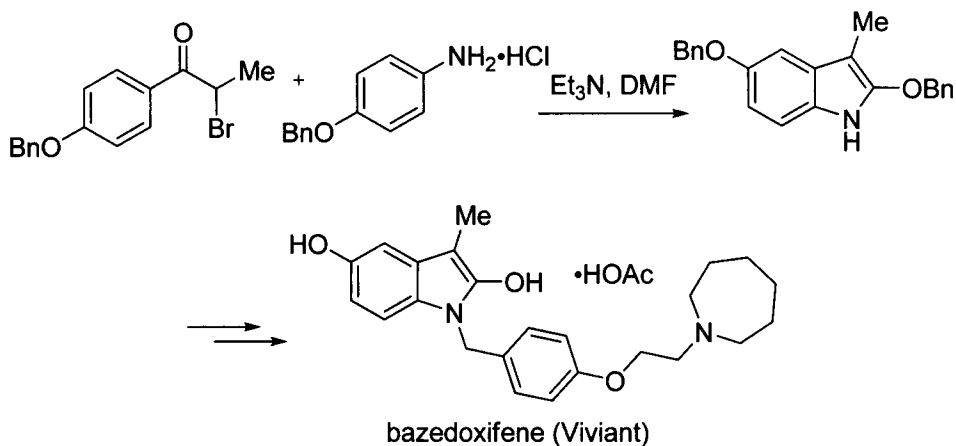


that the yields and reproducibility of this reaction could be increased by conducting the reaction in two steps but in one pot. Therefore, condensation between α -bromopropiophenone and 4-(benzyloxy)-aniline hydrochloride yielded the 3-methylindole core.^{32,33} Installation of the side chain was followed by additional functional group manipulations to deliver bazedoxifene as its acetic acid salt.



Instead of using α -haloketones, an unsymmetrical benzoin can be utilized as starting material for the Bischler–Möhlau indole synthesis. RWJ 68354, a potent inhibitor of the p38 MAP kinase, was prepared via a variation of the Bischler–Möhlau indole synthesis under mild conditions with 55% isolated yield; only 2–3% regioisomer could be isolated from the mother liquor.³⁴

