

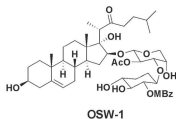
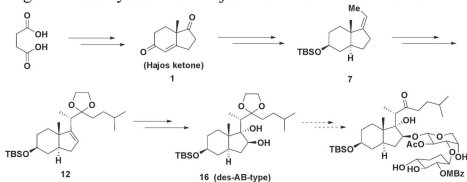
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Synthetic Study on Des-AB Aglycone of Antitumor Saponin OSW-1

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OSW-1, a member of steroidal saponins, isolated from bulbs of *Ornithogalum saundersiae* by Sashida and co-workers in 1992, was reported to exhibit extremely potent cytotoxicity against wide range of malignant tumor cells, over the efficacies of the clinically used anticancer agents such as cisplatin, adriamycin, and so on.<sup>1</sup> Therefore OSW-1 has attracted many synthetic and medicinal chemists aiming at developing a novel anticancer drug.

As a part of our ongoing studies for novel anticancer drugs, design and synthesis of simplified aglycone of anticancer steroidal saponin OSW-1 has been undertaken in the light of better synthetic accessibility. Herein, a concise synthesis of des-AB-type aglycone of OSW-1 starting from readily available Hajos ketone will be disclosed.



The des-AB-type aglycone is considered as an important scaffold for the design and synthesis of simplified OSW-1 analogues and this work is undergoing in our laboratory.

1. Mimaki, Y. *et al.*, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 1997, 7, 633-636.