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Fluorescein

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Fluorescein*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C61766.

An organic compound that has wide use as a synthetic coloring agent. It is prepared by heating phthalic anhydride and resorcinol over a zinc catalyst, and it crystallizes as a deep red powder. This agent emits an intense green fluorescence in the presence of alkaline solutions and therefore is used as a label when conjugated to antibodies or as a contrast agent for ophthalmic angiography.