Studies with 6,7-Dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl-acetonitrile: Novel Syntheses of 1-Azolyl- and Pyridoisoquinolines

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The reaction of 3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl-acetonitrile with DMFDMA afforded the enaminonitrile **5**. Compound **5** was reacted with 2-aminobenzimidazole to yield 4-amino-3-(dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-benzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyrimidine (**11)** and with acetonitrile derivatives to afford pyrido[2,1-*a*]isoquinolines (**15a** – **g)**.

Key words: (6,7-Dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-acetonitrile, Enaminonitrile, Malononitrile, 2-Aminobenzimidazole, DMFDMA