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Fluorescence

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Fluorescence*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C16586.

Fluorescence is a luminescence (i.e., optical phenomenon) in cold bodies, in which a molecule absorbs a high-energy photon, and re-emits it as a lower-energy (longer-wavelength) photon. The energy difference between the absorbed and emitted photons ends up as molecular vibrations (heat).