

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

Curcumin

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Curcumin*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C401.

A phytopolyphenol pigment isolated from the plant *Curcuma longa*, commonly known as turmeric, with a variety of pharmacologic properties. Curcumin blocks the formation of reactive-oxygen species, possesses anti-inflammatory properties as a result of inhibition of cyclooxygenases (COX) and other enzymes involved in inflammation; and disrupts cell signal transduction by various mechanisms including inhibition of protein kinase C. These effects may play a role in the agent's observed antineoplastic properties, which include inhibition of tumor cell proliferation and suppression of chemically induced carcinogenesis and tumor growth in animal models of cancer. (NCI04)