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Synthesis of 5-Hydroxyindan-2-ones and Indol-5-ols from 1,4-Cyclohexanedione

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1,4-Cyclohexanedione (**1**) reacted with 2-oxocarboxylic acids to give 5-hydroxyoxaindan-2-ones (**2**) including homogentisic lactone in one pot. The obtained aromatic compounds were transformed into indol-5-ols (**3**) in a few steps.

The sequential reactions showed a significance of 1,4-cyclohexanedione as a starting material in aromatic synthesis and an alternative access to the indol-5-ols.

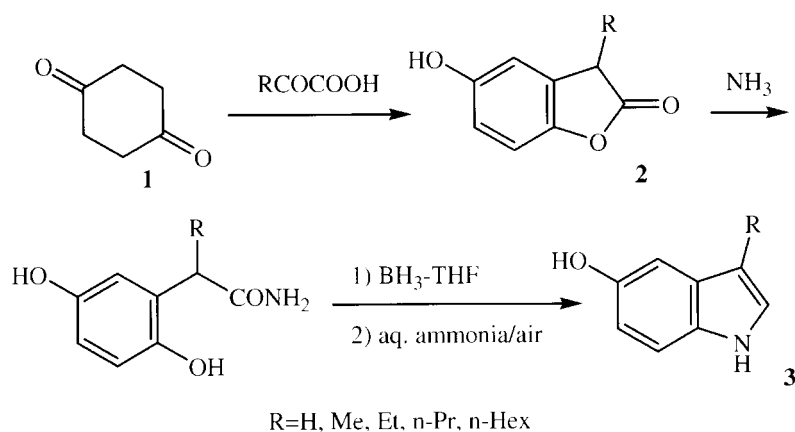


chart 1