

## Synthesis of MK-8248

Category

Synthesis of Natural  
Products and  
Potential Drugs

Key words

MK-8248

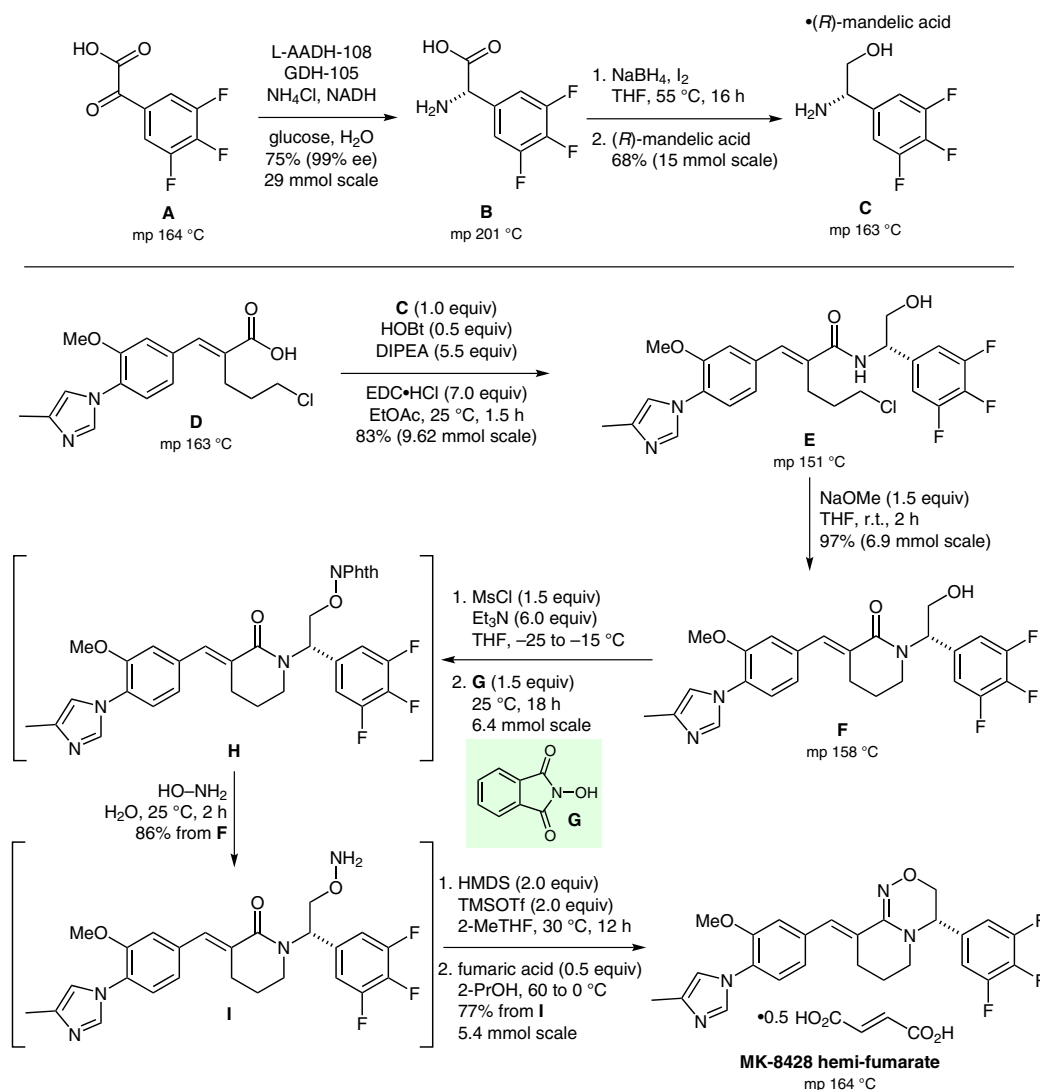
$\gamma$ -secretase  
modulator

amino acid  
dehydrogenase

1,2,4-oxadiazine  
ring formation

reductive amination

Synfact  
of the month



**Significance:** MK-8248 is a  $\gamma$ -secretase modulator that is of interest for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. Key steps in the synthesis depicted are (1) an amino acid dehydrogenase mediated conversion of  $\alpha$ -keto carboxylic acid **A** into 3,4,5-trifluoro-(S)-phenylglycine (**B**) and (2) a four-step sequence including a dehydrative intramolecular cyclization to form the oxadiazine ring.

**Comment:** On treating a solution of **I** with hexamethyldisilazane (HMDS) and catalytic amounts of trimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (TMSOTf), the desired intramolecular cyclization took place in high yield. This silyl-mediated dehydration provided a milder alternative to Brønsted acids. The target molecule MK-8248 was isolated as its crystalline hemi-fumarate salt.