

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**Title:** A Simple Building-Block Route to (Phosphanyl-carbene)palladium Complexes via Intermolecular Addition of Functionalised Phosphanes to Isocyanides

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### General procedure for the synthesis of complexes 7 – 22.

A solution of the relevant phosphine ligand (0.25 mmol) in anhydrous  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5mL) was added dropwise to a solution of the palladium complex (0.25 mmol) in 5 mL of anhydrous  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  under nitrogen. The solution was then stirred for 1 h, during which period the colour changed to intense yellow or orange and in some cases a precipitate may form. Next, a solution of the respective isocyanide (0.25 mmol) in anhydrous  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5 mL) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture. The colour of the solution may change to yellow or become colourless, in several cases the previously formed precipitate will redissolve and a precipitate may form again, or the product will precipitate from the homogeneous solution. In case a precipitate forms, these are only soluble in DMSO or methanol. Generally, after stirring overnight, the solvent is removed under vacuum (in case of a precipitate this may also be filtered off and washed with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and diethyl ether and dried in vacuum). The residue is then suspended in pentane or diethyl ether and washed a few times and dried in vacuum.

Analytical data of new compounds:

**7.** Orange solid; recrystallised from pentane/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Yield: 38%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (dmso- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.40-7.40 (m, 15H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 1.29 (s, 9H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (dmso- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  56.8.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  503 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{Cl} + \text{H}$ ).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{25}\text{PN}_2\text{PdCl}_2$ : C: 43.98 (51.37) H: 4.97 (4.68) N: 3.80 (5.20).

**8.** Beige solid. Yield: 78%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (dmso- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.03 (s, 1H), 8.00-6.60 (m, 14H), 1.10 (s, 9H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (dmso- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  175.8, 159.5, 135.1, 134.7, 133.5, 132.2, 129.8, 129.2, 121.9, 120.0, 117.0, 116.1, (overlapping signals in aromatic region) 59.6, 29.3.

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (dmso- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  24.2.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  526 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{H}$ ).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{PNOPdCl}_2$ : C: 49.89 (50.16) H: 4.46 (4.59) N: 2.60 (2.65).

**9.** Beige solid. Yield: 72%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  10.68 (s, 1H), 8.00-6.60 (m, 14H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 3.63 (s, 3H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  21.5.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  540 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_3$ ), 517 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{Cl} - 2\text{H}$ ), 482 ( $\text{M}^+ - 2 \text{Cl} - 2\text{H}$ ).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{PNO}_3\text{PdCl}_2$ : C: 46.25 (47.63) H: 3.45 (3.63) N: 2.38 (2.52).

**10.** Greyish solid. Yield: 81%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (dms $o$ - $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.16 (very br s, 1H), 8.00-6.80 (m, 14H), 1.90-1.00 (m, 11H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (dms $o$ - $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  24.4.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  482 ( $\text{M}^+ - 2 \text{Cl} - \text{H}$ ).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{26}\text{PNOPdCl}_2$ : C: 50.46 (53.16) H: 4.83 (4.64) N: 2.60 (2.47).

**11.** Greyish solid. Yield: 75% (ca. 95% pure).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (dms $o$ - $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.10 (br s, 1H), 8.00-6.80 (m, 18H), 3.77 (s, 3H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (dms $o$ - $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  24.5.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  516 ( $\text{M}^+ - 2 \text{Cl} - 2\text{H}$ ).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{PNO}_2\text{PdCl}_2$ : C: 52.78 (53.04) H: 3.70 (3.76) N: 2.30 (2.37).

**12.** Yellow solid. Yield: 48%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  8.20-6.80 (m, 14H), 6.18 (s, 1H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 1.09 (s, 9H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  27.0.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  516 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{Cl} - \text{H}$ ), 480 ( $\text{M}^+ - 2 \text{Cl} - 2 \text{H}$ ) (dimer in MS).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{26}\text{PNOPdCl}_2$ : C: 56.89 (52.15) H: 6.43 (4.74) N: 3.38 (2.53).

**13.** Yellow solid. Yield: 58% (ca. 80% pure).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  8.20-6.80 (m, 14H), 6.18 (s, 1H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 3.62 (s, 3H) (signals at 4.11 and 3.62 tentatively assigned).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  14.9.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  534 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{Cl} + \text{H}$ ), 4496 ( $\text{M}^+ - 2 \text{Cl} - 2 \text{H}$ )

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{22}\text{PNO}_3\text{PdCl}_2$ : C: 48.49 (48.57) H: 3.96 (3.90) N: 3.38 (3.46).

**14.** Yellow solid. Yield: 62% (ca. 95% pure).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.20-6.60 (m, 18H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 5.52 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  24.6.

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{24}\text{PNO}_2\text{PdCl}_2$ : C: 53.74 (53.80) H: 4.15 (4.01) N: 2.24 (2.32).

**15.** Colourless solid. Yield: 81%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  3.99 (br, 1H), 2.60-1.10 (m, 28H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  114.2.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  470 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{Cl}$ ).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{38}\text{PNOPdCl}_2$ : C: 45.12 (45.21) H: 7.65 (7.58) N: 2.68 (2.77).

**16.** Yellow solid. Yield: 76%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  4.96 (s, 1H), 4.05 (broad, 2H, tentatively assigned), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.60-0.80 (m, 28H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  118.0.

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{34}\text{PNO}_3\text{PdCl}_2$ : to be submitted.

**17.** Yellow solid. Yield: 84%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  7.42 (d, 2H,  $^1J(\text{HH}) = 3.6 \text{ Hz}$ ), 6.98 (d, 2H,  $^1J(\text{HH}) = 3.6 \text{ Hz}$ ), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.60-1.10 (m, 28H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  115.6.

FAB-MS:  $m/z$  518 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{Cl} - \text{H}$ ).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{36}\text{PNO}_2\text{PdCl}_2$ : C: 45.77 (47.62) H: 6.35 (6.54) N: 2.32 (2.52).

**18.** Yellow solid. Yield: n.d.

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  32.4, 31.9 (1:2 ratio; possibly two isomers).

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{30}\text{PNO}_3\text{PdCl}_2$ : C: 46.98 (47.12) H: 4.60 (4.67) N: 2.54 (2.49).

**19.** Pale yellow solid. Yield: 79%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  4.30 (s, 2H), 2.20-1.10 (m, 31H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  51.5.

Elemental analysis  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{34}\text{PNOPdCl}_2$ : C: 44.30 (44.23) H: 6.95 (7.01) N: 2.76 (2.86).

**20.** Yellow solid. Yield: 68%.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  10.09 (br s, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 4.11 (d, 2H,  $^2J(\text{PH}) = 2.4 \text{ Hz}$ ), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.60-0.90 (m, 22H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  97.9.

Elemental analysis  $C_{17}H_{30}PNO_3PdCl_2$ : C: 42.86 (40.45) H: 5.82 (5.99) N: 2.65 (2.77).

**21.** Yellow solid. Yield: 91%.

$^{31}P\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CD_2Cl_2$ ):  $\delta$  51.9.

**22.** Yellow solid. Yield: 94%.

$^{31}P\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CD_2Cl_2$ ):  $\delta$  99.2.