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Dimethyl Sulfoxide

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Dimethyl Sulfoxide*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C437.

A highly polar organic liquid that is used widely as a chemical solvent and a free radical scavenger. It shows a range of pharmacological activity including analgesia and anti-inflammation. Because of its ability to penetrate biological membranes, it is used as a vehicle for topical application of pharmaceuticals. It is also used to protect cells and tissue during cryopreservation and has been used to treat extravasation damage caused by anthracycline-based chemotherapy.