

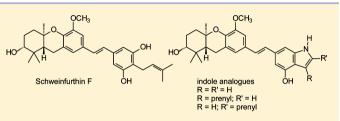
# Synthesis of Indole Analogues of the Natural Schweinfurthins

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**Supporting Information** 

**ABSTRACT:** An interest in the schweinfurthins, natural stilbenes with significant antiproliferative activity, has prompted efforts to prepare a set of indole analogues. To approach the desired compounds through a Horner–Wadsworth–Emmons condensation, new indole derivatives bearing a phosphonomethyl substituent in the B-ring were required. The parent indole system with the necessary substitution pattern was obtained through Stobbe condensation and



cyclization. A prenyl substituent was incorporated at the C3 position of a 4,6-disubstituted indole through a highly regioselective electrophilic aromatic substitution reaction, while metalation and alkylation provided the C2-prenylated indole. After introduction of the phosphonate group through classical reactions, the new indole phosphonates were found to undergo the desired condensation with nonracemic aldehydes representing the schweinfurthin left half. This approach provides facile access to new heteroaromatic analogues of the natural schweinfurthins and should be applicable to many other natural stilbenes as well.

# INTRODUCTION

The schweinfurthins (Figure 1), a small group of rare natural products,  $^{1,2}$  display a novel pattern of differential activity in the

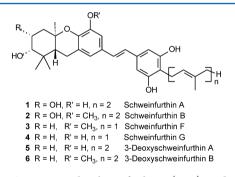


Figure 1. Some natural schweinfurthins (1-4) and synthetic analogues (5 and 6).

National Cancer Institute (NCI) 60 cell line screen. Their activity pattern suggests that these compounds act on a novel target or through a new mechanism,<sup>1</sup> and thus, they can be viewed as potential leads for further drug development. To alleviate the scarcity of these natural products, to access novel analogues, and to explore the limits of the pharmacophore, we have undertaken the synthesis of both natural schweinfurthins and a range of analogues.<sup>3–9</sup> After an analysis of new compounds of potential interest, we considered the possibility of incorporating an indole into the stilbene system. The indole substructure is so common in both natural products and pharmaceutical agents that it often is considered a privileged scaffold.<sup>10,11</sup> Incorporation of an indole motif might afford analogues with comparable or improved activity while at the same time increasing their bioavailability.<sup>12,13</sup> Furthermore, the D-ring resorcinol of the natural schweinfurthins may limit their

stability, and proper placement of an indole system might improve the chemical stability as well. On the basis of this rationale, the synthesis of indole analogues of the schweinfurthins became a goal of our program.

There are multiple ways that an indole moiety could be superimposed upon the D-ring of the natural schweinfurthins. The pattern pursued in this study views the indole nitrogen as a replacement for one of the resorcinol oxygens and incorporates the remainder of the indole ring as a substituent at the position para to the stilbene olefin (Figure 2). These structures would exploit the known flexibility of the para position toward modification with preservation of biological activity.<sup>4,7,8</sup> Furthermore, the preparation of intermediates leading to

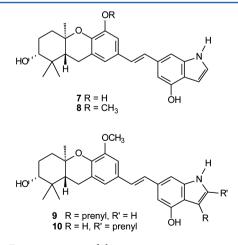


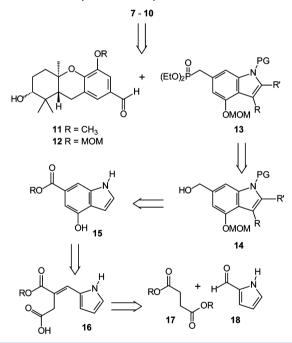
Figure 2. First-generation indole targets.

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structures 7 and 8 might be readily modified to allow addition of isoprenoid substituents to the five-membered ring via electrophilic aromatic substitution (which is favored at C3 of indole itself<sup>14</sup> and would lead to compound 9) or via anion chemistry (which can be directed to C2 in N-substituted indoles and would provide compound 10).<sup>15,16</sup> Because compounds 9 and 10 both represent modest deviations from the natural products in terms of the position of the prenyl group, both series were of interest, and a strategy that could diverge to both isomers at a later stage would be particularly attractive.

Our foray into schweinfurthin studies began with synthesis of schweinfurthin C,<sup>17</sup> and that early effort established the strategy of a late stage Horner–Wadsworth–Emmons (HWE) condensation for construction of the *trans*-stilbene olefin. To take advantage of intermediates already in hand from previous research, especially the now readily available *R*,*R*,*R*-aldehydes **11** and **12** that carry all of the schweinfurthin stereogenic centers (Scheme 1), would require an indole phosphonate such

#### Scheme 1. Retrosynthetic Analysis

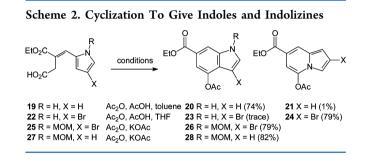


as compound 13. In view of the vast number of known indoles, it was somewhat surprising to find that apparently only C2<sup>18</sup> and C3<sup>19</sup> phosphonomethyl compounds have been prepared. On the basis of the assumption that phosphonate 13 could be prepared from the corresponding alcohol 14, which in turn should be available from ester 15, routes to these two potential intermediates were considered. The presence of the "benzylic" alcohol of compound 14 might not be tolerated by many of the classical methods<sup>20</sup> for de novo indole synthesis because of their reliance on acidic conditions, and the recent Kraus indole synthesis appears to be better suited for the preparation of 2-substituted or 2,3-disubstituted compounds.<sup>21,22</sup> However, the preparation of substituted indole 15 through an approach based on Stobbe condensation of succinate diester 17 and pyrrole-2carboxaldehyde (18) followed by cyclization of the inter-mediate acid 16 has been reported.<sup>23</sup> While the initial report did not provide a complete characterization of the product, a more recent study from the Vedejs laboratories placed this

approach on a solid foundation and proved that it does afford the desired substitution pattern.<sup>24</sup> Therefore, we began an effort to obtain the targeted schweinfurthin analogues by preparing several indoles using this strategy.

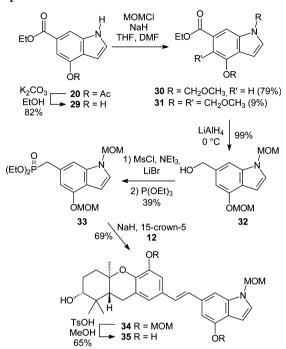
# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Stobbe condensation of diethyl succinate with aldehyde **18** smoothly gave half-ester **19** as expected.<sup>24</sup> Without extensive purification, this material was treated with a 6:1 mixture of acetic anhydride and acetic acid in refluxing toluene to induce cyclization (Scheme 2). These conditions resulted in the



formation of the acetate-protected indole 20 (74%) accompanied by small amounts of indolizine 21 (~1%), also as expected,<sup>24</sup> while a parallel reaction in THF at reflux gave a less favorable product ratio (42% and 19%, respectively). Attempts to extend this approach to brominated pyrrole 22, which might be useful for elaboration of the final products through halogen-metal exchange or cross-coupling reactions,<sup>25</sup> were more complex. While the desired half-ester 22 was readily prepared by a Stobbe condensation, subjecting compound 22 to the standard cyclization conditions gave only trace amounts of the desired indole 23 and instead afforded indolizine 24 as the major product. Compound 24 is highly fluorescent and might be useful for the synthesis of new types of fluorescent schweinfurthin analogues.<sup>26</sup> However, for the immediate goal, N-protection of the pyrrole aldehyde would circumvent this issue, as observed with N-methylpyrrole.<sup>27</sup> Because previous syntheses of schweinfurthin analogues employed MOMprotected phenols, half-ester 25 was prepared by Stobbe condensation of the MOM-protected aldehyde. In this case, cyclization under the standard conditions afforded only the desired indole product 26. In a similar sense, after pyrrole aldehyde 18 was protected as its MOM derivative, cyclization of the Stobbe product 27 gave only the desired indole 28. Because a late-stage deprotection of the indole MOM group ultimately proved to be more difficult than expected (vide infra), compound 18 also was protected as its tosyl derivative. In this case, however, the attempted Stobbe condensation proved to be problematic, so introduction of this group at this stage of the sequence was not pursued further.

After hydrolysis of the acetate group of indole 20, treatment of the resulting phenol 29 with NaH and MOMCl in THF gave the desired MOM-protected indole 30 along with a significant amount of a C-alkylated product, tentatively assigned as the C5substituted indole 31 (Scheme 3). Addition of DMF to the solvent system improved the ratio of desired to undesired product from ~1.3:1 to ~9:1. The reduction of ester 30 proceeded in quantitative yield, but attempts at conversion to the phosphonate were somewhat frustrating. The reaction proceeded via the corresponding bromide, although the Scheme 3. Synthesis and HWE Condensation of Indole Phosphonate 33



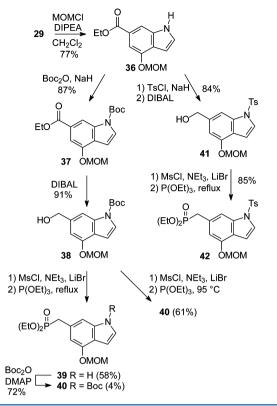
Arbuzov reaction of that bromide with  $(EtO)_3P$  in refluxing toluene gave the desired phosphonate 33 in modest yield.

The HWE coupling of hexahydroxanthene aldehyde  $12^{28}$  with phosphonate 33 smoothly gave the protected analogue 34. Unfortunately, the attempted hydrolysis of the three MOM groups by treatment with TsOH/MeOH gave compound 35, in which both of the phenolic MOM groups had been cleaved but the indole nitrogen was still protected. Attempts to remove this remaining MOM group under more vigorous conditions<sup>29–31</sup> proved unsuccessful, resulting only in decomposition.

To circumvent this difficult hydrolysis, a new strategy based upon early formation of a differentially protected indole was explored. Selective MOM protection of phenol 29 gave indole 36 (Scheme 4), and different N-protecting groups then could be introduced easily. For example, treatment of compound 36 with base and Boc<sub>2</sub>O gave carbamate 37, and selective reduction of the ethyl ester gave primary alcohol 38 in good yield. Under standard conditions for formation of the phosphonates [i.e., initial formation of the mesylate followed by treatment with LiBr and then neat (EtO)<sub>3</sub>P at reflux], formation of the C-P bond was accompanied by cleavage of the Boc group<sup>32</sup> to afford phosphonate 39 as the major product. The Boc group was easily reinstalled through treatment of phosphonate 39 with Boc<sub>2</sub>O to give phosphonate 40, which could also be obtained more directly from alcohol 38 in a reasonable yield (61%) when the Arbuzov reaction was conducted at a lower temperature (~95 °C) instead of reflux ( $\sim$ 165 °C). Alternatively, a tosylate protecting group could be installed through treatment of indole 36 with TsCl and base, and the intermediate carboxylic acid ester was reduced selectively to give alcohol 41 in good yield. The tosyl group proved to be stable toward the standard conditions for formation of the phosphonate, and compound 42 was obtained smoothly.

Of the new indole phosphonates **39**, **40**, and **42**, the HWE condensation of compound **39** with an aldehyde representing

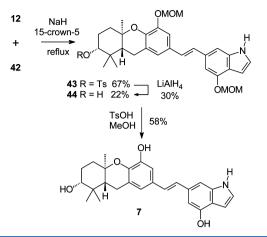
Scheme 4. Synthesis of New Indole Phosphonates

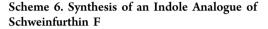


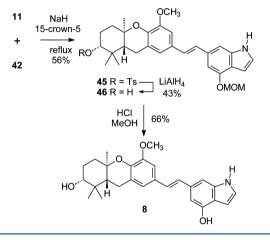
the schweinfurthin left half would be most advantageous because it would avoid an N-deprotection step of the product at a later stage. In the limited number of condensations between an indole phosphonate and an aldehyde, an N-protected indole was always employed.<sup>33-36</sup> Nevertheless, because aldehyde 12 has been used in similar HWE reactions,<sup>3,6,13</sup> condensations between this aldehyde and phosphonate 39 were attempted. At best just trace amounts of a possible stilbene product were observed in this case, even though p-methoxybenzaldehyde reacted smoothly with phosphonate 39.37 The attempted condensation of aldehyde 12 with phosphonate 40 also was problematic. In this case, little or no condensation was observed, and TLC analysis suggested that Boc cleavage had taken place instead. Fortunately, the HWE condensation of phosphonate 42 with aldehyde 12 at reflux gave a mixture of stilbene products in very good total yield (Scheme 5). Somewhat to our surprise, analysis of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra showed that the major product 43 carried a tosylate as an A-ring ester, while the minor product 44 did not have an Aring tosylate but already had undergone cleavage of the N-tosyl group. The hindered tosylate ester 43 proved to be resistant to standard hydrolysis,  $^{38-45}$  but reduction with LiAlH<sub>4</sub><sup>46,47</sup> converted the major HWE product 43 to the minor product 44 in low yield. Final hydrolysis of the MOM groups gave stilbene 7, the first schweinfurthin G analogue that incorporates an indole system.

To prepare the analogous schweinfurthin F analogue, phosphonate **42** was allowed to react with aldehyde  $11^3$  and base (Scheme 6). When the reaction was conducted at reflux in THF, the only stilbene product (56%) again reflected transfer of the tosyl group from the indole nitrogen to the A-ring alcohol. Treatment of this hindered tosylate ester with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> did afford the free alcohol **46** in modest yield. Compound **46** 

Scheme 5. Synthesis of an Indole Analogue of Schweinfurthin G



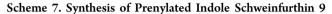


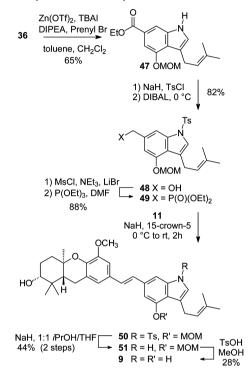


underwent hydrolysis of the phenolic MOM group under standard conditions to afford schweinfurthin F analogue 8.

Because the natural schweinfurthins contain an isoprene chain as a D-ring substituent, installation of an isoprenoid chain on the indole would afford analogues more closely parallel to the natural products. Our original plan had been to incorporate this chain in a regiospecific manner through halogen-metal exchange on a protected indole derived from bromide 26, but this sequence would become unappealing if the MOM hydrolysis were problematic or the  $S_N2'$  product was formed during alkylation with prenyl bromide.<sup>48-52</sup> An attractive alternative might be based on an extension of the methodology of Ganesan,<sup>53</sup> which relies upon  $Zn(OTf)_2$  activation of an allylic halide to bring about only C3 alkylation through electrophilic aromatic substitution. Among the attractive features of the original study, alkylation of indole itself with prenyl halides generally gave only the C3-alkylated product, proceeded in  $\sim 60\%$  yield, and did not give the S<sub>N</sub>2' reaction products (i.e., "reverse prenyl" substituents) that are frequently observed with other methods.<sup>48,49</sup> However, it was unclear whether this approach could be applied to access the substituted indole required here, where both C6 and C4 groups that might impact reactivity were required. In particular, a C6 ethoxycarbonyl group would add an electron-withdrawing substituent system, while reduction of this group to the corresponding alcohol might invite polymerization reactions in

view of the known reactivity of benzyl alcohol under these conditions.<sup>53</sup> Furthermore, a MOM substituent at the C4 position might compete with an isoprenoid halide for complexation with the  $Zn(OTf)_2$  or introduce a degree of steric hindrance at the C3 position. Nevertheless, the brevity of this approach led us to study the process with indole **36**. To our delight, the reaction of **36** with prenyl bromide in the presence of  $Zn(OTf)_2$  gave the desired product **47** in 65% yield (Scheme 7). This yield is comparable to those obtained on indole itself,<sup>53</sup> despite the presence of the B-ring substituents.

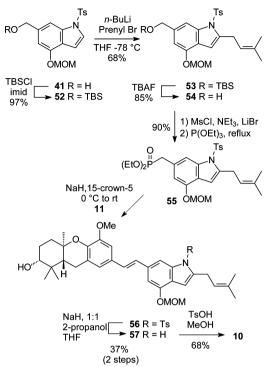




Once ester 47 was in hand, the remaining steps in the sequence proceeded in a fashion parallel to those employed to prepare the earlier analogues. Protection of the indole nitrogen as the tosylate proceeded smoothly. Then, after selective reduction of the carboxylic acid ester with DIBAL, the resulting alcohol 48 was readily converted to phosphonate 49. HWE condensation of 49 with aldehyde 11 afforded a mixture of *N*-tosyl intermediate 50 and free indole 51. After partial purification, treatment with NaH in a mixture of THF and *i*-PrOH afforded only compound 51. Final hydrolysis of the MOM group proceeded in low yield but did afford the desired target compound, schweinfurthin F analogue 9.

To access compound 10 from an intermediate already in hand, indole 41 was protected as its silyl ether 52, which was then treated with *n*-BuLi and prenyl bromide (Scheme 8). Despite the presence in the B-ring of two substituents that might participate in directed ortho metalation, <sup>54</sup> this sequence gave a single product identified as the C2-alkylated indole 53. After deprotection to give alcohol 54 and the formation of phosphonate 55 through standard reactions, condensation of 55 with aldehyde 11 provided a mixture of the new stilbenes 56 and 57. After partial purification, treatment with 2-propanol and base completed conversion to compound 57, and final deprotection gave the desired schweinfurthin analogue 10.

Scheme 8. Synthesis of Prenylated Indole Schweinfurthin 10



In preliminary bioassays, compounds 7–10 were tested for their activities against the SF-295 cell line, which is one of those more sensitive to the natural schweinfurthins.<sup>1</sup> These new schweinfurthin analogues did show activity in these assays, with EC<sub>50</sub> values ranging from ~200 nM to 2.5  $\mu$ M (Table 1).<sup>37</sup>

Tab	le	1.	Pre	liminary	7 Bioassa	ys in	the	SF-295	Cell	Line
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compound	ЕС <sub>50</sub> (µМ)
7	0.2
8	2.5
9	0.2
10	2.2

Because the more active compounds showed potencies comparable to those of some of the natural schweinfurthins, preparation of additional indole analogues as well as more extensive testing in the NCI 60 cell line assay would be warranted.

## CONCLUSION

We have developed a strategy for the synthesis of indole analogues of the natural schweinfurthins. This effort included the preparation of several new indoles by cyclization after a Stobbe condensation, which ultimately led to the preparation of the first indoles bearing a phosphonomethyl substituent in the indole B-ring. These B-ring phosphonates were then used in HWE reactions with the complex aldehydes **11** and **12** and underwent these condensations smoothly as long as the indole nitrogen was securely protected. With a tosyl group on the indole nitrogen, an unexpected transfer of the tosyl group to an unprotected alcohol was observed. While this transfer undoubtedly could be avoided through the use of an alcohol protecting group, instead, because this transfer also deprotected the indole nitrogen, the tosylate ester was isolated and cleaved to the free alcohol, which allowed the preparation of indole analogues of the schweinfurthin G and F cores. These studies also have shown that the  $Zn(OTf)_2$ -mediated alkylation of a 4,6-disubstituted indole is a facile way to introduce a prenyl substituent at C3 of this indole system, which in turn allowed preparation of a schweinfurthin F analogue complete with a side chain. With this more hindered prenyl indole, HWE condensation did afford the desired stilbene without transfer of the tosyl group, and basic cleavage of the N-tosyl group was more efficient. Finally, a C2-prenylated indole was obtained through metalation and alkylation of a tosyl indole intermediate, allowing divergent use of intermediate 36 to obtain either the C2- or C3-alkylated compounds. Together these studies have afforded four new indole analogues (7-10)of the natural schweinfurthins, and they define procedures that could be used to prepare analogues of many other natural stilbenes, including resveratrol,<sup>55</sup> the chiricanines,<sup>56</sup> the arachidins and arahypins,<sup>57</sup> and the pawhuskins.<sup>58</sup> Further research on the biological activities of the new schweinfurthin analogues is underway and will be reported in due course.

#### EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Experimental Procedures.** THF was freshly distilled from sodium/benzophenone, while  $CH_2Cl_2$  and  $Et_3N$  were freshly distilled from  $CaH_2$ . All of the reactions in nonaqueous solvents were conducted in oven-dried glassware under a positive pressure of argon with magnetic stirring. All commercial reagents were used without further purification unless otherwise stated. NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 75 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C or higher with CDCl<sub>3</sub> as the solvent and  $(CH_3)_4$ Si (<sup>1</sup>H, 0.00 ppm) and CDCl<sub>3</sub> (<sup>13</sup>C, 77.0 ppm) as internal standards, unless otherwise noted. Highresolution mass spectra were run with magnet detection, unless another method is noted. Elemental analyses were performed by a commercial facility.

General Procedure for Stobbe Condensations: 2-(1H-Pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)succinic Acid 1-Ethyl Ester (19). According to the procedure of Vedejs<sup>24</sup> but in THF (60 mL) instead of benzene, NaH (4.2 g, 105 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) was added slowly to aldehyde 18 (5.01 g, 52.6 mmol) and diethyl succinate (13.3 mL, 80.2 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir overnight and warm to rt. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and the reaction was quenched by addition of water; Et<sub>2</sub>O was added, and the mixture was extracted with 5% KOH. The combined aqueous layers were acidified with HCl (6 M) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo to afford acid 19 (11.2 g, 96%) as a redbrown solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  10.83 (br s, 1H), 10.63 (br s, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.07-7.06 (m, 1H), 6.61-6.59 (m, 1H), 6.30–6.27 (m, 1H), 4.20 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  172.4, 168.5, 131.8, 128.8, 123.1, 119.2, 114.4, 111.9, 61.3, 34.4, 14.9. HRMS (TOF MS EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 223.0845; found, 223.0851.

4-Acetoxy-1*H*-indole-6-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (20) and 5-Acetoxyindolizine-7-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (21). To acid 19 (17.1 g, 76.7 mmol) in toluene (800 mL) were added Ac<sub>2</sub>O (48 mL, 506 mmol) and glacial AcOH (4.62 mL, 80.5 mmol), and the reaction mixture was heated to reflux. The next day the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt, and the reaction was quenched by addition of  $K_2CO_3(sat)$ . The mixture was washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (0 to 50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole 20 (14.0 g, 74%) as a light-brown solid and indolizine 21 (201 mg, 1%) as a yellow-brown oil.

Data for indole **20**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.98 (br s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.20–7.18 (m, 1H), 6.40 (m, 1H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  169.5, 167.0, 142.8, 136.7, 127.9, 124.8, 124.2, 112.6, 111.8, 99.4, 60.9, 20.9, 14.3. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 63.15; H, 5.30; N, 5.66. Found: C, 62.97; H, 5.31; N, 5.61.

Data for indolizine **21**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.14 (s, 1H), 7.33–7.31 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, J = 3.9, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  166.9, 165.6, 138.8, 133.4, 120.2, 119.2, 115.7, 110.5, 105.6, 99.0, 60.9, 20.6, 14.3. HRMS (TOF MS EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 247.0845; found, 247.0849.

Alternative Route to Indole 20 and Indolizine 21. To acid 19 (1.00 g, 4.48 mmol) in THF were added  $Ac_2O$  (5.4 mL, 57.5 mmol) and glacial AcOH (2.2 mL, 5.76 mmol), and the reaction mixture was heated to reflux. The next day the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt, poured into  $Et_2O$  and water, washed with NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (15 to 50%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes) afforded indole 20 (461 mg, 42%) and indolizine 21 (212 mg, 19%).

**2-(4-Bromo-1***H***-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)succinic Acid 1-Ethyl Ester (22).** According to the general procedure, a solution of 4-bromopyrrole-2-carboxaldehyde (502 mg, 2.89 mmol) and diethyl succinate (0.72 mL, 4.29 mmol) in THF (4 mL) at 0 °C was treated with NaH (266 mg, 6.65 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil). Standard workup and final purification by flash column chromatography (30 to 40% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded acid 22 (316 mg, 36%) as a light-brown solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO):  $\delta$  10.87 (br s, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 2.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.63–6.62 (m, 1H), 4.21 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO):  $\delta$  172.2, 167.9, 130.7, 129.3, 122.5, 121.5, 115.0, 98.8, 61.3, 34.1, 14.5. HRMS (TOF MS EI) *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BrNO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 300.9950; found, 300.9954.

**5-Acetoxy-2-bromoindolizine-7-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester** (24). To acid 22 (811 mg, 2.68 mmol) in THF were added glacial AcOH (0.19 mL, 3.3 mmol) and Ac<sub>2</sub>O (3.2 mL 33.8 mmol), and the solution was heated at reflux overnight. After the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt, the reaction was quenched by addition of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>(sat), and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (20% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) afforded indolizine 24 (687 mg, 79%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.00 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd, *J* = 1.5, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  166.6, 165.1, 138.1, 133.3, 120.6, 118.6, 110.3, 107.2, 105.4, 99.4, 61.2, 20.6, 14.3. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BrNO<sub>4</sub>: C, 47.88; H, 3.71; N, 4.29. Found: C, 48.10; H, 3.73; N, 4.22.

2-(4-Bromo-1-methoxymethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)succinic Acid 1-Ethyl Ester (25). To 4-bromo-1H-pyrrole-2carboxaldehyde (1.84 g, 10.6 mmol) in 10:1 THF/DMF (55 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH (525 mg, 7.5 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil), and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 5 min. To the resulting solution was added MOMCl (0.97 mL, 12.8 mmol), and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h. The reaction was then quenched by addition of NH4Cl(sat), and the mixture was diluted with water and extracted with Et2O. The combined organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried (MgSO4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (25%  $Et_2O$  in hexanes) afforded the protected aldehyde (1.97 g, 86%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  9.53 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 1.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H, 6.97 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 2H), 3.31 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  179.0, 131.8, 130.1, 125.8, 98.0, 78.4, 56.3. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C7H8BrNO2 (M+), 216.9738; found, 216.9740. According to the general procedure, the MOM-protected bromopyrrole aldehyde (1.01 g, 4.63 mmol) in THF (9 mL) at 0 °C was treated with diethyl succinate (1.2 mL, 1.54 mmol) followed by NaH (310 mg, 7.75 mmol). Standard workup and final purification by flash column chromatography (25 to 40% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded acid 25 (425 mg, 27%) as a brown-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.77 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  175.4, 167.6, 128.3, 128.2, 125.2, 122.1, 116.6, 97.9, 78.1, 61.5, 56.0, 34.0, 14.2. Anal. Calcd for C13H16BrNO5: C, 45.10; H, 4.66; N, 4.05. Found: C, 45.19; H, 4.69; N, 3.93.

**4-Acetoxy-3-bromo-1-methoxymethyl-1***H***-indole-6-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (26).** To acid 25 (1.084 g, 3.13 mmol) in Ac<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) was added KOAc (0.49 g, 5.0 mmol), and the reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 1 h and then allowed to cool to rt. The solution was diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>(sat), water, and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (20% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole 26 (911 mg, 79%) as a brown solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 5.45 (s, 2H), 4.40 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 179.9, 166.2, 142.9, 137.1, 130.8, 126.1, 123.1, 115.2, 110.8, 88.2, 77.7, 61.2, 56.4, 21.0 14.4. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrNO<sub>5</sub>: C, 48.67; H, 4.36; N, 3.78. Found: C, 48.84; H, 4.60; N, 3.58.

2-(1-Methoxymethyl-1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)succinic Acid 1-Ethyl Ester (27). A solution of N-MOM-pyrrole-2-carboxaldehyde (100 mg, 0.72 mmol) and diethyl succinate (145 mg, 0.84 mmol) in THF at 0 °C was treated with KOt-Bu (120 mg, 1.07 mmol). The solution was allowed to warm to rt overnight and the next day was heated to reflux for 1 h. After the solution was cooled to 0 °C, the reaction was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with 5% KOH. The combined aqueous extracts were acidified (6 M HCl) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried  $(MgSO_4)$ , and filtered, and then the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (30% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded acid 27 (60 mg, 31%) as a yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$ 7.87 (s, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J = 2.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.67–6.66 (m, 1H), 6.29– 6.27 (m, 1H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 4.29 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  176.1, 168.1, 129.3, 127.7, 126.2, 120.0, 115.6, 110.1, 78.0, 61.3, 55.7, 34.2, 14.2. Anal. Calcd for C13H17NO5: C, 58.42; H, 6.41. Found: C, 58.49; H, 6.43.

4-Acetoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (28). To acid 27 (333 mg, 1.25 mmol) in Ac<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added KOAc (153 mg, 1.56 mol), and the solution was heated at reflux until the reaction was complete as judged by TLC analysis. The solution was allowed to cool to rt and then poured into NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat) and diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. Once bubbling had ceased, the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic extracts were washed with NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat), water, and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (40% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole 28 (298 mg, 82%) as a brown-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.14 (dd, J = 1.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, J = 3.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (s, 2H), 4.39 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  169.0, 166.6, 143.0, 137.2, 131.2, 125.9, 124.9, 113.4, 110.3, 99.7, 77.5, 60.9, 56.0, 22.0, 14.3. HRMS (TOF MS EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 291.1107; found, 291.1104.

4-Hydroxy-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (29). To a solution of acetate 20 (201 mg, 0.81 mmol) in EtOH (20 mL) was added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (210 mg, 1.52 mmol), and the resulting mixture was heated to reflux for 90 min. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, filtered through Celite, and then concentrated in vacuo. The resulting residue was dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with 2 N NaOH. The aqueous extracts were acidified, extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) afforded phenol 29 (136 mg, 82%) as a light-brown solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $((CD_3)_2CO): \delta$  10.5 (br s, 1H), 8.60 (br s, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 1.2, 1.2Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 3.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (m, 1H), 4.32 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  167.8, 150.9, 138.2, 127.2, 125.5, 122.8, 107.0, 104.5, 100.1, 60.9, 14.7. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: C, 64.38; H, 5.40; N, 6.83. Found: C, 64.39; H, 5.49; N, 6.66.

4-Methoxymethoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1*H*-indole-6-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (30) and 4-Methoxymethoxy-1,5-bis-(methoxymethyl)-1*H*-indole-6-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (31). To a stirring suspension of NaH (800 mg, 20 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) in a 6:1 mixture of THF and DMF (35 mL) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C was added

indole **29** (1.61 g, 7.86 mmol) as a THF solution. Next, MOMCl (1.5 mL, 20 mmol) was added dropwise, and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 50 min. The reaction was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (25 to 50% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) afforded indoles **30** (1.82 g, 79%) and **31** (227 mg, 9%).

Data for compound **30**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.94 (dd, J = 0.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (dd, J = 3.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (s, 2H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 4.40 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 1.44 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  167.3, 150.0, 137.1, 129.8, 125.4, 124.0, 106.8, 104.6, 100.2, 94.7, 77.4, 60.8, 56.2, 55.9, 14.4. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 61.42; H, 6.53. Found: C, 61.59; H, 6.62.

Data for compound **31**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (dd, J = 3.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (s, 2H), 5.28 (s, 2H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 4.40 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 1.42 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  168.4, 150.0, 136.7, 130.1, 126.9, 124.6, 121.1, 109.1, 100.9, 99.5, 77.4, 65.7, 61.0, 58.0, 57.4, 56.0, 14.3. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>: C, 60.52; H, 6.87; N, 4.15. Found: C, 60.40; H, 7.00; N, 4.00.

(4-Methoxymethoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1*H*-indol-6-yl)methanol (32). To ester 30 (668 mg, 2.28 mmol) in THF at 0 °C was added LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (190 mg, 5.0 mmol), and the resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h. The reaction was then quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was acidified and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic extracts were washed with water, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded alcohol 32 (566 mg, 99%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.17 (s, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (dd, *J* = 3.2, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 5.32 (s, 2 H), 4.75 (s, 2H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.02 (br s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  150.7, 137.9, 136.6, 127.3, 119.9, 103.7, 102.8, 99.8, 94.7, 77.5, 66.1, 56.1, 55.8. HRMS (EI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 251.1158; found, 251.1152.

(4-Methoxymethoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indol-6ylmethyl)phosphonic Acid Diethyl Ester (33). To a solution of alcohol 32 (12 mg, 0.048 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 mL) at 0 °C were added Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.05 mL, 0.38 mmol) and MsCl (0.02 mL, 0.24 mmol), and the reaction was allowed to warm to rt. The following day the reaction was quenched by addition of NH4Cl(sat), and the mixture was extracted with CH2Cl2. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The resulting residue was dissolved in acetone (5 mL) at rt, and LiBr (33 mg, 0.38 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir overnight and then poured into Et<sub>2</sub>O. The reaction was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with Et2O. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The resulting residue was dissolved in P(OEt)<sub>3</sub> (0.5 mL) and toluene (3 mL), and the solution was heated at reflux overnight. The following day the solution was allowed to cool to rt and poured into Et<sub>2</sub>O. The reaction was then quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (80% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded phosphonate 33 (7 mg, 39% yield) as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.12 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, J = 3.2 Hz, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (dd, J = 1.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, J = 3.2 Hz, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 2H), 5.32 (s, 2H), 4.06-3.96 (m, 4H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.25 (d,  $J_{HP}$  = 21.3 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.26 (td, J = 7.1, 0.3 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  150.4 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 2.8 Hz), 138.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.0 Hz), 127.0 (d,  $J_{\rm CP}$  = 1.2 Hz), 126.4 (d,  $J_{\rm CP}$  = 9.2 Hz), 119.3 (d,  $J_{\rm CP}$  = 2.9 Hz), 106.5 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 5.9 Hz), 105.5 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 7.7 Hz), 99.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 1.5 Hz), 94.7, 77.4, 62.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.6 Hz, 2C), 56.1, 55.8, 34.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 138 Hz), 16.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.1 Hz, 2C). <sup>31</sup>P NMR:  $\delta$  27.4. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>P (M<sup>+</sup>), 371.1498; found, 371.1497.

5-Methoxymethoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indol-6-yl)vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthen-2-ol (34). To a suspension of NaH (45 mg, 1.13 mol, 60% dispersion in oil) in THF at 0 °C was added phosphonate 33 (37 mg, 0.10 mmol) as a THF solution followed by aldehyde  $12^{28}$  (17.6 mg, 0.052 mmol) as a THF solution, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm slowly to rt. The following day the reaction was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50 to 70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded stilbene 34 (16 mg, 55%) as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.24 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03–6.97 (m, 4H), 6.62 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (s, 2H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 5.25 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H) 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.47-3.42 (m, 1H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.75–2.72 (m, 2H), 2.13–2.08 (m, 1H), 1.91–1.64 (m, 5H), 1.25 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 3H), 0.90 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  150.8, 146.2, 143.6, 138.2, 133.5, 129.5, 127.7, 127.0, 125.5, 123.1, 121.9, 120.1, 113.4, 102.9, 102.5, 100.0, 95.9, 94.8, 78.0, 77.6, 76.9, 56.2, 56.2, 55.9, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.3, 23.2, 19.9, 14.3. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 551.2883; found,, 551.2891.

7-[2-(4-Hydroxy-1-methoxymethyl-1H-indol-6-yl)vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthene-2,5-diol (35). To MOM-protected compound 34 (16 mg, 0.029 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) was added TsOH (80 mg, 0.42 mmol), and the solution was allowed to stir at rt. The next day the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was diluted with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with water, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded schweinfurthin analogue 35 (9 mg, 67%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.16 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (m, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, J = 3.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (s, 2H), 3.40-3.35 (m, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.75-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.09-2.04 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.63 (m, 4H), 1.24 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  151.6, 147.0, 142.1, 140.1, 134.9, 131.4, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 124.0, 120.3, 120.2, 111.1, 103.3, 102.2, 100.5, 78.8, 78.3, 78.2, 56.0, ~49 (obscured by solvent), 39.5, 38.9, 29.0, 27.9, 24.0, 20.3, 14.8. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 463.2359; found, 463.2353.

Preparation of 4-Methoxymethoxy-1H-indole-6-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (36). To a suspension of phenol 29 (1.18 g, 5.74 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL) at rt were added DIPEA (4.0 mL, 23.0 mmol) and MOMCl (0.7 mL, 9.2 mmol), and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir overnight. The reaction was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (15 to 25% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole 36 (1.10 g, 77%) as a light-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.95 (br s, 1H), 7.89 (dd, J = 1.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, J = 3.1, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (m, 1H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 4.38 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  167.7, 149.9, 136.5, 126.4, 124.7, 123.0, 108.4, 103.8, 100.0, 94.7, 60.8, 56.2, 14.3. Anal. Calcd for C13H15NO4: C, 62.64; H, 6.07; N, 5.62. Found: C, 62.83; H, 6.12; N, 5.42.

4-Methoxymethoxyindole-1,6-dicarboxylic Acid 1-tert-Butyl Ester 6-Ethyl Ester (37). To a solution of indole 36 (1.00 g, 4.01 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at 0 °C were added NaH (200 mg, 5 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) and Boc<sub>2</sub>O (960 mg, 4.40 mmol). An additional aliquot of THF was added (8 mL), and after 1 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat). After the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate, the combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Final purification of the resulting material by flash column chromatography (12.5 to 15% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) afforded indole 37 (1.23 g, 87%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.54 (br s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1H),

7.57 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, J = 3.7, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 4.39 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 9H), 1.41 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  167.0, 149.8, 149.4, 135.7, 127.5, 127.4, 125.4, 111.6, 107.5, 104.2, 94.8, 84.4, 60.9, 56.3, 28.1 (3C), 14.4. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>: C, 61.88; H, 6.64; N, 4.01. Found: C, 62.00; H, 6.68; N, 4.02.

6-Hydroxymethyl-4-methoxymethoxyindole-1-carboxylic Acid tert-Butyl Ester (38). To ester 37 (434 mg, 1.24 mmol) in THF (30 mL) at 0 °C was added DIBAL (4.1 mL, 1 M in THF). When judged complete by TLC analysis, the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was poured into ethyl acetate, acidified, and then extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat) and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (25% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded alcohol 38 (345 mg, 91%) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.84 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, J = 3.8, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 4.75 (s, 2H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 2.16 (br s, 1H), 1.66 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 150.3, 149.7, 138.7, 136.6, 124.8, 121.0, 108.0, 106.3, 104.1, 94.7, 83.7, 66.0, 56.1, 28.1 (3C). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>: C, 62.53; H, 6.89; N, 4.56. Found: C, 62.30; H, 7.13; N, 4.56.

(4-Methoxymethoxy-1H-indol-6-ylmethyl)phosphonic Acid Diethyl Ester (39) and 6-(Diethoxyphosphorylmethyl)-4methoxymethoxyindole-1-carboxylic Acid tert-Butyl Ester (40). To LiBr (450 mg, 5.18 mmol) and NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.43 mL, 3.09 mmol) in THF at 0 °C was added benzylic alcohol 38 (312 mg, 1.02 mmol) as a THF solution. The solution was stirred for 5 min, and then MsCl (0.16 mL, 2.07 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 1 h, and more LiBr (400 mg, 4.61 mmol) was added. After the reaction was judged complete by TLC analysis it was quenched by addition of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat), and the mixture was diluted with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. To the resulting residue was added P(OEt)<sub>3</sub> (4 mL), and the solution was heated at reflux overnight. The next day the solution was allowed to cool to rt and then poured into water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50 to 70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole phosphonate 40 (18 mg, 4%) as an oil and the parent indole phosphonate 39 (194 mg, 58%) as an oil.

Data for phosphonate **39**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 9.61 (s, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 6.54, (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 4.44–3.96 (m, 4H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 3.21 (d,  $J_{\rm PH} = 21.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 150.2 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 2.7$  Hz), 137.7 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 2.9$  Hz), 124.8 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 9.4$  Hz), 123.5, 118.2 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 2.7$  Hz), 107.1 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 7.4$  Hz), 105.6 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 5.8$  Hz), 98.7, 94.7, 62.1 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 6.8$  Hz, 2C), 55.9, 33.9 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 138$  Hz), 16.2 (d,  $J_{\rm CP} = 6.1$  Hz, 2C). <sup>31</sup>P NMR: δ 28.2. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>P (M<sup>+</sup>), 327.1236; found, 327.1229.

**Boc Protection of Phosphonate 39.** To phosphonate **39** (194 mg, 0.593 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) were added DMAP (8 mg, 0.065 mmol) and Boc<sub>2</sub>O (150 mg, 0.69 mmol). The reaction was allowed to stir for 2 h and then checked by TLC analysis. After an additional amount of Boc<sub>2</sub>O was added (50 mg, 0.23 mmol), the reaction was allowed to proceed for another hour. The reaction was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (80% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded Bocprotected indole **40** (183 mg, 72%), whose <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were consistent with those of the material prepared via the route below.

Preparation of Phosphonate 40 at Reduced Temperature. To alcohol 38 (147 mg, 0.48 mmol) in THF (10 mL) were added LiBr (250 mg, 2.9 mmol) and NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.2 mL, 1.4 mmol), and the solution was cooled to 0  $^{\circ}$ C and then allowed to stir. After 10 min, MsCl (0.08 mL, 2.07 mmol) was added dropwise, and the reaction mixture was

allowed to stir for 2 h. The reaction was then guenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was diluted with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. To the residue was added P(OEt)<sub>31</sub> and the resulting solution was heated to 95 °C and allowed to stir overnight. The next day the solution was allowed to cool to rt and then concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (1.5% EtOH in Et<sub>2</sub>O) afforded phosphonate **40** (125 mg, 61%) as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.78 (br s, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H, 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 4.09–4.00 (m, 4H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.26 (d, J<sub>PH</sub> = 21.6 Hz, 2H), 1.66, (s 9H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  150.0 (d,  $J_{CP} = 2.9$  Hz), 149.6, 128.7 (d,  $J_{CP} = 9.5$  Hz), 124.6, 120.3, 110.7 (d,  $J_{CP} = 7.9$  Hz), 108.9 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 5.7 Hz), 104.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 1.6 Hz), 94.7, 83.6, 62.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$ = 6.6 Hz, 2C), 56.3, 34.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 138 Hz), 28.1 (3C), 16.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.3 Hz, 2C). <sup>31</sup>P NMR:  $\delta$  27.3. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>P (M<sup>+</sup>), 427.1760; found, 427.1757.

[4-Methoxymethoxy-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]methanol (41). To indole 36 (805 mg, 3.23 mmol) in THF (30 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH (170 mg, 4.2 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) followed after 10 min by TsCl (700 mg, 3.61 mmol). After 30 min, DIBAL (1.45 mL, 8.1 mmol) was added, and the mixture was allowed to stir for an additional 30 min. The reaction was then guenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was poured into ethyl acetate, acidified, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded benzylic alcohol 41 (1.02 g, 87% overall yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (( $(CD_3)_2CO$ ):  $\delta$  7.84 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22, (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.81 (dd, J = 3.7, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (s, 2H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 4.53 (br s, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$ 151.2, 146.0, 141.8, 136.9, 135.8, 130.7 (2C), 127.5 (2C), 126.0, 121.5, 107.2, 106.7, 105.9, 95.2, 65.0, 56.2, 21.3. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C18H19NO5S (M+), 361.0984; found, 361.0992.

[4-Methoxymethoxy-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6ylmethyl]phosphonic Acid Diethyl Ester (42). To alcohol 41 (118 mg, 0.33 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at 0 °C were added LiBr (226 mg, 2.62 mmol) and NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.18 mL, 1.30 mmol). The reaction was allowed to stir for 5 min, and then MsCl (0.06 mL, 0.78 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt, and after 3 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat). The mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The resulting residue was dissolved in  $P(OEt)_3$  (3 mL) and heated to reflux. The next day the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt, poured into water, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried  $(MgSO_4)$ , and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (2.5 to 3% EtOH in  $Et_2O$ ) afforded phosphonate 42 (133 mg, 85%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.78 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 3.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22, (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (s, 2H), 4.05-3.95 (m, 4H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 3.25 (d,  $J_{\rm PH}$  = 21.5 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$ 150.2 (d,  $J_{CP} = 2.9$  Hz), 144.8, 136.1 (d,  $J_{CP} = 3.1$  Hz), 135.1, 129.7 (2C), 129.3 (d,  $J_{CP} = 9.2$  Hz), 126.8 (2C), 125.0 (d,  $J_{CP} = 1.4$  Hz), 120.6 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.1 Hz), 109.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.0 Hz), 108.6 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 7.5 Hz), 105.8 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 1.5 Hz), 94.6, 62.0 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.7 Hz, 2C), 56.2, 34.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 138.1 Hz), 21.5, 16.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.1 Hz, 2C). <sup>31</sup>P NMR:  $\delta$ 27.3. HRMS (EI) *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>PS (M<sup>+</sup>), 481.1324; found, 481.1315.

Toluene-4-sulfonic Acid 5-Methoxymethoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1*H*-indol-6-yl)vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2*R*,4a*R*,9a*R*)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1*H*-xanthen-2-yl Ester (43) and 5-Methoxymethoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1*H*-indol-6-yl)vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2*R*,4a*R*,9a*R*)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1*H*-xanthen-2-ol (44). To phosphonate 42 (40 mg, 0.83 mmol) and aldehyde  $12^{28}$  (18 mg, 0.54 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at rt were added NaH (60 mg, 1.5 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) and 15-

crown-5 (3 drops), and the resulting solution was heated to reflux. After 30 min, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to rt, and the reaction was quenched by addition of  $NH_4Cl(sat)$ . The mixture was then diluted with water and extracted with  $Et_2O$ . The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (20 to 40% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded tosylate 43 (24 mg, 67%) along with alcohol 44 (5 mg, 22%).

Data for tosylate 43: <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 8.24 (br s, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14–7.11 (m, 3H), 6.98–6.92 (m, 4H), 6.63 (m, 1H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 5.23 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (dd, J = 10.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 2.69–2.66 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.10–2.04 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.60 (m, 4H), 1.22 (s, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.90 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 150.8, 146.1, 144.7, 143.3, 137.7, 134.3, 133.1, 129.8 (3C), 127.9, 127.7 (2C), 126.5, 123.5, 122.6, 121.7, 119.1, 113.4, 104.1, 101.9, 100.1, 95.9, 94.8, 88.4, 76.0, 56.2, 56.2, 47.0, 38.2, 37.4, 27.0, 25.8, 23.1, 21.6, 19.8, 15.1. HRMS (TOF MS ES) m/z: calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>44</sub>NO<sub>8</sub>S ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>), 662.2788; found, 662.2797.

Data for alcohol 44: <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.30 (br s, 1H), 7.15–7.11 (m, 3H), 7.05–6.92 (m, 4H), 6.64 (m, 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 5.24 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.43 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.75–2.71 (m, 2H), 2.11–2.04 (m, 1H), 1.90–1.54 (m, 5H), 1.25 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  150.8, 146.1, 143.6, 137.7, 133.2, 129.6, 127.8, 126.7, 123.5, 123.2, 121.9, 119.1, 113.5, 104.1, 102.0, 100.1, 96.0, 94.8, 78.0, 76.9. 56.2, 56.2, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.3, 23.2, 19.9, 14.2. HRMS (EI) *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 507.2621; found, 507.2620.

**Reduction of Tosylate 43.** To MOM-protected tosylate 43 (19.0 mg, 0.03 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at 0 °C was added LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (14 mg, 0.40 mmol), and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt overnight. The following morning the reaction was quenched by addition of  $NH_4Cl(sat)$ , and the mixture was diluted with water and extracted with  $Et_2O$ . The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Final purification by preparative TLC (70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded the desired indole 44 (4.4 mg, 30%) along with recovered starting material (2.7 mg, 14%). The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum was consistent with that of the material prepared above.

7-[2-(4-Hydroxy-1H-indol-6-yl)vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthene-2,5-diol (7). To a methanol solution of protected indole 44 (6 mg, 0.012 mmol) at 0 °C was added TsOH (25 mg, 0.145 mmol). The reaction was allowed to stir overnight and then quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried (Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated in vacuo. Final purification of the residue by preparative TLC (70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded schweinfurthin analogue 7 (2.9 mg, 58%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.09 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (dd, J = 3.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (dd, J = 11.5, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.74-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.09-2.04 (m, 1H), 1.83-1.63 (m, 4H), 1.24 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  151.2, 147.0, 141.9, 139.8, 133.9, 131.5, 128.9, 127.2, 124.4, 124.0, 120.2, 119.3, 111.0, 103.8, 101.8, 99.7, 78.8, 78.2, 39.5, 38.9, 29.0, 27.9, 24.0, 20.3, 14.9. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 419.2097; found, 419.2096.

Toluene-4-sulfonic Acid 5-Methoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1*H*-indol-6-yl)vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2*R*,4a*R*,9a*R*)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1*H*-xanthen-2-yl Ester (45). To aldehyde  $11^{3,28}$  (63 mg, 0.21 mmol) and phosphonate 42 (156 mg, 0.32 mmol) in THF (5 mL) at rt were added NaH (80 mg, 2.0 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) and 15-crown-5 (3 drops). The reaction mixture was slowly heated to reflux for 40 min and then allowed to cool to rt. After the reaction was quenched by addition of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat), the reaction mixture was diluted with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (30% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded tosylate 45 (73 mg, 56%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 8.25 (br s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 3.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.65–6.63 (m, 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 4.36–4.31 (m, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 2.70–2.67 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.14–2.09 (m, 1H), 2.01–1.96 (m, 1H), 1.87–1.68 (m, 3H), 1.56 (br s, 1H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 0.91 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  150.8, 148.9, 144.6, 142.0, 137.7, 134.3, 133.1, 129.8 (2C), 129.6, 127.8, 127.7 (2C), 126.8, 123.6, 122.0, 120.1, 119.2, 107.0, 104.0, 102.0, 100.1, 94.8, 88.5, 76.0, 56.2, 56.0, 47.0, 38.2, 37.3, 27.1, 25.7, 23.1, 21.6, 19.7, 15.1. HRMS (TOF MS ES) *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>42</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>), 632.2682; found, 632.2684.

Toluene-4-sulfonic Acid 5-Methoxy-7-[2-(4-methoxymethoxy-1H-indol-6-yl)vinyl]-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthen-2-yl Ester (46). To tosylate 45 (73 mg, 0.12 mmol) in THF (3 mL) was added LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (45 mg, 1.18 mmol), and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir overnight. The reaction then was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried  $(MgSO_4)$ , and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (30 to 50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) yielded alcohol 46 (24 mg, 43%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.25 (br s, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 3.1, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (m, 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.45-3.40 (m, 1H), 2.74-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.15-2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.74-1.50 (m, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  150.8, 148.9, 142.3, 137.7, 133.2, 129.4, 127.6, 127.0, 123.5, 122.6, 120.2, 119.1, 106.9, 104.0, 102.0, 100.1, 94.8, 78.0, 77.0, 56.2, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.3, 23.2, 19.9, 14.3. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 477.2515; found, 477.2512.

6-[2-(7-Hvdroxv-4-methoxv-8,8,10a-trimethvl-(5R,8aR,10aR)-5,7,8,8a,9a,10a-hexahydro-6H-xanthen-2-yl)vinyl]-1H-indol-4-ol (8). To MOM-protected indole 46 (16.0 mg, 0.033 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) was added HCl (0.15 mL, 6 M), and the reaction mixture was stirred in a warm water bath for 8.5 h. The reaction was then quenched by dropwise addition of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat), and the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered through basic alumina, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by preparative TLC (70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole 8 (9 mg, 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 8.2 (br s, 1H), 7.13 (dd, J = 3.1, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.59-6.57 (m, 1H), 5.22 (br s, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H),3.43 (dd, J = 11.5, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.75-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.16-2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.60 (m, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR:  $\delta$  149.0, 148.9, 142.4, 138.0, 133.4, 129.4, 127.3, 127.2, 123.5, 122.7, 120.4, 117.4, 106.9, 103.1, 102.1, 99.2, 78.1, 77.0, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.6, 28.3, 27.4, 23.2, 19.9, 14.3. HRMS (EI) *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 433.2253; found, 433.2245.

4-Methoxymethoxy-3-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-1H-indole-6carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (47). To indole 36 (1.00 g, 4.01 mmol), TBAI (739 mg, 2.00 mmol), and Zn(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (878 mg, 2.41 mmol) in a 9:2 mixture of toluene and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (22 mL) at rt was added DIPEA (0.77 mL, 4.41 mmol). After the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min, prenyl bromide (298 mg, 2.00 mmol) was added dropwise. After 3 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with water, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (10 to 15% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded prenylated indole 47 (415 mg, 65%) along with recovered starting material 36 (540 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  8.47 (br s, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (m, 1H), 5.46 (m, 1H), 5.35 (s, 2H), 4.37 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 1.74 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 167.6, 151.4, 137.4, 131.5, 124.6, 123.8, 123.7, 121.3, 116.7,

108.2, 102.8, 94.2, 60.7, 56.2, 25.7, 25.4, 17.7, 14.4. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 317.1627; found, 317.1631.

[4-Methoxymethoxy-3-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]methanol (48). To indole 47 (315 mg, 0.99 mmol) in THF at 0 °C was added NaH (50 mg, 1.25 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil), and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. After TsCl (230 mg, 1.21 mmol) was added, the solution was stirred for 30 min, and then DIBAL (0.71 mL, 4.0 mmol) was added dropwise. After an additional 30 min, the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was acidified with HCl and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>(sat) and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash column chromatography (34% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded benzylic alcohol 48 (348 mg, 82%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.71 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 5.41-5.39 (m, 1H), 5.22 (s, 2H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 3.51 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.37 (br s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.76 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 151.8, 144.6, 139.1, 137.0, 135.2, 132.9, 129.7 (2C), 126.6 (2C), 122.7, 121.9, 121.8, 120.2, 105.9, 105.7, 94.1, 65.5, 56.1, 25.7, 25.6, 21.4, 17.7. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C23H27NO5S (M<sup>+</sup>), 429.1610; found, 429.1609.

[4-Methoxymethoxy-3-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-ylmethyl]phosphonic Acid Diethyl Ester (49). To alcohol 48 (332 mg, 0.77 mmol) in THF (15 mL) at 0 °C were added LiBr (537 mg, 6.18 mmol) and NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.43 mL, 3.09 mmol). The solution was stirred for 5 min, and then MsCl (0.18 mL, 2.32 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt, and after 2 h, the reaction was guenched by addition of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (sat). The reaction mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried  $(MgSO_4)$ , and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Without further purification, the resulting residue was dissolved in  $P(OEt)_3$  (3 mL) and heated to reflux. The next day the solution was allowed to cool to rt and then poured into water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (2% EtOH in Et<sub>2</sub>O) afforded indole phosphonate 49 (374 mg, 88%) as a waxy white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$ 7.75 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.10, (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (m, 1H), 5.41-5.36 (m, 1H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 4.00 (m, 4H), 3.51-3.47 (m, 5H), 3.22 (d,  $J_{PH} = 21.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.33(s, 3H), 1.77 (s 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  151.6 (d,  $J_{\rm CP}$  = 2.9 Hz) 144.8, 137.1 (d,  $J_{\rm CP}$  = 3.1 Hz), 135.4, 133.0, 129.7 (2C), 129.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 9.3 Hz), 126.8 (2C), 122.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 1.6 Hz), 121.8, 121.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 1.8 Hz), 119.7 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.2 Hz), 108.9 (d,  $J_{\rm CP}$  = 5.9 Hz), 108.7 (d,  $J_{\rm CP}$  = 7.6 Hz), 94.3, 62.1 (d,  $J_{\rm CP}$  = 6.7 Hz, 2C), 56.1, 34.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 138.3 Hz), 25.7, 25.6, 21.4, 17.7, 16.3 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.0 Hz, 2C). <sup>31</sup>P NMR:  $\delta$  26.9. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>36</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>PS (M<sup>+</sup>), 549.1950; found, 549.1959.

5-Methoxy-7-{2-[4-methoxymethoxy-3-(3-methylbut-2enyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]vinyl}-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthen-2-ol (51). To aldehyde 11 (44 mg, 0.15 mmol) and phosphonate 49 (100 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (4 mL) at 0 °C were added NaH (80 mg, 2.0 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) and 15-crown-5 (2 drops), and the reaction mixture was allowed warm to rt. After 2 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried  $(MgSO_4)$ , and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded a mixture of the N-Ts compound 50 and free indole 51 (55 mg) as an oil. This material was dissolved in a mixture of THF and i-PrOH (5 mL, 1:1 mixture) at 0 °C, NaH (150 mg, excess) was added, and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt. The following day the reaction was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole 51 (35

mg, 44% for two steps) as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.95 (br s, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 6.99–6.98 (m, 2H), 6.92–6.90 (m, 2H), 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 5.51–5.46 (m, 1H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.62 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.43 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.74–2.71 (m, 2H), 2.15–2.10 (m, 1H), 1.89–1.56 (m, 11H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  152.1, 148.9, 142.3, 138.6, 133.0, 131.2, 129.4, 127.6, 126.8, 124.1, 122.6, 120.9, 120.2, 117.5, 116.7, 106.9, 103.8, 100.9, 94.3, 78.0, 77.0, 56.1, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.3, 25.7, 25.6, 23.2, 19.8, 17.7, 14.3. HRMS (EI) *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>43</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 545.3141; found, 545.3135.

6-[2-(7-Hydroxy-4-methoxy-8,8,10a-trimethyl-(5R,8aR,10aR)-5,7,8,8a,9,10a-hexahydro-6H-xanthen-2-yl)vinyl]-3-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-1H-indol-4-ol (9). To compound 51 (31 mg, 0.057 mmol) in MeOH (2 mL) at rt was added TsOH (75 mg, 0.39 mmol), and the reaction flask was wrapped in foil. After 10 h, the reaction was quenched by addition to NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat), and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with Na2CO3(sat) and brine, dried (MgSO4), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded stilbene 9 (8 mg, 28%) as a light-yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.90 (br s, 1H), 6.99–6.96 (m, 3H), 6.89–6.85 (m, 3H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 5.91 (br s, 1H), 5.54 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.58 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.44 (dd, J = 11.6, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.75-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.16-2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90-1.55 (m, 5H), 1.84 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 150.1, 148.9, 139.2, 135.1, 133.6, 129.8, 129.4, 127.3, 127.1, 125.1, 122.6, 121.0, 120.3, 116.4, 115.2, 106.9, 102.8, 102.8, 78.1, 56.0, 46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.4, 25.8, 25.7, 23.2, 19.8, 17.7, 14.3. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>), 501.2879; found, 501.2874.

6-(tert-Butyldimethylsilanyloxymethyl)-4-methoxymethoxy-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indole (52). To alcohol 41 (1.09 g, 3.01 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) at 0 °C were added imidazole (502 mg, 7.53 mmol) and TBSCl (500 mg, 3.31 mmol), and then the solution was allowed to warm to rt. The next day the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried  $(MgSO_4)$ , and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (8% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded silvl ether 52 (1.39 g, 97%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.75 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20, (dd, J = 8.5, 0.6 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.73 (dd, J = 3.7, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 9H), 0.12 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 150.3, 144.8, 139.8, 136.1, 135.3, 129.8 (2C), 128.8 (2C), 124.9, 120.7, 105.8, 105.9, 104.9, 94.7, 65.2, 56.1, 25.9 (3C), 21.5, 18.3, -5.2 (2C). HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C24H33NO5SSi (M<sup>+</sup>), 475.1849; found, 475.1856.

6-(tert-Butyldimethylsilanyloxymethyl)-4-methoxymethoxy-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indole (53). To silyl-protected indole 52 (724 mg, 1.52 mmol) in THF were added a few 4 Å molecular sieves, and the mixture was cooled to -78°C. After n-BuLi (0.75 mL, 2.3 M in hexanes) was added, the mixture was stirred for 20 min, and then prenyl bromide (420 mg, 2.82 mmol) was added. The next day the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (5% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded prenyl indole 53 (560 mg, 68%) as well as recovered starting material 52 (76 mg, 10%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.91 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.52 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (m, 1H), 5.31 (s, 2H), 4.90 (s, 2H), 3.74 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.05 (s, 9H), 0.20 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: *δ* 149.5, 144.5, 139.9, 138.7, 138.6, 136.5, 134.5, 129.7 (2C), 126.3 (2C), 119.8, 119.6, 106.5, 106.3, 105.3, 94.8, 65.5, 56.0, 27.9, 25.9 (3C), 25.7, 21.4, 18.3, 17.7, -5.2 (2C). HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>SSi (M<sup>+</sup>), 543.2475; found, 543.2476.

[4-Methoxymethoxy-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indol-6-yl]methanol (54). To silyl ether 53 (682 mg, 1.26 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at rt was added TBAF (1.88 mL, 1.0 M

in THF). After 2 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash column chromatography (30 to 45% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded alcohol **54** (461 mg, 85%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.84 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 5.38 (m, 1H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 4.74 (s, 2H), 3.64 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.60 (br s, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.78 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  149.5, 144.6, 140.1, 138.5, 138.1, 136.2, 134.7, 129.7 (2C), 126.2 (2C), 119.9, 119.5, 107.2, 106.7, 105.2, 94.5, 65.7, 56.1, 27.8, 25.7, 21.4, 17.6. HRMS (TOF MS EI) *m*/*z*: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S (M<sup>+</sup>), 429.1610; found, 429.1622.

[4-Methoxymethoxy-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-1-(toluene-4sulfonyl)-1H-indol-6-ylmethyl]phosphonic Acid Diethyl Ester (55). To benzylic alcohol 54 (333 mg, 0.78 mmol) in THF were added LiBr (540 mg, 6.20 mmol) and NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.44 mL, 3.10 mmol), and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. After 15 min, MsCl (0.19 mL, 2.46 mmol) was added dropwise, and the reaction was allowed to stir and slowly warm to rt. After 2 h, when the reaction was complete as judged by TLC analysis, it was quenched by addition of water, and the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. To the resulting residue was added P(OEt)<sub>3</sub> (3 mL), and the solution was heated at reflux overnight. The next day the solution was allowed to cool to rt and then poured into water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic extract was washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50 to 70% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole phosphonate 55 (384 mg, 90%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 5.40–5.35 (m, 1H), 5.25 (s, 2H), 4.07–3.94 (m, 4H), 3.64 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 3.26 (d, J<sub>PH</sub> = 21.3 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.78 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  149.3 (d,  $J_{CP} = 3.1$  Hz) 144.6, 140.0 (d,  $J_{CP} = 1.9$  Hz), 138.5 (d,  $J_{CP} = 3.1$  Hz), 136.2, 134.7, 129.9 (2C), 128.1 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 9.3 Hz), 126.3 (2C), 119.5, 119.4 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 3.1 Hz), 109.9 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 7.4 Hz), 109.5 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.1 Hz), 105.2, 94.8, 62.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 6.9 Hz, 2C), 56.2, 34.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 137.7 Hz), 27.8, 25.6, 21.4, 17.7, 16.2 (d,  $J_{CP}$  = 5.9 Hz, 2C). <sup>31</sup>P NMR:  $\delta$  27.3. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>36</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>PS (M<sup>+</sup>), 549.1950; found, 549.1943.

5-Methoxy-7-{2-[4-methoxymethoxy-2-(3-methylbut-2enyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]vinyl}-1,1,4a-trimethyl-(2R,4aR,9aR)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-xanthen-2-ol (57). To phosphonate 55 (74 mg, 0.14 mmol) and aldehyde 11 (30 mg, 0.10 mmol) in THF (2 mL) at 0 °C were added NaH (50 mg, 1.25 mmol, 60% dispersion in oil) and 15-crown-5 (3 drops). After the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 4 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl(sat), and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried  $(MgSO_4)$ , and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded a mixture of N-tosyl indole 56 and unprotected indole 57. To the mixed residue in 1:1 THF/i-PrOH (3 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH (120 mg, 3.0 mmol), and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt overnight. The next day the reaction was quenched by addition of NH4Cl(sat), and the mixture was diluted with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and then the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by flash column chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded indole 57 (20 mg, 37% for two steps) as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  7.92 (br s, 1H), 7.08 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (m, 1H), 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.31 (m, 1H), 5.40 (m, 1H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 3.49-3.39 (m, 3H), 2.74-2.71 (m, 2H), 2.18-2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90-1.60 (m, 5H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.74 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR:  $\delta$  150.1, 148.9, 142.3, 138.3, 137.5, 134.6, 132.1, 129.5, 127.8, 126.4, 122.6, 120.1, 120.1, 119.9, 107.1, 106.9, 103.5, 102.3, 95.0, 78.1, 77.0, 56.1, 56.0,

46.8, 38.4, 37.7, 28.3, 27.4, 27.1, 25.7, 23.2, 19.9, 17.8, 14.3. HRMS (EI) m/z: calcd for  $C_{34}H_{43}NO_5$  (M<sup>+</sup>), 545.3141; found, 545.3135.

6-[2-(7-Hydroxy-4-methoxy-8,8,10a-trimethyl-(5R,8aR,10aR)-5,7,8,8a,9,10a-hexahydro-6H-xanthen-2-yl)vinyl]-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-1H-indol-4-ol (10). To compound 57 (8 mg, 0.015 mmol) in MeOH (0.8 mL) in a foil-wrapped flask was added TsOH (25 mg, 0.13 mmol), and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir at rt. After 10 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>(sat), and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Final purification by radial chromatography (50% ethyl acetate in hexanes) afforded compound 10 (5 mg, 68%) as a light-yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  6.99 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (m, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 5.46-5.41 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.44 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 3.37 (dd, J = 10.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.76–2.73 (m, 2H), 2.07–2.02 (m, 1H), 1.85–1.60 (m, 4H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 150.5, 150.1, 143.2, 140.1, 139.4, 134.3, 132.9, 131.4, 129.3, 126.6, 124.0, 122.2, 121.4, 119.4, 108.0, 103.4, 102.0, 96.7, 78.7, 78.1, 56.4, ~49 (obscured by solvent), 39.5, 38.9, 29.0, 28.0, 27.9, 25.9, 24.1, 20.2, 17.8, 14.9. HRMS (TOF MS ES) *m/z*: calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>), 502.2957; found, 502.2956.

# ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### **S** Supporting Information

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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#### Notes

The authors declare the following competing financial interest(s): DFW is a co-founder and holds an equity interest in Terpenoid Therapeutics, Inc.

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