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Pyruvate

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Pyruvate*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C116012.

A 2-oxo monocarboxylic acid anion that is the conjugate base of pyruvic acid, which is an important metabolic product for energy-producing biochemical pathways. Pyruvate is the final product of glycolysis and, when hypoxic conditions arise, can be metabolized anaerobically to form lactate. This chemical is a precursor of both acetyl-coenzyme A and oxaloacetate, which are involved in the citric acid cycle. Additionally, oxaloacetate is a substrate in the gluconeogenesis pathway.