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Merbarone

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Merbarone*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C1390.

A nonsedating derivative of thiobarbituric acid and a novel catalytic topoisomerase II inhibitor with antineoplastic activity. Merbarone interferes with DNA replication via binding directly to topoisomerase II at a domain that maybe shared by other topoisomerase II cleavage-enhancing agents, ex., etoposide. Its mechanism of action appears to be a novel one, since merbarone does not intercalate DNA nor stabilize DNA-topoisomerase II cleavable complexes.