

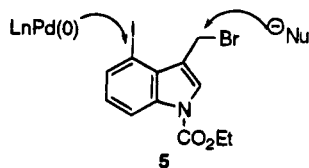
Synthesis and Reactions of 3-(Bromomethyl)-1-carbomethoxy-4-iodoindole: The Preparation of 3,4-Differentially Substituted Indoles

Jeffrey H. Tidwell, Andrew J. Peat, and Stephen L. Buchwald*

Department of Chemistry, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Received August 19, 1994

The synthesis of indoles bearing substituents at the 3 and 4 positions has been of interest to synthetic chemists for many years.¹ This is due to the large number of biologically active natural products having this substitution pattern. We recently reported the development of a method for the preparation of regiochemically pure, N-protected, 3,4-diiodoindolines using the intramolecular insertion reactions of zirconocene-stabilized benzyne complexes (Scheme 1).² We were interested in using compounds such as diiodide **2** as intermediates for the synthesis of more highly functionalized indoles and indolines. One avenue that we explored was nucleophilic displacement of the alkyl iodide. However, with most nucleophiles, we were unable to cleanly obtain the desired substitution product due to facile dehydrohalogenation reactions.³ We reasoned, however, that this problem could be circumvented by converting the diiodoindoline into an indole so that dehydrohalogenation could not occur. In addition, we sought a general means for the synthesis of 3,4-differentially substituted indole derivatives. In this paper, we report a solution to this problem using 3-(bromomethyl)-1-carbomethoxy-4-iodoindole (**5**).



We anticipated that nucleophilic substitution reactions of **5** would proceed in good yields with a variety of nucleophiles, since 3-(halomethyl)indole derivatives are known to be excellent electrophiles.^{4,5} The 4-iodo group could then be elaborated using a variety of Pd(0)-catalyzed transformations. Using this strategy, we have prepared a number of novel 3,4-disubstituted indoles, as

(1) (a) *The Alkaloids*; The Chemical Society: London, 1971; Specialist Periodical Reports. (b) Saxton, J. E. *Nat. Prod. Rep.* **1989**, *6*, 1. (c) Hesse, M. *Alkaloid Chemistry*; Wiley: New York, 1978. (d) Cordell, G. A. *Introduction to Alkaloids: A Biogenetic Approach*; Wiley: New York, 1981. (e) Gilchrist, T. L. *Heterocyclic Chemistry*; Pitman: London, 1981. (f) Pindur, A. R. *J. Heterocycl. Chem.* **1988**, *25*, 1.

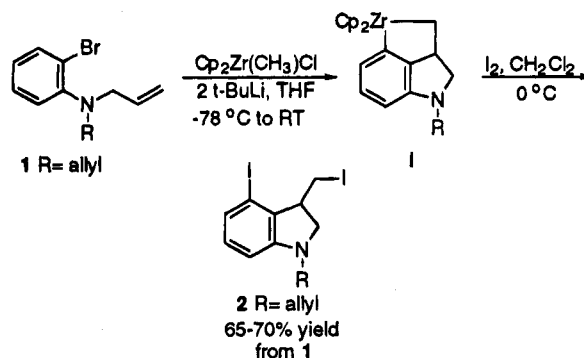
(2) (a) Tidwell, J. H.; Senn, D. R.; Buchwald, S. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 4685. (b) Tidwell, J. H.; Buchwald, S. L. *J. Org. Chem.* **1992**, *57*, 6380.

(3) Tidwell, J. H.; Buchwald, S. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, in press.

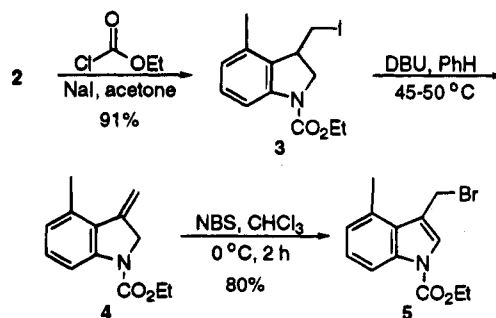
(4) Sundberg, R. J. *The Chemistry of Indoles*; Academic Press: New York, 1970.

(5) (a) Schöllkopf, U.; Lonsky, R.; Lehr, P. *Liebigs Ann. Chem.* **1985**, 413. (b) Gander-Coquoz, M.; Seebach, D. *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1988**, *71*, 224. (c) Sato, M.; Kahn, M. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1990**, *31*, 4697. (d) Nagarathnam, D. *J. Heterocycl. Chem.* **1992**, *29*, 953. (e) Allen, M. S.; Hamaker, L. K.; LaLoggia, A. J.; Cook, J. M. *Synth. Commun.* **1992**, *22*, 2077. (f) Venkatachalam, T. K.; Mzengeza, S.; Diksic, M. *Org. Prep. Proc. Intl.* **1993**, *25*, 249. (g) Nagarathnam, D.; Johnson, M. E. *Synth. Commun.* **1993**, *23*, 2011.

Scheme 1



Scheme 2



well as an intermediate in Kozikowski's total synthesis of the clavicipitic acids.⁶

We envisioned two possible synthetic routes to compounds such as **5**. The first would involve the oxidation of an indoline such as **2** to an indole. The second would utilize the reaction of a 3-methyleneindoline derivative with an electrophilic halogen source. On the basis of our earlier success in the reactions of 3-methyleneindole derivatives with electrophilic iminium salts,^{2a} we chose the latter route. Olefin **4** was prepared from 1-allyl-4-iodo-3-(iodomethyl)indoline (**2**) by a two-step process as shown in Scheme 2. Thus, the allyl group in indoline **2** was cleaved using ethyl chloroformate and NaI in acetone to provide ethyl carbamate **3** in 91% yield.^{2b,7} Treatment of **3** with DBU in benzene affected quantitative dehydrohalogenation^{2a} to give olefin **4**, which was then treated with NBS in CHCl₃ at 0 °C to give the desired 3-(bromomethyl)-1-carbomethoxy-4-iodoindole (**5**) in 80% overall yield from **3**.⁸

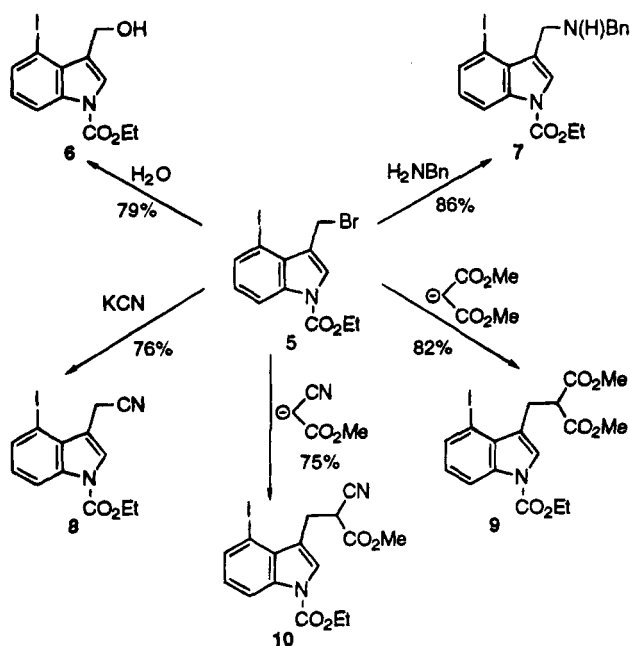
The chemistry of **5** was first explored by examining its reaction with a variety of nucleophilic reagents (Scheme 3). For example, reaction of **5** with water or benzylamine gave alcohol **6** or amine **7**, respectively, in good yields. The displacement reaction was also conducted with carbon nucleophiles. For example, reaction of **5** with KCN gave the corresponding 3-indoleacetonitrile derivative **8** in 76% yield. Soft carbon nucleophiles, such as malonate anions, gave substituted malonate derivatives in good yield. For instance, reaction of **5** with dimethyl

(6) Kozikowski, A. P.; Greco, M. N. *J. Org. Chem.* **1984**, *49*, 2310.

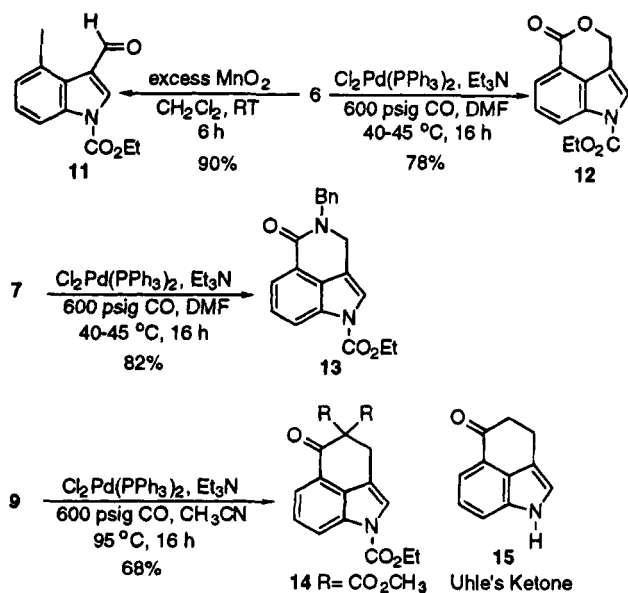
(7) For the use of haloformates in the dealkylation of tertiary amines, see: (a) Olofson, R. A. *Pure Appl. Chem.* **1988**, *60*, 1715. (b) Olofson, R. A.; Abbott, D. E. *J. Org. Chem.* **1984**, *49*, 2795. (c) Olofson, R. A.; Martz, J. T.; Senet, J. P.; Piteau, M.; Malfroot, T. *J. Org. Chem.* **1984**, *49*, 2081. (d) Hobson, J. D.; McCluskey, J. G. *J. Chem. Soc. C* **1967**, 2015.

(8) While this work was in progress a similar transformation was reported with benzofurans: Aso, M.; Ojida, A.; Yang, G.; Cha, O. J.; Osawa, E.; Kanematsu, K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1993**, *58*, 3960.

Scheme 3



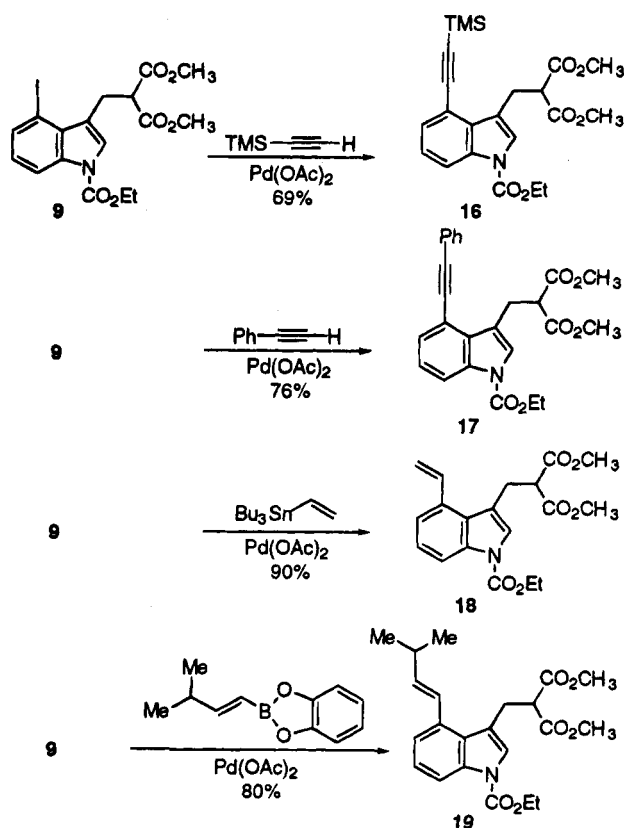
Scheme 4



malonate, K_2CO_3 , and a catalytic amount of 18-crown-6 gave malonate product **9** in 82% yield.

While products **6–10** are interesting in their own right, they also serve as convenient precursors to other novel and structurally interesting indoles. For example, alcohol **6** could be oxidized to the corresponding carboxaldehyde derivative **11** in 90% yield using an excess of MnO_2 in CH_2Cl_2 (Scheme 4).^{9,10} Alcohol **6** could also be carbonylated using a catalytic amount of $Cl_2Pd(PPh_3)_2$ to give tricyclic lactone **12** in 78% yield (Scheme 4).¹¹ Under similar conditions, amine **7** could be converted to tricyclic

Scheme 5



lactam **13** in 82% yield. Similarly, the malonate derivative **9** was carbonylated using an anion capture process¹² to give tricyclic ketone **14** in 68% yield. Ketone **14** is closely related to Uhle's ketone¹³ **15** which is an important intermediate in the synthesis of ergot alkaloids. The reactivity of the aryl iodide moiety in **9** was also exploited in the preparation of a variety of indole derivatives (Scheme 5). Treatment of **9** with (trimethylsilyl)acetylene under standard Castro–Stephens conditions¹⁴ afforded the desired alkyne **16** in 69% yield. When phenylacetylene was employed, alkyne **17** was obtained in 76% yield. Stille coupling¹⁵ of **9** with vinyltributyltin gave the corresponding styrene derivative **18** in 90% isolated yield. Finally, treatment of **9** with the boronate ester prepared from the hydroboration reaction¹⁶ of 3-methyl-1-butene with catechol borane, under Suzuki-type reaction conditions,¹⁷ gave the desired *E*-olefin **19** in 80% yield. The conversion of compound **19** to the clavicipitic acids was previously described by Kozikowski and co-workers.⁶ Therefore, the preparation of **19** represents a formal synthesis of the clavicipitic acids.

In summary, we have shown that readily available **5** serves as a vehicle for the preparation of a variety of differentially substituted 3,4-disubstituted indoles. Further exploration of the chemistry of **5** and its application

(9) Fatiadi, A. J. *Synthesis* **1976**, 65.

(10) Somei and co-workers have used similar 4-iodoindole-3-carboxaldehyde derivatives for the preparation of a number of naturally occurring ergot alkaloids: (a) Somei, M.; Yamada, F.; Naka, K. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1987**, *35*, 1322. (b) Somei, M.; Saida, Y.; Komura, N. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1986**, *34*, 4116. (c) Somei, M.; Makita, Y.; Yamada, F. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1986**, *34*, 948. (d) Yamada, F.; Makita, Y.; Suzuki, T.; Somei, M. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1985**, *33*, 2162. (e) Somei, M.; Yamada, F. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1984**, *32*, 5064. (f) Somei, M.; Ohnishi, H.; Shoken, Y. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1986**, *34*, 677.

(11) (a) Stille, J. K.; Kwan Wong, P. J. *Org. Chem.* **1975**, *40*, 532. (b) Schoenberg, A.; Heck, R. F. *J. Org. Chem.* **1974**, *39*, 3327. (c) Cowell, A.; Stille, J. K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1979**, 133.

(12) (a) Negishi, E.; Zhang, Y.; Shimoyama, I.; Wu, G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1989**, *111*, 8018. (b) Grigg, R.; Sridharam, V. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1993**, *34*, 7471.

(13) (a) Uhle, F. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1949**, *71*, 761. (b) Uhle, F. C.; McEwen, C. M.; Schroter, H.; Yuan, C.; Baker, B. W. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1959**, *81*, 1200.

(14) Dieck, H. A.; Heck, R. F. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1975**, *93*, 259.

(15) Stille, J. K. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1986**, *25*, 508.

(16) Brown, H. C.; Gupta, S. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1972**, *94*, 4370.

(17) Suzuki, A. *Pure Appl. Chem.* **1991**, *63*, 419.

to the synthesis of several natural products is currently underway in our laboratories and will be reported in due time.

Experimental Section

All reactions involving organometallic reagents were conducted under an atmosphere of purified argon using standard Schlenk techniques or under nitrogen in a Vacuum Atmospheres Co. drybox. The argon was purified and deoxygenated by passage through a column of activated R3-11 catalyst obtained from Schweizer-Hall, Plainfield, NJ. It was then dried by passage through a column of activated 3 Å molecular sieves. All organic reactions were performed under an atmosphere of argon or nitrogen. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a Varian XL-300, VXR-500, or a Bruker AC250 FT spectrometer. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on either a Mattson Cygnus Starlab 100 or Perkin-Elmer Series 1600 FT spectrometer. Gas chromatography analyses were performed on a Hewlett-Packard Model 5890 GC with a 3392A integrator and FID detector using a 25 m capillary column with crosslinked SE-30 as a stationary phase. Liquid chromatography analyses were performed on a Hewlett-Packard Model 1050 HPLC equipped with a Hewlett-Packard Model 1040A diode array detector using an Alltech 250 mm × 4.6 mm silica 5 μm column. Electron impact mass spectra and high-resolution mass determinations (HRMS) were recorded on a Finnegan MAT System 8200. Tetrahydrofuran, benzene, and diethyl ether were dried and deoxygenated by continuous refluxing over sodium/benzophenone ketyl under nitrogen or argon followed by distillation. Hexane was deoxygenated by stirring over H₂SO₄, from which it was decanted and then stored over CaH₂. The deoxygenated hexane thus obtained was dried and deoxygenated by refluxing over sodium/benzophenone ketyl followed by distillation. Alternatively, HPLC grade hexane was dried and deoxygenated by continuous refluxing over sodium/benzophenone ketyl under nitrogen or argon followed by distillation. Methylene chloride was dried by refluxing over CaH₂, followed by distillation. Acetonitrile was stored over activated 3 Å molecular sieves prior to use. Anhydrous, N,N-dimethyl formamide (DMF) was purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co. and was used without further purification. Cp₂ZrCl₂ was purchased from Boulder Scientific Inc., Mead, CO. All other reagents were either prepared according to published procedures or were available from commercial sources and used without further purification. Unless otherwise stated, preparative flash chromatography was performed on E.M. Science Kieselgel 60 (230–400 mesh). Yields refer to isolated yields of compounds estimated to be ≥95% pure (unless otherwise noted) as determined by ¹H NMR, and either capillary GC, HPLC analysis, or combustion analysis. All reported yields are representative. Elemental analyses were performed by Onieda Research Services, Whitesboro, NY.

3-(Bromomethyl)-1-carbethoxy-4-iodoindole (5). Into a flask were placed 1-carbethoxy-4-iodo-3-(iodomethyl)indoline (3) (980 mg, 2.14 mmol), DBU (0.35 mL, 356 mg, 2.34 mmol), and benzene (5 mL). The mixture was heated to 50 °C for 1 h and then filtered, and the benzene was removed via rotary evaporation leaving a brownish solid. The solid was dissolved in CHCl₃ (5 mL), the solution was cooled to 0 °C, and NBS (402 mg, 2.26 mmol) was added as a solid in one portion. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir at 0 °C for 2 h, and then it was poured into a separatory funnel containing CHCl₃ (15 mL) and water (15 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (2 × 15 mL) and brine (15 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered through a plug of silica (15 cm), and the solvents were removed via rotary evaporation to leave 700 mg (80%) of a white solid, mp = 109–110 °C. An analytical sample was prepared by recrystallization from CH₃CN: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 4.90 (s, 2H), 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.05 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.05 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 149.7, 136.3, 135.0, 129.1, 127.8, 126.2, 118.7, 115.3, 84.2, 63.8, 25.1, 14.5. IR (film, cm⁻¹) 1734, 1425. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₁BrNO₂: C, 35.32; H, 2.72; N, 3.43. Found: C, 35.41; H, 2.68; N, 3.64.

1-Carbethoxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-4-iodoindole (6). Into a flask were placed 3-(bromomethyl)-1-carbethoxy-4-iodoindole (5) (1.23 g, 3.01 mmol), water (5 mL, 5.00 g, 278 mmol), and CH₃CN (16 mL). The suspension was heated to 50 °C at which

time it became a homogeneous, yellow solution. After 10 min at 50 °C, TLC analysis showed no remaining starting material. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt and was then poured into a separatory funnel containing ethyl acetate (20 mL) and water (20 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (2 × 20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed to leave 825 mg (79%) of a yellow solid, mp = 109–111 °C. An analytical sample was prepared by recrystallization from ethanol to give a white solid: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (m, 2H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 7.95 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (d, *J* = 5.40 Hz, 2H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.20 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (t, *J* = 6.30 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (t, *J* = 7.20 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 150.0, 136.5, 134.0, 130.8, 125.7, 125.6, 121.5, 115.2, 84.1, 63.5, 56.5, 14.4; IR (film, cm⁻¹) 3407 (br), 1735, 1422. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₂NO₃: C, 41.76; H, 3.50; N, 4.06. Found: C, 41.70; H, 3.45; N, 4.22.

3-[(Benzylamino)methyl]-1-carbethoxy-4-iodoindole (7). Into a flask fitted with a reflux condenser were placed 3-(bromomethyl)-1-carbethoxy-4-iodoindole (5) (210 mg, 0.51 mmol), THF (10 mL), benzylamine (0.28 mL, 2.6 mmol), and K₂CO₃ (0.36 g, 2.6 mmol). The mixture was heated to reflux for 12 h and then poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (25 mL) and water (25 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with brine (25 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated. The product was purified by flash chromatography (66:33:1 hexane:ethyl acetate:triethylamine) to give 182 mg (82%) of a white solid, mp = 83–85 °C. An analytical sample was prepared by recrystallization from acetonitrile: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.37–7.21 (m, 5H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 2H), 1.83 (s, 1H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 150.1, 140.0, 136.6, 134.4, 131.0, 128.3, 126.9, 125.7, 125.6, 120.1, 115.2, 84.4, 63.4, 53.3, 44.1, 14.5; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3319, 2991, 1736, 1417. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₁₉N₂O₂: C, 52.55; H, 4.41; N, 6.45. Found: C, 52.70; H, 4.40; N, 6.58.

8. Into a flask were placed 3-(bromomethyl)-1-carbethoxy-4-iodoindole (5) (456 mg, 1.12 mmol), KCN (78 mg, 1.20 mmol), and DMF (3 mL). The mixture was heated to 50 °C and was allowed to stir overnight. The mixture was then poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (25 mL) and water (25 mL). The organic layer was collected, and washed with water (2 × 25 mL) and brine (25 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed to leave a yellow oil. The product was purified by flash chromatography (9:1 hexane:ethyl acetate) to give 302 mg (76%) of a white solid, mp = 122–124 °C. An analytical sample was prepared by recrystallization from ethanol to give a white solid: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.50 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (q, *J* = 7.20 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 1.50 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (t, *J* = 7.20 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 149.7, 136.4, 134.6, 129.3, 126.4, 125.9, 116.9, 115.5, 111.2, 83.8, 63.9, 16.6, 14.5; IR (film, cm⁻¹) 2987, 2249, 1743, 1422, 1377. Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₁N₂O₂: C, 44.09; H, 3.13; N, 7.91. Found: C, 43.84; H, 2.81; N, 7.62.

9. Into a flask were placed 3-(bromomethyl)-1-carbethoxy-4-iodoindole (5) (964 mg, 2.36 mmol), dimethyl malonate (1.30 mL, 1.50 g, 11.37 mmol), K₂CO₃ (1.66 g, 12.01 mmol), 18-crown-6 (47 mg, 0.18 mmol), and benzene (10 mL). The resulting mixture was allowed to stir at rt for 4 h and then poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (30 mL) and water (30 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (2 × 30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed via rotary evaporation to leave a brownish solid. The product was recrystallized from ethanol to yield 889 mg (82%) of a white solid: mp = 102–104 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.50 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (t, *J* = 7.80 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 6H), 3.53 (d, *J* = 7.50 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 168.9, 149.9, 136.3, 134.6, 130.4, 125.9, 125.7, 117.5, 115.2, 84.3, 63.5, 52.9, 52.6, 24.8, 14.5; IR (film, cm⁻¹) 2952, 1737, 1420. Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₈NO₆: C, 44.46; H, 3.95; N, 3.05. Found: C, 44.60; H, 4.06; N, 3.19.

10. Into a flask were placed 3-(bromomethyl)-1-carbethoxy-4-iodoindole (5) (110 mg, 0.27 mmol), ethyl cyanoacetate (0.43 mL, 457 mg, 4.04 mmol), K₂CO₃ (43 mg, 0.311 mmol), 18-crown-6

(12 mg, 0.05 mmol), and benzene (3 mL). The resulting mixture was allowed to stir at rt for 15 h, and then it was poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (15 mL) and water (15 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (2 × 15 mL) and brine (15 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed via rotary evaporation to leave a yellow oil. The product was isolated by flash chromatography (85:15 hexane:ethyl acetate) to give 88 mg (75%) of a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 8.10 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.40 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.40 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (dd, *J* = 6.30, 9.30 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (dd, *J* = 6.30, 14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (dd, *J* = 9.30, 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.40 Hz, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.40 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 165.4, 149.9, 136.6, 134.8, 130.0, 127.1, 126.2, 116.1, 115.6, 115.5, 84.0, 63.7, 62.9, 39.4, 25.9, 14.3, 14.0; IR (film, cm⁻¹) 2983, 2250, 1747, 1465; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₇N₂O₄I 440.0235, found 440.0237 amu.

11. Into a flask were placed 1-carbomethoxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-4-iodoindole (**6**) (349 mg, 1.01 mmol), CH₂Cl₂ (3 mL), and MnO₂ (2.27 g, 26.11 mmol). After 45 min at rt, TLC analysis showed no remaining starting material. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite, and the solvent was removed via rotary evaporation to leave a white solid. The product was recrystallized from ethanol to yield 312 mg (90%) of a white solid: mp = 124–125 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 11.19 (s, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 8.40 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.50 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.95 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (q, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 185.6, 149.5, 136.8, 135.8, 131.9, 130.2, 126.4, 121.2, 115.3, 83.2, 64.6, 14.4; IR (film, cm⁻¹) 2985, 1758, 1664. Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₀NO₃I: C, 42.01; H, 2.94; N, 4.08. Found: C, 42.24; H, 3.12; N, 4.15.

12. Into an autoclave were placed 1-carbomethoxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-4-iodoindole (**6**) (116 mg, 0.336 mmol), Cl₂Pd(PPh₃)₂ (23 mg, 0.03 mmol), Et₃N (0.20 mL, 1.45 mmol, 1.43 mmol), and DMF (2 mL). The autoclave was flushed three times with CO and then pressurized to 600 psig. The mixture was heated to 35–45 °C for 16 h and then allowed to cool to rt and poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (30 mL) and water (30 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (2 × 30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed via rotary evaporation to leave an orange solid. The product was recrystallized from ethanol to give 64 mg (78%) of a white solid: mp = 156–157 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.10 (bs, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 7.20 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 5.78 (d, *J* = 1.50 Hz, 2H), 4.47 (q, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 162.3, 150.8, 132.7, 131.3, 126.3, 122.5, 120.2, 119.1, 117.0, 110.6, 68.4, 63.9, 14.4; IR (film, cm⁻¹) 2980, 2935, 1737, 1709, 1634. Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₁NO₄: C, 63.67; H, 4.52; N, 5.71. Found: C, 63.45; H, 4.46; N, 5.71.

13. Into an autoclave were placed 3-[(benzylamino)methyl]-1-carbomethoxy-4-iodoindole (**7**) (182 mg, 0.42 mmol), Cl₂Pd(PPh₃)₂ (29 mg, 0.04 mmol), Et₃N (0.25 mL, 1.81 mmol), and DMF (10 mL). The autoclave was flushed three times with CO and then pressurized to 600 psig. The mixture was heated to 45 °C for 12 h and then allowed to cool to rt and poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (30 mL) and water (30 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed via rotary evaporation to leave a black solid. The product was purified by flash chromatography (methylene chloride, then 20:1 methylene chloride:acetonitrile) to give 120 mg (85%) of a white solid: mp = 131–132 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.00 (m, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45–7.23 (m, 7H), 4.86 (s, 2H), 4.74 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 4.48 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 162.4, 150.91, 137.0, 132.3, 130.0, 128.6, 128.1, 127.5, 125.9, 121.0, 120.7, 119.0, 118.2, 111.0, 63.5, 50.6, 46.5, 14.3; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3122, 1739, 1644, 1290. Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₁₉N₂O₃: C, 71.84; H, 5.43; N, 8.38. Found: C, 71.47; H, 5.47; N, 8.22.

14. Into an autoclave were placed indole **9** (220 mg, 0.479 mmol), Cl₂Pd(PPh₃)₂ (26 mg, 0.04 mmol), Et₃N (0.28 mL, 2.03 mmol), and CH₃CN (2 mL). The autoclave was flushed three times with CO and then pressurized to 600 psig. The mixture was then heated to 95–100 °C, and the pressure was readjusted to 600 psig. The reaction was allowed to stir at 95–100 °C for 16 h and then allowed to cool to rt and poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (50 mL) and water (50 mL).

The organic layer was collected and washed with water (2 × 50 mL) and brine (50 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed via rotary evaporation to leave a brown oil. The product was isolated by flash chromatography (4:1 hexane:ethyl acetate) to yield 117 mg (68%) of a white solid, mp = 138–140 °C. An analytical sample was prepared by recrystallization from ethanol: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.18 (br, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.50 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (br s, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.95 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (q, *J* = 7.20 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (d, *J* = 1.20 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (t, *J* = 7.20 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (C₆D₆, 75 MHz) δ 188.9, 168.3, 150.4, 134.3, 133.3, 126.0, 125.9, 122.6, 120.6, 120.3, 112.6, 68.7, 63.3, 53.0, 29.5, 14.3; IR (film, cm⁻¹) 3125, 2956, 1732, 1694, 1613. Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₇NO₇: C, 60.17; H, 4.77; N, 3.90. Found: C, 60.23; H, 4.62; N, 3.92.

16. To a flask were added **9** (197 mg, 0.43 mmol), triphenylphosphine (21 mg, 0.08 mmol), (trimethylsilyl)acetylene (65 μL, 0.47 mmol), copper(I) iodide (18 mg, 0.09 mmol), triethylamine (0.19 mL, 1.39 mmol), palladium acetate (7 mg, 0.03 mmol), and DMF (4 mL). The mixture was heated to 70 °C for 14 h, after which time it was allowed to cool and was poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (20 mL) and saturated CuSO₄ solution (20 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed to leave a dark oil. The product was isolated by flash chromatography (4:1 hexane:ethyl acetate) to give 153 mg (84%) of a yellow oil. This material was estimated to be greater than 94% pure by ¹H NMR. An analytical sample was prepared by recrystallization from hexanes at -78 °C to give 124 mg (67%) of a white powder: mp = 60–61 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.37 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 8.2, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (q, *J* = 7.10 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (t, *J* = 8.20 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 6H), 3.57 (d, *J* = 8.20 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t, *J* = 7.10 Hz, 3H), 0.23 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 169.1, 150.5, 136.0, 129.9, 128.8, 124.6, 124.3, 117.8, 115.9, 114.7, 103.4, 98.1, 63.3, 52.5, 52.4, 24.9, 14.3, 0.3; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 2962, 2144, 1733. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₇NO₆Si: C, 61.52; H, 6.34; N, 3.26. Found: C, 61.39; H, 6.27; N, 3.29.

17. To a flask were added **9** (126 mg, 0.27 mmol), PPh₃ (10 mg, 0.038 mmol), CuI (8 mg, 0.042 mmol), phenylacetylene (33 μL, 0.30 mmol), NEt₃ (0.12 mL, 0.87 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (3 mg, 0.013 mmol), and DMF (2.5 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C for 15 h, after which time it was allowed to cool to rt and was poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (20 mL) and saturated aqueous CuSO₄ (20 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed by rotary evaporation to leave a yellow oil. The product was purified by flash chromatography (85:15 hexane:ethyl acetate) to give 88 mg (75%) of a white solid: mp = 103–105 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.20 Hz, 1H), 7.5–7.2 (m, 8H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.20 Hz, 2H), 4.07 (t, *J* = 7.90 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (d, *J* = 7.90 Hz, 2H), 3.52 (s, 6H), 1.42 (t, *J* = 7.10 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 169.1, 150.4, 135.9, 131.4, 129.2, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 124.7, 124.4, 123.0, 117.7, 115.7, 114.7, 92.6, 87.8, 63.4, 52.5, 25.3, 14.5; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3460, 3121, 3005, 2958, 2204, 1731, 1426, 1325, 1231. Anal. Calcd for C₂₅H₂₃NO₆: C, 69.27; H, 5.35; N, 3.23. Found: C, 69.31; H, 5.31; N, 3.29.

18. To a flask were added **9** (85 mg, 0.18 mmol), PPh₃ (3 mg, 0.011 mmol), vinyltributyltin (59 μL, 0.20 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (2 mg, 0.009 mmol), and THF (2 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to 85 °C for 15 h, after which time it was allowed to cool to rt and was poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (20 mL) and water (20 mL). The organic layer was collected and washed with water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed via rotary evaporation to leave a yellow oil. The product was purified by flash chromatography (85:15 hexane:ethyl acetate) to yield 58 mg (87%) of a white solid: mp = 91–93 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 7.60 Hz, 1H), 7.4–7.2 (m, 4H), 5.66 (d, *J* = 16.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.36 (dd, *J* = 11.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (q, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (t, *J* = 7.60 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 6H), 3.40 (d, *J* = 7.70 Hz, 2H), 1.40 (t, *J* = 6.90 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 169.0, 150.5, 136.1, 134.5, 132.2, 126.7, 124.7, 124.2, 120.9, 117.6, 117.2, 114.6, 63.2, 52.7, 52.0, 26.9, 14.5; IR (KBr,

cm⁻¹) 2990, 1740, 1432, 1254, 1099. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₆: C, 63.50; H, 5.89; N, 3.90. Found: C, 63.76; H, 5.83; N, 3.92.

19. To a flask were added the boronate ester (61 mg, 0.32 mmol), prepared from the hydroboration reaction of 3-methyl-1-butyne with catechol borane, **9** (99 mg, 0.22 mmol), triphenylphosphine (6.0 mg, 0.02 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (2.5 mg, 0.01 mmol), K₂CO₃ (61 mg, 0.44 mmol), and THF (2 mL). Finally, methanol (8.9 μL, 0.22 mmol) was added, and the reaction was heated to 70 °C for 15 h. The mixture was poured into a separatory funnel containing ether (20 mL) and water (20 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and filtered, and the solvents were removed to give a brown oil. The product was purified by flash chromatography (4:1 hexane:ethyl acetate) to yield 70 mg (79%) of a pale yellow

oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 8.12–8.08 (m, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.26–7.24 (m, 2H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 15.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dd, *J* = 15.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 6H), 3.45 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.58–2.46 (m, 1H), 1.44 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.11 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 169.4, 151.0, 142.0, 136.6, 132.9, 127.1, 125.2, 124.8, 124.6, 121.6, 118.1, 114.3, 63.6, 53.1, 52.8, 32.3, 27.5, 22.8, 15.0; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2959, 1735, 1428, 1252.

Acknowledgment. We would like to thank the NIH for funding (GM 34917). J.H.T. and A.J.P. are Predoctoral Trainees of the National Cancer Institute (CA09112). S.L.B. is the recipient of a Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award.