

A Facile Deprotection of Secondary Acetamides

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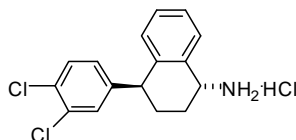
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General All reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Only anhydrous solvents were used for the reactions and these were equally purchased from commercial suppliers. All reactions were performed under nitrogen atmosphere. ¹H and ¹³C NMR were recorded on a Varian Mercury 400 spectrometer in deuterio-solvents with TMS as an internal standard at room temperature. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm on the δ scale along with multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), integration, and coupling constants, if applicable. HPLC area % values (not adjusted to weight %) in the manuscript Tables 1 and 2 are derived from LC / MS diode array conditions: Solvent A: 0.01 M NH₄Ac in 95% H₂O, 5% MeOH, pH 6.0, Solvent B: 0.01 M NH₄Ac in 100% MeOH on a Phenomenex Luna C18(2), 100A, 2.0 x 30 mm column; Waters 996 PDA, Wavelength (nm): 210 – 400; Resolution (nm): 1.2; Sampling Rate (spectra/s): 1.000. A Waters 2690 HPLC system equipped with 2487 UV detector was used for chiral assays as indicated. High resolution mass spectra were acquired externally by M-Scan Inc.

NOTE: As mentioned in the manuscript, use of this methodology warrants caution due to the rapid gas evolution. The exothermic reaction is readily handled with appropriate precautions. Evolution of CO is accompanied by an equivalent of CO₂, diluting the gaseous by-product stream. To prevent reversion to starting material, the imidoyl chloride intermediate should be handled under anhydrous conditions.

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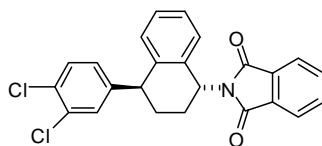
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Experimentals**(1*R*,4*S*)-4-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-amine hydrochloride – Compound 1, Scheme 1 / Table 3, entry 1A:**

A solution of acetamide (30.0 g, 89.8 mmol) in dry THF (239.3 mL) was treated with pyridine (8.9 mL, 110.0 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (8.9 mL, 101.6 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 15 min., dry propylene glycol (13.0 mL, 176.0 mmol) was added to maintain an internal temperature below 10 °C and the reaction warmed to 25 °C. During this warming phase, the yellow slurry converted into a lighter yellow slurry. After 10 min., the slurry was treated with 1-propanol (120.5 mL) followed by 6 N HCl (120.0 mL). The reaction was heated to 55 °C and filtered to remove particulates and further heated to distill off THF. Upon concentration, the batch was cooled gradually to 0 °C to facilitate crystallization. A lightly colored solid was filtered off, followed by washing of the filter cake with cold 1-propanol / DI water (75 mL) and *Mt*BE (75 mL). The wet cake was dried under vacuum and yielded a white solid (24.8 g, 84.1%): decomp. > 290 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.71 (s, 3H), 7.71 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.53 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.34 (s, 1H), 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 6.81 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 4.56 (s, 1H), 4.26 (s, 1H), 2.26 (m, 1H), 2.15 (m, 1H), 1.83 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 147.3, 138.8, 133.5, 130.9, 130.5, 130.4, 130.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 128.1, 126.7, 47.8, 43.0, 27.7, 25.1. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.¹

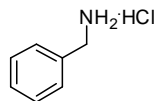
2-((1*R*,4*S*)-4-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione – Table 3, entry 1B:

¹ Han, Z.; Koenig, S.G.; Zhao, H.; Su, X.; Singh, S.P.; Bakale, R.P. *Org. Proc. Res. Dev.* **2007**, *11*, 726.



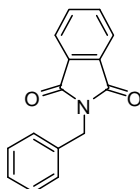
A solution of acetamide (1.67 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry THF (12.5 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.485 mL, 6.00 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.480 mL, 5.50 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (0.73 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the yellow slurry converted into a solution before again forming a light yellow slurry. After 1 h, the slurry was treated with phthalic anhydride (1.56 g, 10.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (12.5 mL). Pyridine (1.21 mL, 15.0 mmol) was added and the mixture heated to reflux, causing the yellow slurry to become orange and then slowly convert to a solution. THF was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (12.5 mL). Refluxing the mixture enabled azeotropic removal of water with toluene. After 12 h, the reaction was cooled and diluted with EtOAc (25 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (15 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and brine (15 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded an orange residue. Crude NMR indicated good conversion to phthalimide. The desired product was crystallized from this residue by dissolving in hot EtOH, followed by cooling. Filtration of the solids, washing with EtOH and EtOH/H₂O, and drying gave a yellow, granular solid (1.77 g, 84% yield, single diastereomer): mp 202-203 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (m, 2H), 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.09 (m, 2H), 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.78 (m, 1H), 5.69 (m, 1H), 4.26 (m, 1H), 2.58 (m, 1H), 2.33 (m, 1H), 2.17 (m, 1H), 1.95 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.0, 146.7, 139.4, 135.1, 134.1, 132.0, 130.7, 130.5, 130.4, 129.7, 128.2, 127.2, 126.9, 125.6, 123.4, 49.2, 45.5, 32.7, 27.4. HRMS (*m/z*) [*M*+H⁺] calcd for C₂₄H₁₇Cl₂NO₂ 422.0715; found, 422.0711. Optical rotation: [α]_D²⁵ +196.0 (*c* = 0.35, CHCl₃). New compound.

Phenylmethanamine hydrochloride – Table 3, entry 2A:



A solution of acetamide (0.75 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry THF (12.5 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.485 mL, 6.00 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.480 mL, 5.50 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a light yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (0.40 mL, 5.50 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the yellow slurry converted into a solution before again forming a light yellow slurry. The mixture was heated to 60 °C and treated with 3.0 mL MeOH to form an orange solution. Upon cooling to 50 °C, M_tBE was added slowly before cooling to room temperature. The resulting slurries were filtered off and washed with M_tBE. After drying, the desired compound was recovered as a light yellow solid (0.35 g, 49% yield): mp 264-265 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.61 (br s, 3H), 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.35 (m, 3H), 3.97 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 134.1, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 42.0. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.²

2-Benzylisoindoline-1,3-dione – Table 3, entry 2B:

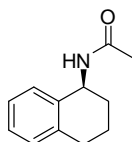


A solution of acetamide (0.75 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry THF (12.5 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.485 mL, 6.00 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.480 mL, 5.50 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a creamy slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (0.73 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the yellow slurry converted into a solution before again forming a light yellow slurry. After 1 h, the slurry was

² Verkade, J.M.M.; van Hemert, L.J.C.; Quaedflieg, P.J.L.M.; Alsters, P.L.; van Delft, F.L.; Rutjes, F.P.J.T. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2006**, 47, 8109.

treated with phthalic anhydride (1.56 g, 10.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (12.5 mL). Pyridine (1.21 mL, 15.0 mmol) was added and the mixture heated to reflux, causing the yellow slurry to become orange and then slowly convert to a solution. THF was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (12.5 mL). Refluxing the mixture enabled azeotropic removal of water with toluene. After 12 h, the reaction was cooled and diluted with EtOAc (50 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (15 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and brine (15 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded a yellow-orange solid. Crude NMR indicated good conversion to phthalimide. The desired product was isolated by column chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 99.9% Hex / 0.1% NEt₃ to 30% EtOAc) to yield an off-white solid (1.00 g, 84% yield): mp 114-116 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.29 (m, 3H), 4.85 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.0, 136.3, 134.0, 132.1, 128.7, 128.6, 127.8, 123.3, 41.6. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.³

(S)-N-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydronaphthalen-1-yl)acetamide – Table 3, entry 3:

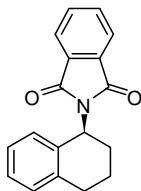


(S)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-amine (5.00 mL, 35.6 mmol) was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL) and treated with NEt₃ (5.95 mL, 42.7 mmol). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and treated with acetyl chloride (2.78 mL, 39.2 mmol) to yield a yellow solution which eventually converts into a slurry. The reaction was warmed to room temperature over 16 h prior to quenching with 1 N HCl (25 mL). After separation of the phases, the organic layer was washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution (25 mL) and brine (25 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to a yellow solid. The crude solid was recrystallized from 2-PrOH / H₂O and dried to give 4.54 g (67 %) white solid: mp 153-154 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.16 (m, 4H), 5.80 (br, 1H), 5.17 (m, 1H), 2.77 (m, 2H), 2.02 (m, 1H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 1.82 (m, 1H + 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.2, 137.5, 136.6, 129.1, 128.7, 127.2, 126.2, 47.4, 30.1, 29.2, 23.5, 19.9. This

³ Hsieh, J.-C.; Cheng, C.-H. *Chem. Commun. (Cambridge, U.K.)* **2005**, 4554.

material was used without further purification for the next reaction to produce compound Table 3, entry 3B. Our data for the (*S*)-isomer agrees well with previously reported information for the (*R*)-isomer.⁴

(*S*)-2-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydronaphthalen-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione – Table 3, entry 3B:

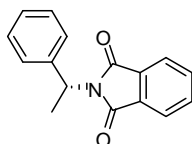


A solution of acetamide (1.90 g, 10.0 mmol) in dry THF (25.0 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.970 mL, 12.0 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.960 mL, 11.0 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a bright yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (1.46 mL, 20.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the yellow slurry almost completely dissolved before again forming a yellow slurry. After 90 min., the slurry was treated with phthalic anhydride (3.12 g, 20.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (25.0 mL). Pyridine (2.41 mL, 29.8 mmol) was added and the mixture heated to reflux, causing the yellow slurry to change in appearance. THF was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (25.0 mL). Refluxing the mixture enabled azeotropic removal of water with toluene. After 16 h, the reaction was cooled and diluted with CHCl₃ (80 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (30 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (30 mL), and brine (30 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded a crude brown oil. The desired product was purified by column chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 100% Hex to 30% EtOAc) to yield a light yellow solid (2.40 g, 86% yield of a single enantiomer): mp 124–125 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.06 (m, 1H), 6.94 (m, 1H), 5.55 (m, 1H), 3.03 (m, 1H), 2.83 (m, 1H), 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.11 (m, 2H), 1.85 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.1, 137.8, 134.6, 133.9, 132.0, 129.2, 126.9, 126.0, 125.8, 123.2, 49.3, 29.4, 28.0, 22.4. HRMS (m/z) [M+H⁺]

⁴ Kim, M.-J.; Kim, W.-H.; Han, K.; Choi, Y.K.; Park, J. *Org. Lett.* **2007**, 9, 1157.

calcd for C₁₈H₁₅NO₂ 278.1181; found, 278.1176. The enantiomeric purity (>99.5%) was determined by HPLC conditions: Chiralcel OD, *n*-heptane/2-propanol = 99.0/1.0, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min., UV 215 nm (*S*)-isomer = 6.83 min., (*R*)-isomer = 7.93 min. Optical rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -125.0 (*c* = 0.54, MeOH) – our data for the single enantiomer agrees well with that reported for the previous racemic compound.⁵

(*R*)-2-(1-Phenylethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione – Table 3, entry 4B:

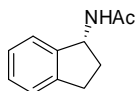


A solution of acetamide (1.63 g, 10.0 mmol) in dry THF (25.0 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.970 mL, 12.0 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.960 mL, 11.0 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a white slurry which became yellow-orange. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (1.46 mL, 20.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the yellow slurry almost completely dissolved before again forming a yellow slurry with a separate lower phase. After 90 min., the slurry was treated with phthalic anhydride (3.12 g, 20.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (25.0 mL). Pyridine (2.41 mL, 29.8 mmol) was added and the mixture heated to reflux, causing the yellow slurry to change in appearance. THF was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (25.0 mL). Refluxing the mixture enabled azeotropic removal of water with toluene. After 16 h, the reaction was cooled and diluted with EtOAc (50 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (30 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (30 mL), and brine (30 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded an orange residue. Crude NMR indicated good conversion to phthalimide. The desired product was isolated by column chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 100% Hex to 30% EtOAc) to yield a yellow oil (2.21 g, 86% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃,) δ 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.26 (m, 1H), 5.57 (q, 1H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.92 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.3 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

⁵ Capitosti, S.M.; Hansen, T.P.; Brown, M.L. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2004**, *12*, 327.

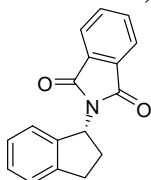
CDCl₃) δ 168.1, 140.3, 133.9, 132.0, 128.5, 127.7, 127.4, 123.2, 49.6, 17.5. The enantiomeric purity (>99.5%) was determined by HPLC conditions: Chiralpak AD, hexanes/EtOH/EtSO₃H = 99.0/1.0/0.05, flow rate = 0.75 mL/min., UV 230 nm (*R*)-isomer = 22.0 min., (*S*)-isomer = 24.0 min. Optical rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} +86.3$ (*c* = 0.31, CHCl₃). Substance data agrees with previously reported information, including $[\alpha]_D^{rt} +52.2$ (*c* = 0.63, CHCl₃).⁶

(*R*)-*N*-(2,3-Dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-yl)acetamide - Table 3, entry 5:



Acetic anhydride (50 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of (*R*)-(-)-1-aminoindane in CHCl₃ (50 mL), at 0 °C. The solution was allowed to slowly warm to room temperature and stirred overnight. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*. To the residue was added water (50 mL) and extracted twice with CHCl₃ (100 mL, 50 mL). The two organic layers were combined and washed with 1 N HCl (50 mL), 5% NaHCO₃ (50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The solids were triturated at room temperature with MtBE (30 mL) to afford 11.1 g (84%) of product as a white solid: mp 155-157°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.20 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.00 Hz), 7.23 – 7.14 (m, 4H), 5.25 (q, 1H, *J* = 7.60 Hz), 2.94 – 2.87 (m, 1H), 2.81 – 2.73 (m, 1H), 2.39 – 2.31 (m, 1H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 1.78 – 1.69 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 168.9, 144.2, 142.9, 127.3, 126.3, 124.5, 123.9, 53.5, 33.1, 29.7, 22.7. The enantiomeric purity (>99.5%) was determined by HPLC conditions: Chiralcel OD, *n*-hexane/2-propanol = 85/15, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min., UV 217 nm (*S*)-isomer = 7.14 min., (*R*)-isomer = 9.57 min. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.⁴

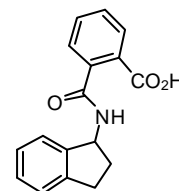
(*R*)-2-(2,3-Dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione – Table 3, entry 5B:



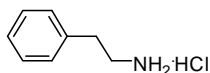
A solution of (*R*)-*N*-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-yl)acetamide (2.0 g, 11.4 mmol) in dry THF (29 mL) was treated with pyridine (1.1 mL, 13.7 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C.

⁶ Yang, Q.; Gao, W.; Deng, J.; Zhang, X. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2006**, 47, 821.

Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (1.1 mL, 12.6 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and resulted in a yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (1.68 mL, 22.9 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. After 1 h, the slurry was treated with phthalic anhydride (3.4 g, 23.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (29 mL). Pyridine (3.0 mL, 37.1 mmol) was added and the mixture was heated to reflux. THF was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (30 mL). The mixture was refluxed overnight. After 19 h, the reaction was cooled and diluted with CHCl₃ (100 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (43 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (43 mL), and brine (43 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded an oil. The desired product was purified by column chromatography (silica, 9:1 Hex/EtOAc; *R_f* = 0.19), yielding a white solid (2.1 g, 70%): mp 77-78 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.69 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.08 (m, 4H), 5.87 (dd, 1H), 3.40 – 3.33 (m, 1H), 3.03 – 2.95 (m, 1H), 2.58 – 2.43 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.0, 144.0, 140.6, 134.0, 132.1, 128.1, 126.6, 125.0, 123.5, 123.3, 54.8, 31.3, 29.8. HRMS (*m/z*) [M+H⁺] calcd for C₁₇H₁₃NO₂ 264.1025; found, 264.1028. The enantiomeric purity was determined by HPLC conditions: Chiralcel OD, *n*-hexane/2-propanol = 85/15, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min., UV 217 nm (*S*)-isomer = 5.82 min., (*R*)-isomer = 7.31 min. Optical rotation: [α]_D²⁵ +194.8 (c = 0.52, CHCl₃) – our other data for the (*R*)-isomer agrees well with the previously reported information for the racemic compound.⁵ However, that report claimed a “hydrate,” with HRMS (*m/z*) [M+H₂O]. We believe that the actual compound reported previously was actually the uncyclized material. This may explain the discrepancy with the reported NMR data as well as mp (173-176 °C).



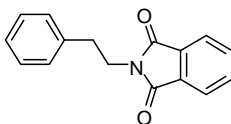
2-Phenylethanamine hydrochloride – Table 4, entry 1A:



A solution of acetamide (0.75 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry THF (12.5 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.485 mL, 6.00 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.480 mL, 5.50 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a bright yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min.,

dry propylene glycol (0.40 mL, 5.50 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. Upon warming, the yellow slurry converted into a solution before again forming a light yellow slurry. The mixture was heated to 60 °C and treated with 1.1 mL MeOH to form an orange solution. Upon cooling to 50 °C, M_tBE was added slowly before cooling to room temperature. The resulting slurries were filtered off and washed with M_tBE. After drying, the desired compound was recovered as a light yellow solid (0.35 g, 49% yield): mp 220-221 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 8.25 (br s, 3H), 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.21 (m, 3H), 2.96 (m, 2H), 2.88 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 137.4, 128.55, 128.52, 126.6, 39.8, 32.8. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.⁷

2-Phenethylisoindoline-1,3-dione – Table 4, entry 1B:

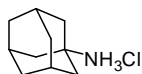


A solution of acetamide (0.82 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry THF (12.5 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.485 mL, 6.00 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.480 mL, 5.50 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a light yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (0.73 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the slurry converted into a solution. After 1 h, the reaction was treated with phthalic anhydride (1.56 g, 10.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (12.5 mL). Pyridine (1.21 mL, 15.0 mmol) was added and the mixture heated to reflux, causing the yellow slurry to become orange and then slowly convert to a solution. THF was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (12.5 mL). Refluxing the mixture enabled azeotropic removal of water with toluene. After 12 h, the reaction was cooled and diluted with EtOAc (50 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (15 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and brine (15 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded a yellow-orange solid (2.3 g crude). Crude NMR indicated good conversion to phthalimide. The desired product was isolated by column

⁷ Kitamura, M.; Suga, T.; Chiba, S.; Narasaka, K. *Org. Lett.* **2004**, 6, 4619.

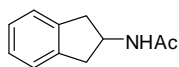
chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 100% Hex to 30% EtOAc) to yield off-white pearl-like plates (1.07 g, 85% yield): mp 129-131 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃,) δ 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.25 (m, 5H), 3.92 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 2.99 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.7 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.1, 138.0, 133.9, 132.0, 128.8, 128.5, 126.6, 123.2, 39.3, 34.6. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.⁸

Tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-1-amine hydrochloride – Table 4, entry 2A:



A solution of acetamide (0.97 g, 5.0 mmol) in dry THF (15 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.485 mL, 6.00 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.480 mL, 5.50 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a bright yellow and then turbid orange solution. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (0.73 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the solution changed, first turning orange brown before lightening to yellow. The reaction was diluted with ethanol before being concentrated to an orange brown oil. The oil was partitioned between 1 N HCl (10 mL) and M_tBE (10 mL) and the organic layer washed with 1 N HCl (2 x 5 mL). The combined aqueous layers were basified with 4 N NaOH to pH 11, extracted with EtOAc (3 x 40 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The oily residue was suspended in Et₂O (8 mL) and treated with 1 M HCl in Et₂O (8 mL). This addition formed a lightly colored slurry which was filtered and washed with Et₂O. After drying under vacuum at 50°C for 16 h, 0.66 g of an off-white solid was recovered: decomp. >330 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.06 (br s, 3 H), 2.06 (br s, 3H), 1.77 (m, 6H), 1.59 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 50.8, 40.1, 35.1, 28.2. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.⁸

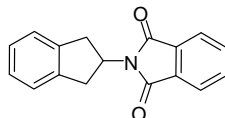
***N*-(2,3-Dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)acetamide – Table 4, entry 3:**



⁸ Tang, H.; Wang, X.-D.; Wei, Y.-B.; Huang, S.-L.; Huang, Z.-S.; Tan, J.-H.; An, L.-K.; Wu, J.-Y.; Sun-Chi Chan, A.; Gu, L.-Q. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2008**, *43*, 973.

A mixture consisting of 2-aminoindane hydrochloride (25.0 g, 147.4 mmol), sodium acetate (12.0 g, 146.3 mmol) and acetic anhydride (50 mL) was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*. To the residue was added water (150 mL) and extracted twice with CHCl₃ (150 mL, 100 mL). The two organic layers were combined and washed with 1 N HCl (100 mL), 5% NaHCO₃ (100 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated to afford a tan solid. The solids were triturated at room temperature with MtBE (70 mL) to afford 22.9 g (89%) of product as a beige solid: mp 127-128°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.12 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 4H), 4.45 – 4.37 (m, 1H), 3.12 (dd, 2H, *J* = 16.0, 7.2 Hz), 2.72 (dd, 2H, *J* = 16.0, 6.0 Hz), 1.78 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 169.6, 141.9, 127.0, 125.1, 50.6, 23.3. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.⁹

2-(2,3-Dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione – Table 4, entry 3B:

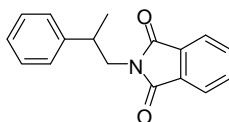


A solution of *N*-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-2-yl)acetamide (2.0 g, 11.4 mmol) in dry THF (29 mL) was treated with pyridine (1.1 mL, 13.7 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (1.1 mL, 12.6 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and resulted in a pale orange slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (1.68 mL, 22.9 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. After 1 h, the slurry was treated with phthalic anhydride (3.4 g, 23.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (29 mL). Pyridine (3.0 mL, 37.1 mmol) was added and the mixture was heated to reflux. THF (36 mL) was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (36 mL). The mixture was refluxed overnight. The reaction mixture was distilled to dryness. The resulting solids were dissolved in CHCl₃ (100 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (43 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (43 mL), and brine (43 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded a tan solid. The crude product was triturated by refluxing in EtOH (50 mL) to yield a tan solid (2.6 g, 86%): mp 197-198°C. ¹H NMR

⁹ Chazalotte, C.; Masereel, B.; Rolin, S.; Thiry, A.; Scozzafava, A.; Innocenti, A.; Supuran, C.T. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2004**, *14*, 5781.

(400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 – 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.73 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 4H), 5.20 – 5.11 (m, 1H), 3.63 (dd, 2H, J = 15.2, 9.6 Hz), 3.18 (dd, 2H, J = 14.8, 8.8 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.5, 141.1, 134.1, 132.2, 126.9, 124.6, 123.4, 50.2, 36.2. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.¹⁰

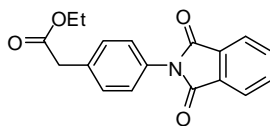
2-(2-Phenylpropyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione – Table 4, entry 4B:



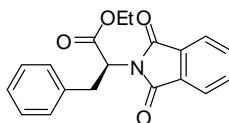
A solution of *N*-(2-phenylpropyl)acetamide (1.77 g, 10.0 mmol) and pyridine (0.97 mL, 12.0 mmol) in dry THF (25.0 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Oxalyl chloride (0.96 mL, 11.0 mmol) was charged dropwise. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (1.46 mL, 20.0 mmol) was added and the reaction warmed to room temperature. After 1 h at room temperature, the slurry was treated with phthalic anhydride (3.12 g, 20.0 mmol), pyridine (2.42 mL, 31.8 mmol) and diluted with toluene (25.0 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to reflux. THF was removed by distillation. Additional toluene (25.0 mL) was added into the reaction mixture and distilled to remove water. The reaction mixture was refluxed with a Dean-Stark apparatus to enable azeotropic removal of water with toluene. After 16 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and diluted with EtOAc (70 mL). The organic layer was washed with 1 N HCl (30 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (30 mL), and brine (30 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to give an orange crude oil (2.8 g). The crude oil was purified with flash chromatography (SiO₂ gradient 100% Hex to 30% EtOAc) to produce a yellow oil (2.0 g, 75% yield). The product solidified after standing several hours at rt: mp 56-57 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.19 (m, 1H), 3.83 (m, 2H), 3.35 (m, 1H), 1.31 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.2, 143.2, 133.8, 131.8, 128.4, 127.2, 126.7, 123.1, 44.8, 38.4, 18.9. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.¹¹

¹⁰ Paleo, M.R.; Dominguez, D.; Castedo, L. *Tetrahedron* **1994**, *50*, 3627.

¹¹ Suau, R.; Garcia-Segura, R.; Sanchez-Sanchez, C.; Perez-Inestrosa, E.; Pedraza, A.M. *Tetrahedron* **2003**, *59*, 2913.

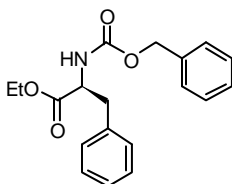
Ethyl 2-(4-(1,3-dioxoisindolin-2-yl)phenyl)acetate – Table 4, entry 5B:

A solution of acetamide (1.11 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry THF (12.5 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.485 mL, 6.00 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.480 mL, 5.50 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a light yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (0.73 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the slurry dissipated. After 1 h, the reaction was treated with phthalic anhydride (1.56 g, 10.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (12.5 mL). Pyridine (1.21 mL, 15.0 mmol) was added and the mixture heated to reflux, causing the orange slurry to become a blood-orange solution. THF was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (12.5 mL). Refluxing the mixture enabled azeotropic removal of water with toluene. After 12 h, the reaction was cooled and diluted with EtOAc (30 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (15 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and brine (15 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded a lightly colored solid. The desired product was recrystallized from EtOH to yield an off-white solid (0.85 g). Further solids were isolated from the mother liquors (0.12 g, total yield 63%); mp 147-148 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.42 (m, 4H), 4.16 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 3.66 (s, 2H), 1.27 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.3 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.1, 167.2, 134.4, 131.7, 130.6, 130.1, 130.0, 126.6, 123.7, 61.0, 41.1, 14.2. HRMS (*m/z*) [M+H⁺] calcd for C₁₈H₁₅NO₄ 310.1079; found, 310.1083. New compound.

(S)-Ethyl 2-(1,3-dioxoisindolin-2-yl)-3-phenylpropanoate – Table 4, entry 6B:

A solution of acetamide (1.18 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry THF (12.5 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.485 mL, 6.00 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.480 mL, 5.50 mmol) was accompanied by vigorous bubbling and conversion of the clear, colorless solution to a light yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (0.73 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the yellow slurry dissolved before again thickening to a slurry. After 3 h, the slurry was treated with phthalic anhydride (1.56 g, 10.0 mmol) and diluted with toluene (12.5 mL). Pyridine (1.21 mL, 15.0 mmol) was added and the mixture heated to reflux, causing the yellow slurry to become orange and then slowly convert to a biphasic solution. THF was removed with a Dean-Stark apparatus before heating the mixture further with additional toluene (12.5 mL). Refluxing the mixture enabled azeotropic removal of water with toluene. After 16 h, the reaction was cooled and the solids dissolved with EtOAc (30 mL). The organic layer was washed successively with 1 N HCl (15 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and brine (15 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded a yellow-orange solid. Crude NMR indicated good conversion to phthalimide. The desired product was isolated by a silica plug to yield a lightly colored oil (1.00 g, 62% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.17 (m, 5H), 5.14 (m, 1H), 4.24 (m, 2H), 3.56 (m, 2H), 1.26 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.8, 167.5, 136.8, 134.0, 131.6, 128.8, 128.5, 126.8, 123.4, 62.0, 53.4, 34.6, 14.1. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.¹²

(S)-Ethyl 2-(benzyloxycarbonylamino)-3-phenylpropanoate – Table 4, entry 6C:

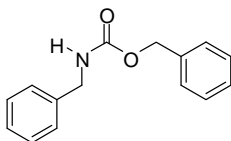


A solution of acetamide (2.35 g, 10.0 mmol) in dry THF (25 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.97 mL, 12.0 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.96 mL, 11.0 mmol) was accompanied by bubbling and conversion to a light yellow

¹² Huang, T.-S.; Li, C.-J. *Org. Lett.* **2001**, 3, 2037.

slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 30 min., dry propylene glycol (1.46 mL, 20.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the slurry changed in appearance only slightly. The reaction was diluted with ethanol to form an orange solution. Concentration *in vacuo* yielded a red-orange oil that was taken up in ethyl acetate (25 mL) and water (25 mL). After cooling to 0 °C, KHCO₃ (4.0 g, 40.0 mmol) was added in portions, resulting in vigorous bubbling. Cbz-Cl (5.71 mL, 40.0 mmol) was added slowly, with light bubbling and a transient slurry. After warming to room temperature over 16 h, the layers were separated. The light yellow organic layer was washed with 1 N HCl (15 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and brine (15 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded an orange oil (7.5 g crude). The desired product was isolated by column chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 100% Hex to 30% EtOAc) to yield a colorless oil (1.87 g, 57% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39-7.12 (m, 10H), 5.35 (m, 1H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 4.66 (m, 1H), 4.17 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 3.12 (m, 2H), 1.24 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.1 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 155.6, 135.7, 129.6, 129.3, 128.5, 128.2, 128.13, 128.07, 127.07, 66.9, 61.5, 54.8, 38.3, 14.1. The enantiomeric purity (>99.5%) was determined by HPLC conditions: Chiralcel OD, *n*-heptane/2-propanol = 99.0/1.0, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min., UV 215 nm (*S*)-isomer = 12.10 min., (*R*)-isomer = 14.27 min. Optical rotation: [α]²⁵_D -14.1 (*c* = 0.51, MeOH) {lit.: oil; [α]²⁰_D -12.7 (*c* = 1, MeOH)}. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.¹³

Benzyl benzylcarbamate (**5**) from Scheme 2:



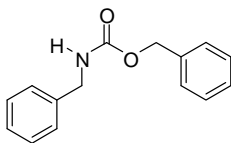
A solution of *N*-benzylacetamide (**3**, 0.75 g, 5.00 mmol) and *N*-benzylbenzamide (**4**, 1.06 g, 5.00 mmol) in dry THF (25 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.97 mL, 12.0 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.96 mL, 11.0 mmol) was accompanied by bubbling and conversion to a yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 60 min., dry propylene glycol (1.46 mL, 20.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the

¹³ Moriniere, J.L.; Danree, B.; Lemoine, J.; Guy, A. *Synth. Commun.* **1988**, *18*, 441.

reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the slurry became much thinner. After 2 h, the reaction was diluted with ethanol to form an orange solution. Concentration *in vacuo* yielded a cloudy yellow oil that was partitioned between 1:1 MtBE/EtOAc (20 mL) and 0.1 N HCl (20 mL). The separated organic layer – containing unreacted *N*-benzylbenzamide – was extracted with 0.1 N HCl (5 mL) and the combined aq layers extracted with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL). The *N*-benzylbenzamide (**4**) starting material was recovered as a white solid (0.82 g, 78% yield) from the organic layers by concentration and purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 100% Hex to 50% EtOAc).

The aq phases were carried forward into the subsequent reaction. Basification with 1 N NaOH (16 mL) yielded an orange solution that was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were diluted with water (50 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. KHCO₃ (2.0 g, 20.0 mmol) was added in portions, resulting in vigorous bubbling. Cbz-Cl (2.85 mL, 20.0 mmol) was added slowly, with light bubbling and the formation of a white slurry. After warming to room temperature over 16 h, the layers were separated. The organic layer was washed with 1 N HCl (20 mL), water (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded an orange oil. Benzyl benzylcarbamate (**5**) was isolated by column chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 100% Hex to 33% EtOAc) to yield a colorless solid (0.85 g, 70% yield): mp 59-60 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37-7.26 (m, 10H), 5.28 (br s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 2H), 4.38 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.4, 138.4, 136.5, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.5, 66.8, 45.1. Substance data agrees with previously reported information.¹⁴

Benzyl benzylcarbamate (**5**) from Scheme 3:



A solution of *N*-benzylacetamide (**3**, 0.37 g, 2.5 mmol) and *N,N*-dibenzylacetamide (**6**, 0.60 g, 2.5 mmol) in dry THF (12.5 mL) was treated with pyridine (0.49 mL, 6.0 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. Dropwise addition of oxalyl chloride (0.48 mL, 5.5 mmol) was

¹⁴ Yang, B.-L.; Tian, S.-K.. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, 4646.

accompanied by bubbling and conversion to a yellow slurry. After stirring at 0 °C for 60 min., dry propylene glycol (0.73 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction warmed to room temperature. During this warming phase, the slurry changed in appearance. After 2 h, the reaction was diluted with ethanol and the solution concentrated *in vacuo* to yield a cloudy yellow oil that was partitioned between EtOAc (10 mL) and 0.1 N HCl (20 mL). The organic layer – containing unreacted *N,N*-dibenzylacetamide – was extracted with 0.1 N HCl (5 mL) and the combined aq layers extracted with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL). The *N,N*-dibenzylacetamide (**6**) starting material was recovered as an orange oil (0.54 g, 90% yield) from the organic layers by concentration and purification by column chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 100% Hex to 33% EtOAc). The aq phases were carried forward into a subsequent reaction. Basification with 1 N NaOH (20 mL) yielded an orange solution that was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were diluted with water (25 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. KHCO₃ (1.0 g, 10.0 mmol) was added in portions, resulting in vigorous bubbling. Cbz-Cl (1.43 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added slowly, with light bubbling and the formation of a white slurry. After warming to room temperature over 16 h, the layers were separated. The organic layer was washed with 1 N HCl (20 mL), water (20 mL), and brine (20 mL). Drying over Na₂SO₄, filtration, and concentration *in vacuo* yielded a yellow oil. Benzyl benzylcarbamate (**5**) was isolated by column chromatography (SiO₂, gradient 100% Hex to 33% EtOAc) to yield the same colorless solid (0.47 g, 78% yield).¹⁴

NMR Spectra