

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

# Acyclovir Sodium

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Acyclovir Sodium*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C47956.

The sodium salt form of acyclovir, a synthetic analog of the purine nucleoside, guanosine, with potent antiviral activity against herpes simplex viruses type 1 and 2, varicella-zoster virus and other viruses of the herpesvirus family. After conversion in vivo to the active metabolite acyclovir triphosphate by viral thymidine kinase, acyclovir competitively inhibits viral DNA polymerase by incorporating into the growing viral DNA chain and terminating further polymerization.