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# Docetaxel

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Docetaxel*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C1526.

A semi-synthetic, second-generation taxane derived from a compound found in the European yew tree, *Taxus baccata*. Docetaxel displays potent and broad antineoplastic properties; it binds to and stabilizes tubulin, thereby inhibiting microtubule disassembly which results in cell- cycle arrest at the G2/M phase and cell death. This agent also inhibits pro-angiogenic factors such as vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and displays immunomodulatory and pro-inflammatory properties by inducing various mediators of the inflammatory response. Docetaxel has been studied for use as a radiation-sensitizing agent. (NCI04)