

TRANSFORMATION OF INDOLE ALKALOIDS : PARTIAL SYNTHESIS OF  
ARICINE, RESERPINE AND DESERPIDINE

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Heteroyohimbine alkaloids, aricine and reserpine, have been derived from an oxindole alkaloid, pteropodine, which is the main constituent of *Uncaria florida* Vidal. In this case, the corresponding insideheteroyohimbine alkaloids were obtained as the by-products. (Chart 1).

On the other hand, a general route was established to convert the well known antihypertensive drug, reserpine, to the congeners having different aromatic substituents. As an example, the partial synthesis of deserpidine was successfully made as shown in Chart 2.

