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# Primaquine

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Primaquine*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C62071.

A synthetic, 8-aminoquinoline derivative with antimalarial properties. Although its mechanism of action is unclear, primaquine bind to and alter the properties of protozoal DNA. This agent eliminates tissue (exo-erythrocytic) malarial infection, preventing the development of the erythrocytic forms of the parasite which are responsible for relapses in *Plasmodium vivax* and ovale malaria. Primaquine is active against late hepatic stages (hypnozoites, schizonts). (NCI04)