<u>6-epi-Aspicilin</u>

To fully protected 6-*epi*-aspicilin (5mg, 0.01mmol) was added TFA/water 9:1 (500µl) and the reaction was stirred for 30mins. Concentration *in vacuo* followed by purification by flash column chromatography (ether) gave 6-*epi*-aspicilin as a crystalline white solid (1.4mg, 44%);

R_f 0.16 (ether); mp 116°C; $[α]_D^{29} + 23.0$ (c 0.14, CHCl₃); $δ_H$ (600 MHz, CDCl₃) 6.99 (1H, dd, J 6 and J 16, 3-H), 6.10 (1H, dd, J 1 and J 16, 2-H), 5.01-5.09 (1H, m, 17-H), 4.68 (1H, m, 4-H), 3.72 (1H, m, 5-H), 3.60 (1H, m, 6-H), 2.68 (1H, brs, O*H*), 2.49 (1H, brs, O*H*), 1.66 (1H, brs, O*H*), 1.34-1.55 (20H, m, (CH₂)₁₀), 1.25 (3H, d, J 6, C H_3); $δ_C$ (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) 165.5 (C-1), 144.5 (C-3), 123.2 (C-2), 76.7, 72.5, 71.8, 71.0 (C-4, C-5, C-6, C-17), 36.0, 32.2, 27.74, 27.70, 27.5, 27.4, 26.6, 26.4, 24.09, 24.08 (C7-C16), 20.4 (CH₃); m/z (EI) 351(MNa⁺, 60%), 249 (50); (Found: 351.2147. C₁₈H₃₂O₅Na requires 351.2140).

Aspicilin

To fully protected aspicilin (78mg, 0.16mmol) in DCM (10ml) was added ethanedithiol (121 μ l, mmol) and the solution cooled to 0°C. BF₃.OEt₂ (166 μ l, mmol) was then added and the solution warmed to RT and left stirring for 14h. The reaction was diluted with EtOAc, washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution and the organic layer was dried (MgSO₄). Concentration *in vacuo* followed by purification by flash column chromatography (5% MeOH in ether) gave aspicilin as a crystalline white solid (38mg, 73%);

 R_f 0.16 (ether); mp 150-155°C; $[\alpha]_D^{28}$ + 35.0 (c 0.20, CHCl₃); v_{max} (CHCl₃ solution) 3500 br, 3016s, 2931s, 2858s, 1773w, 1709s, 1460m, 1379m, 1360w, 1278m, 1232m, 1180s, 1124s, 1082s, 1040s, 1010s, 985s; δ_H (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 6.90 (dd, J 16, 5, 1H, 3-H), 6.12 (dd, J 16, 2, 1H, 2-H), 5.02-5.08 (m, 1H, 17-H), 4.53-4.59 (m, 1H,

4-H), 3.77-3.80 (m, 1H, 5-H), 3.59 (dd, J 3, 7, 1H, 6-H), 3.10 (d, J 7, 1H, 4-OH), 2.95 (d, J 7, 1H, 5-OH), 2.35 (d, J 3, 1H, 6-OH), 1.08-1.60 (m, 23H, (CH₂)₁₀, CH₃CH); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) 165.3 (C-1), 144.4 (C-3), 123.1 (C-2), 74.8, 73.2, 71.1, 69.9 (C-4, C-5, C-6, C-17), 35.7, 32.2, 28.3, 27.8, 27.6, 27.3, 27.1, 26.4, 24.3, 23.6 (C7-C16), 20.5 (CH₃); m/z (EI) 351(MNa⁺, 100%), 292 (50), 224 (28); (Found: 351.2166. C_{18} H₃₂O₅Na requires 351.2148).