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Stratum Corneum

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Stratum Corneum*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C33625.

The most superficial layer of the epidermis and the surface coating of the skin, primarily consisting of layers of corneocytes, which are dead, flat, enucleated, keratin-filled cells. The stratum corneum serves as a physiological barrier for the protection of underlying tissues, as well as a barrier to fluid and solute loss from within the body.