

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

# Pyrimethamine

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Pyrimethamine*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C788.

A synthetic derivative of ethyl-pyrimidine with potent antimalarial properties.

Pyrimethamine is a competitive inhibitor of dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR). DHFR is a key enzyme in the redox cycle for production of tetrahydrofolate, a cofactor that is required for the synthesis of DNA and proteins. This agent is often used in combination with other antimalarials for the treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria. (NCI04)