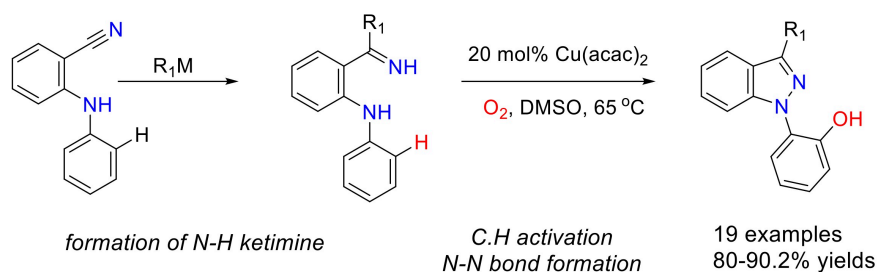


**A Cu-catalyzed Tandem Transformation of ortho C-H Hydroxylation and N-N Bond Formation: An Expedite Synthesis of 1-(ortho-Hydroxyaryl) 1H-Indazoles**C. Chen<sup>1</sup>, F. He<sup>1</sup>, G. Tang<sup>1</sup>, H. Ding<sup>1</sup>, Z. Wang<sup>1</sup>, D. Li<sup>1</sup>, R. Faessler<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup>Janssen Pharmaceutica, API Small Molecule Development, Hochstrasse 201, 8200 Schaffhausen, Switzerland

A facile, one-pot synthesis of 1H-indazoles featuring a Cu-catalyzed C-H ortho hydroxylation and N-N bond formation using pure oxygen as terminal oxidant is described. Reaction of readily available 2-arylamino benzonitriles with various organometallic reagents led to *ortho*-arylamino N-H ketimine species. Subsequent Cu-catalyzed hydroxylation at *ortho*-position of the aromatic ring followed by N-N bond formation in DMSO under pure oxygen afforded a wide variety of 1-(*ortho*-hydroxyaryl) 1H-indazoles in good to excellent yields. The efficient methodology does not require utilization of noble metal catalysts, elaborated directing groups and privileged ligands.



[1] C.-y. Chen, G. Tang, F. He, Z. Wang, H. Jing, R. Faessler, *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 1690.