Biogenetically Inspired Synthesis of Indole Alkaloids

**Significance:** Oguri and co-workers report elegant and concise syntheses of several types of indole alkaloids. Their biogenetically inspired strategy relies on the use of a dihydropyridine intermediate that enables access to five skeletally distinct scaffolds. A key multipotent intermediate was prepared from a dihydropyridine formation. By judicious choice of conditions, could be converted into three structurally distinct natural products in very few steps.

**Comment:** The key and multipotent intermediate was prepared from by copper-catalyzed dihydropyridine formation. By judicious choice of conditions, could be converted into three structurally distinct natural products in very few steps.

**Key words**
- iboga alkaloids
- aspidosperma alkaloids
- andranginine alkaloids
- indole alkaloids
- biomimetic synthesis
- [4+2] cyclization
- dihydropyridines