

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

9-Ethyl 6-Mercaptopurine

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *9-Ethyl 6-Mercaptopurine*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C28789.

A synthetic alkyl derivative prodrug of the antineoplastic agent 6-mercaptopurine (6-MP). In vivo, 9-ethyl 6-mercaptopurine appears to be converted to 6-MP, which substitutes for the normal nucleoside and fraudulently incorporates into DNA and inhibits de novo purine synthesis, thereby inducing cell death. (NCI04)