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 \(\alpha,\alpha\)-disubstituted indoline-2-methanol \(B\) via aziridinium ion \(C\).