



Because the dehydration of primary amides to the corresponding nitriles using Tf_2O and triethylamine has been reported, the primary amides can be used as nitrile surrogates and adds to the utility of this chemistry.²³ The direct condensation of cyanic acid derivatives with *N*-vinyl/aryl amides affords the corresponding C4-heteroatom substituted pyrimidines. The use of cyanic bromide and thiocyanatomethane in this chemistry provides versatile azaheterocycles poised for further derivatization. The synthesis of a variety of previously inaccessible C2- and C4-pyrimidine derivatives using this methodology is described.²⁴

