

## Axial Configuration of Optically Active Colchicinoids and Alcolchicinoids: A Correction

by **Arnold Bossi\*** and **Huo-Hsiung Lee**

Natural Products Laboratory, Division of Medicinal Chemistry and Natural Products, School of Pharmacy,  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

and **Herman J. C. Yeh**

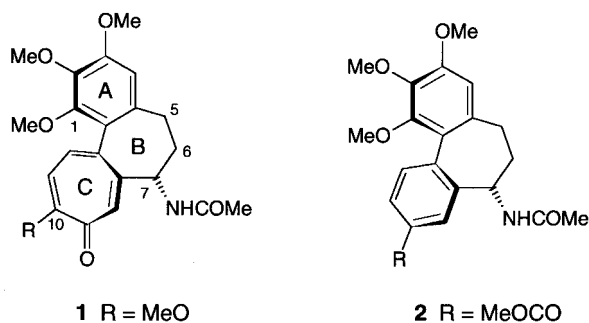
Laboratory of Bioorganic Chemistry, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda,  
Maryland 29892, USA

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Correction of the axial configuration of (–)-rotating colchicinoids and alcolchicinoids from (*aS*) to (*aR*) is reported.

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We previously reported that natural (–)-(7*S*)-colchicine (**1**) that binds to tubulin requires a specific conformation in which ring A and ring C are twisted as shown below [1–3]. We had assigned to **1** and derived alcolchicine (**2**) the sense of axial chirality (*aS*) in our subsequent reports. It was pointed out to us by *Mackay* that *IUPAC* rules require the sense of the axial chirality of (–)-(7*S*)-colchicine (**1**) to be named as (*aR*)<sup>1</sup>.



Recently, *Berg* and *Bladh* also reported that the correct naming for the natural (–)-(7*S*)-colchicine with the conformation as shown above is (*aR*) by applying the *CIP* rules adopted by *IUPAC* [5]. Accordingly, the designation of (*aS*) configuration to compounds having the (–)-rotating enantiomers in our reviews on this subject [2][6] and previous papers dealing with alcolchicinoids [7], C(7)-oxygen isomers of thicolchicinoids [8], thicolchicinoids [9], C(7)-oxygen isomers of allothicolchici-

<sup>1</sup>) See footnote in [4] on personal communication by *M. Mackay*, La Trobe University, Bundoora, Victoria, Australia, pointing out that, according to the *IUPAC* conventions, natural colchicine (**1**) has the (*aR*)-configuration of the axis of chirality.

noids [10][11], and C(7)-oxygen isomers of allocolchicinoids [12] should be reversed to (*aR*), and designation of (*aR*) to compounds with the (+)-rotating enantiomers should be reversed to (*aS*).

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