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Primaquine Phosphate

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Primaquine Phosphate*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C771.

The phosphate salt form of primaquine, a synthetic, 8-aminoquinoline derivative with antimalarial properties. Although its mechanism of action is unclear, primaquine binds to and alters the properties of protozoal DNA. This agent eliminates tissue (exo-erythrocytic) malarial infection, preventing the development of the erythrocytic forms of the parasite which are responsible for relapses in *Plasmodium vivax* and ovale malaria. Primaquine is active against late hepatic stages (hypnozoites, schizonts).