

Publication

A multitasking vanadium-dependent chloroperoxidase as an inspiration for the chemical synthesis of the merochlorins.

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The vanadium-dependent chloroperoxidase Mcl24 was discovered to mediate a complex series of unprecedented transformations in the biosynthesis of the merochlorin meroterpenoid antibiotics. In particular, a site-selective naphthol chlorination is followed by an oxidative dearomatization/terpene cyclization sequence to build up the stereochemically complex carbon framework of the merochlorins in one step. Inspired by the enzyme reactivity, a chemical chlorination protocol paralleling the biocatalytic process was developed. These chemical studies led to the identification of previously overlooked merochlorin natural products.

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