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Desmosine

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Desmosine*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C124071.

An amino acid derivative comprised of three allysyl side chains plus one unaltered lysyl side chain from the same or neighboring polypeptides condensed into a pyridinium ring. Desmosine is found in elastin and its detection in urine, plasma, or sputum samples can be used as a marker for excessive elastin degradation, which is associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and other pathologies.