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Deserpidine

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Deserpidine*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C61699.

An ester alkaloid derived from *Rauwolfia canescens* with antihypertensive activity. Deserpidine is a competitive inhibitor of the angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE). By competing with angiotensin I for ACE, deserpidine blocks the conversion of angiotensin I to angiotensin II, which is a potent vasoconstrictor. Reduced level of serum angiotensin II causes a decrease in blood pressure. Deserpidine also decreases angiotensin II-induced aldosterone secretion by the adrenal cortex.