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A Possible New Synthesis of (+)-Obafluorin a β -Lactone Antibiotic

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A POSSIBLE NEW SYNTHESIS OF (+)-OBAFLUORIN
A β -LACTONE ANTIBIOTIC
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Obafluorin (**1**), an antibiotic with a β -lactone ring is proposed to have the same stereochemistry as other β -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 β -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.

