

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0040-4039(18)30461-1
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tetlet.2018.04.018>
Reference: TETL 49881

To appear in: *Tetrahedron Letters*

Received Date: 26 February 2018
Revised Date: 29 March 2018
Accepted Date: 9 April 2018

Please cite this article as: Ironmonger, A., Shipton, M., Slater, F., Szeto, P., Unthank, M.G., Alexandre, F-R., Caillet, C., Dousson, C.B., A Highly Diastereoselective Chloride-Mediated Dynamic Kinetic Resolution at Phosphorus On-Route to a Key Intermediate in the Synthesis of GSK2248761A, *Tetrahedron Letters* (2018), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tetlet.2018.04.018>

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Tetrahedron Letters
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com

A Highly Diastereoselective Chloride-Mediated Dynamic Kinetic Resolution at Phosphorus On-Route to a Key Intermediate in the Synthesis of GSK2248761A.

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ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Article history:

Received
Received in revised form
Accepted
Available online

A highly diastereoselective chloride-mediated dynamic kinetic resolution at phosphorus has been developed to access a key intermediate in the synthesis of GSK2248761A. This procedure utilises a soluble chloride source and a cheap readily available chiral auxiliary. The practicality of this transformation is demonstrated on a multi-gram scale.

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Keywords:

Asymmetric Synthesis
Chiral Phosphorus
Dynamic Kinetic Resolution
GSK2248761A
Phenylglycine methyl ester

GSK2248761A (Fosdevirine, IDX-899) **1** is an experimental Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor (NNRTI) discovered by Idenix Pharmaceuticals and was in development for the treatment of HIV.¹ During our investigations towards an efficient scalable synthesis of **1** we desired an asymmetric synthesis to the key intermediate **2**, which we could insert into our current synthetic route.² We discovered that there were only a few methods to construct optically active phosphinate esters using techniques other than a classical resolution.³ Mislow and co-workers first described the use of (–)-menthol as a chiral auxiliary that allowed the separation of diastereomers by fractional crystallization followed by further elaboration to optically active phosphine oxides and phosphinates.⁴ We were able to prepare and separate by chromatography diastereomerically enriched menthyl phosphinate esters **3** and **4**, but our substrate proved unstable to the harsh transesterification conditions required to convert it into the desired

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