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Indican

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Indican*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C152073.

A toxic metabolite derived from dietary proteins and tryptophan. In the intestine, proteins and tryptophan are converted to indole by tryptophanase-expressing organisms. In the liver, indole is hydroxylated to form indoxyl and indoxyl is sulfated to produce indican. Overproduction of indican is associated with glomerular sclerosis, interstitial fibrosis and renal failure.