

Aza-Wittig access to chiral imidazol(in)es

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Electronic Supporting Information (10 pages)

1. General procedure for sulfonamide acylation: The carboxylic acid donor (1.1 equiv.) was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (1 M) and cooled to 0°C. HATU (1.1 equiv) and predried Cs₂CO₃ (1.0 equiv) were added. The suspension was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (to 0.25 M) and stirred for 15 minutes. A solution of the sulfonamide (1.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.25 M) and more predried Cs₂CO₃ (3 equiv.) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C until conversion was complete (1-4 h, TLC control). The mixture was partitioned against 5% citric acid (final pH 5), the organic layer concentrated and the product retrieved by silica gel chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc).

2. General procedure for aza-Wittig ring closure: The *N*-acylated sulfonamide was dissolved in THF or 2,6-lutidine (20 mM) and cooled to –20 °C. PPh₃ (1.5 equiv.) was added and the mixture was heated to 80 °C. After complete conversion (1-6 h, TLC control) the solvent was removed in vacuo and the product was purified by silica gel chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc).

3. ¹H-NMR spectra of compounds **11a-g**, **12a-g**, **13a-c**, and **16** (9 pages).



















