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Protoporphyrin IX

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Protoporphyrin IX*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C785.

A tetrapyrrole containing 4 methyl, 2 propionic and 2 vinyl side chains that is a metabolic precursor for hemes, cytochrome c and chlorophyll. Protoporphyrin IX is produced by oxidation of the methylene bridge of protoporphyrinogen by the enzyme protoporphyrinogen oxidase.