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Calcineurin inhibitor

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Calcineurin inhibitor*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C146638.

Any agent that inhibits calcineurin (protein phosphatase 3; PPP3), a serine/threonine protein phosphatase dependent on calcium and calmodulin, with immunosuppressant activity. Inhibition of calcineurin prevents dephosphorylation of the transcription factor nuclear factor of activated T-cells, cytoplasmic (NFAT c), which prevents its translocation to the nucleus and the subsequent induction of the expression of interleukin-2 (IL-2). This prevents IL-2-mediated proliferation and activation of T-cells, and T-lymphocyte-mediated immune responses.