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Diltiazem Hydrochloride

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Diltiazem Hydrochloride*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C398.

A benzothiazepine calcium channel blocking agent. Diltiazem hydrochloride inhibits the transmembrane influx of extracellular calcium ions into select myocardial and vascular smooth muscle cells, causing dilatation of coronary and systemic arteries and decreasing myocardial contractility. Because of its vasodilatory activity, this agent has been shown to improve the microcirculation in some tumors, thereby potentially improving the delivery of antineoplastic agents to tumor cells. (NCI04)