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Oxitriptan

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Oxitriptan*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C52181.

An aromatic amino acid with antidepressant activity. In vivo, oxitriptan (or 5-hydroxytryptophan) is converted into 5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT or serotonin) as well as other neurotransmitters. Oxitriptan may exert its antidepressant activity via conversion to serotonin or directly by binding to serotonin (5-HT) receptors within the central nervous system (CNS). Endogenous oxitriptan is produced from the essential amino acid L-tryptophan. The exogenous therapeutic form is isolated from the seeds of the African plant *Griffonia simplicifolia*.