Transition metal-catalyzed C-H bond functionalization of organic molecules has been recognized as a powerful atom-economy strategy for the synthesis of a variety of heterocycles. The preparation of 2,3-disubstituted indoles by Pd-, Ru- and Rh-catalyzed cyclization of aniline derivatives with internal alkynes has been intensively studied over the last few years. Recently, we report a new synthesis of 2-substituted indoles by tandem Rh-catalyzed cyclization of oxindole derivatives with aliphatic alkenes, thus showing the equivalency of these coupling partners with terminal alkenes.

Herein, we report a new synthesis of 2-substituted indoles by tandem Rh
catalyzed cyclization of oxindole derivatives with aliphatic alkenes, thus showing the equivalency of these coupling partners with terminal alkenes.

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