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Isopropyl Alcohol

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Isopropyl Alcohol*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C602.

An isomer of propyl alcohol with antibacterial properties. Although the exact mechanism of isopropanol's disinfecting action is not known, it might kill cells by denaturing cell proteins and DNA, interfering with cellular metabolism, and dissolving cell lipo-protein membranes. Isopropanol is used in soaps and lotions as an antiseptic.