# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

### Iodine-mediated 3-sulfenylation of indoles with sodium sulfinates

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#### **General information**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Ascend<sup>TM</sup> 400 (400 MHz) and Bruker Avance-500 (500 MHz) spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> by using tetramethylsilane ( $\delta = 0$  ppm) as an internal standard. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Ascend<sup>TM</sup> 400 (400 MHz) and Bruker Avance-500 (500 MHz) spectrometer. Infrared spectra were recorded with a Perkin–Elmer 683 GX FTIR System spectrometer. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded with a Bruker micro TOF spectrometer in the ESI mode. Melting points were recorded with a digital Electrothermal Melting 9100 apparatus and were uncorrected. All reagents and solvents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. Column chromatography was performed by using Merck silica gel 60 PF<sub>254</sub> (Art 7734).

#### General procedure for the 3-sulfenylation of indoles

Iodine (127.0 mg, 0.50 mmol) was added to a solution of indole (0.5 mmol), sodium arenesulfinate (0.75 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (0.75 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL; 0.25 M), and the reaction mixture was stirred at refluxing temperature for 2-8 h. The reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of sat. aq Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (5 mL). Further stirring was followed by extraction with EtOAc ( $2 \times 20$  mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated (aspirator). The residue was purified by column chromatography using acetone/hexanes as eluent to afford the corresponding product.

### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra























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