M. A. BERLINER,* S. P. A. DUBANT, T. MAKOWSKI, K. NG, B. SITTER, C. WAGER, Y. ZHANG (PFIZER GLOBAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, GROTON, USA; PFIZER GLOBAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, SANDWICH, UK)

Use of an Iridium-Catalyzed Redox-Neutral Alcohol-Amine Coupling on Kilogram Scale for the Synthesis of a GlyT1 Inhibitor

Org. Process Res. Dev. 2011, 15, 1052-1062.

Synthesis of PF-03463275

Schematic representation of metal-catalyzed hydrogen borrowing:

Significance: PF-03463275 is a glycine transporter type 1 (GlyT1) inhibitor that has potential for the treatment of schizophrenia. The synthesis depicted features the first kilogram-scale application of iridium-catalyzed hydrogen borrowing to achieve the operational equivalent of reductive amination in the union of **C** and **D** to give **E**. The only byproduct of the reaction is water.

SYNFACTS Contributors: Philip Kocienski Synfacts 2011, 12, 1267-1267 Published online: 18.11.2011 **DOI:** 10.1055/s-0031-1289315; **Reg-No.:** K05711SF

Comment: An extensive optimization study achieved a S/C of ≥2000 (i.e. lower than 0.05 mol% of catalyst), but the reaction tended to stall thereby requiring a second charge of catalyst. After this work was complete the authors discovered that water and a tertiary amine are essential for high catalyst activity resulting in high rates and complete conversion on a single charge.

Category

Synthesis of Natural Products and Potential Drugs

Key words

PF-03463274

glycine transporter type 1 inhibitors

iridium-catalyzed hydrogen borrowing

