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Drug Metabolism

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Drug Metabolism*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C26633.

A series of chemical modifications of a drug compound by enzymatic activity that make the substrate (drug) more water soluble to allow its clearance from the body. Drug metabolism occurs in two phases: Phase I (biotransformation) involves oxidation, hydroxylation reduction, and hydrolysis. Phase II (conjugation) involves synthesis and conjugation.