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Phenolphthalein

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Phenolphthalein*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C29359.

An organic compound used as a laboratory reagent and pH indicator. Phenolphthalein exerts laxative effects by stimulating the intestinal mucosa and constricting smooth muscles. However, phenolphthalein is no longer used as a laxative due to the suspected carcinogenicity of this compound.