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## A Possible New Synthesis of (+)-Obafluorin a $\beta$ -Lactone Antibiotic

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A POSSIBLE NEW SYNTHESIS OF (+)-OBAFLUORIN  
A  $\beta$ -LACTONE ANTIBIOTIC  
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Obafluorin (**1**), an antibiotic with a  $\beta$ -lactone ring is proposed to have the same stereochemistry as other  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics such as the penicillin and cephalosporin families. The biological importance and synthetic challenge of such an antibiotic as obafluorin has increased the interest in synthesis of  $\beta$ -lactone antibiotics. Our research focuses on the synthesis of the title compound, (+)-obafluorin from (*L*)-serine, in an attempt to find an improved method of obtaining optically pure product.

