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DAPI

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *DAPI*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C122989.

A lipid soluble fluorochrome dye that binds to adenine-thymine (A-T) rich regions in DNA and, to a lesser extent, RNA. During fluorescence microscopy and flow cytometry, this agent binds to and detects endogenous and exogenous DNA in cellular samples. DAPI is excited with ultraviolet (UV) light (maximum absorption at 358 nm) and upon binding, emits light in the blue portion of the spectrum (461 nm for DNA and ~500 nm for RNA).