to induce tumor cell apoptosis and suppress tumor growth.
- Pharicin A (2) represents a novel class of small molecule compounds capable of perturbing mitotic progression and initiating mitotic catastrophe.





Molecules **2007**, *12*, 455 Mol. Cancer Ther. **2009**, *8*, 873 Cell Cycle **2010**, *9*, 2969

Ent-Kaurene Diterpenoids



 Congeners embedded with a highly oxygenated bicyclo[3.2.1]octane ring system.

Dearomatization of *ortho*-(Pent-4-enyl)-phenols



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Retrosynthetic Analysis





Three rings and three stereogenic centers including one quaternary were created in a single operation by this cascade cyclization.

Scope of the Cascade Cyclization



- Substituents compatible
- Minimization of steric interactions

Synthesis of Starting Material



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Construction of Tetracyclic Diketone C7-epi-6



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Total Syntheses of *ent*-Kaurenoids **2–5**



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- A new and efficient ODI-[5+2] cycloaddition/pinacol-type 1,2-acyl migration cascade for directly constructing the highly oxygenated bicyclo [3.2.1]octane core structure of *ent*-kaurene diterpenoids;
- A retro-aldol/aldol process and a singlet oxygen ene reaction;
- First asymmetric total syntheses of pharicin A, pharicinin B, 7-O-acetylpseurata C, and pseurata C;