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<https://doi.org/10.1002/bkcs.10258>

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Abstract

An efficient two-step synthetic approach of benzo[a]carbazoles from 2-arylindoles has been developed. The first step is a propargylation of 2-arylindoles at the 3-position catalyzed by montmorillonite K10 in benzene. The second step is 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU)-catalyzed sequential propargyl allenyl isomerization and a concomitant 6-aryl-2-alkene electrocyclization process involving two aromatic bonds.

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