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# Topical Menthol Cream

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Topical Menthol Cream*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C106431.

A topical cream containing menthol that both causes a localized cooling sensation and has analgesic activities. Upon topical application, menthol acts on the cold-sensitive transient receptor potential cation channel subfamily M member 8 (TRPM8), which provides a cooling sensation. This treatment also provides an analgesic effect through the activation of the inhibitory Group II/III metabotropic glutamate receptors (mGluRs). This may decrease neuropathic pain from chemotherapy. In addition, the topical application of menthol causes vasodilation.