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Ganglioside

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Ganglioside*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C518.

Sialoglycosphingolipids (synonym: gangliosides) are glycosphingolipids carrying one or more sialic residues. Sialic acid is the generic term for N-acetyl- or N-glycolylneuraminic acid. Gangliosides are named as N-acetyl- (or N-glycolyl-)neuraminosyl-(X)osylceramide, where (X) stands for the root name of the neutral oligosaccharide to which the sialosyl residue is attached; found principally in nerve tissue, spleen, and thymus; GM1 accumulates in generalized gangliosidosis; GM2 accumulates in Tay-Sachs disease.