

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

4-Methoxyestradiol

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *4-Methoxyestradiol*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C120469.

An endogenous metabolite formed during the O-methylation of the highly carcinogenic catechol estrogen 4-hydroxyestradiol (4-OHE2) by catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT), with potential anti-proliferative activity. Even though the exact mechanism of action through which 4-methoxyestradiol (4-MeE2) exerts its effect is not fully elucidated, this chemical appears to have antiproliferative and apoptosis-inducing activities in susceptible tumor cells.