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Tetracycline

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Tetracycline*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C865.

A broad-spectrum naphthacene antibiotic produced semisynthetically from chlortetracycline, an antibiotic isolated from the bacterium *Streptomyces aureofaciens*. In bacteria, tetracycline binds to the 30S ribosomal subunit, interferes with the binding of aminoacyl-tRNA to the mRNA-ribosome complex, thereby inhibiting protein synthesis.