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# Lanthanum

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Lanthanum*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C61800.

A silvery white metallic element that belongs to period 6 of the lanthanoids family, with phosphate binding property. Lanthanum, when administered in a salt form, dissociates in acid to release lanthanum ions, which then bind dietary phosphate. This agent inhibits the absorption of phosphate by forming highly insoluble lanthanum-phosphate complexes that reduce concentrations of serum phosphate and calcium phosphate.