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Hetastarch

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Hetastarch*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C559.

A synthetic, nonionic hydroxyethyl derivative of starch used as a plasma expander when prepared in an isotonic solution. Upon intravenous administration, hydroxyethyl starch colloid increases blood volume and thus improves circulation. This agent is almost exclusively excreted by the kidneys and is potentially nephrotoxic.