Cordycepin

RNA synthesis inhibitor and bioactive nucleoside analog

Cordycepin is a naturally occurring nucleoside analog derived from Cordyceps militaris. It is structurally similar to adenosine but lacks a hydroxyl group at the 3' position, allowing it to interfere with RNA synthesis. Cordycepin exhibits potent biological activity, including anticancer, antifungal, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant effects. It inhibits RNA polymerase and induces apoptosis in various cancer cell lines, with reported IC₅₀ values ranging from 10 to 50 µM, depending on the cell type.

Key features and applications include:

- RNA Chain Termination: Incorporates into RNA and halts elongation, making it a valuable tool for studying transcriptional regulation.
- **Apoptosis Induction:** Triggers caspase-dependent cell death in cancer cells via mitochondrial dysfunction and ROS generation.
- AMPK Activation: Modulates energy metabolism and inflammation through AMPK signaling.
- **Broad-Spectrum Activity:** Exhibits antifungal, antibacterial, and anti-metastatic properties.

Research Applications:

- Cancer biology and apoptosis studies
- RNA synthesis and gene expression regulation
- Inflammation and metabolic disease models
- Neuroprotection and aging research

Relevant disease states include:

- Cancer: Demonstrates cytotoxicity in breast, leukemia, and colon cancer models by disrupting RNA synthesis and promoting apoptosis.
- Inflammatory Diseases: Reduces pro-inflammatory cytokine expression and oxidative stress in models of arthritis and liver

inflammation.

- **Neurodegenerative Disorders:** Investigated for neuroprotective effects via modulation of oxidative stress and mitochondrial function.
- **Infectious Diseases:** Active against gram-positive bacteria and mycobacteria, with potential antifungal applications.

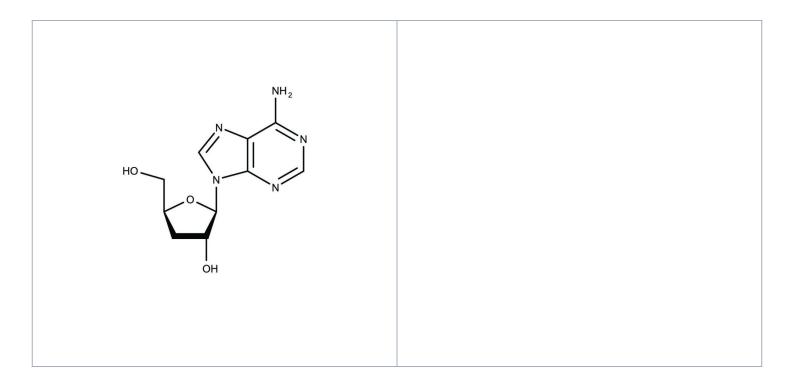
Ordering Information

Order Online »

ENZ-CHM373-0050	50mg
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Manuals, SDS & CofA

View Online »



Handling & Storage

Use/Stability As indicated on product label or CoA when stored as recommended.

Short Term Storage -20°C

Long Term Storage -20°C

Shipping Ambient Temperature

Regulatory Status RUO - Research Use Only

Product Details

Alternative Name 3'-Deoxyadenosin, (2R,3R,5S)-2-(6-aminopurin-9-yl)-5-

(hydroxymethyl)oxolan-3-ol

Appearance White solid.

CAS 73-03-0

Couple Type Inhibitor

Formula $C_{10}H_{13}N_5O_3$

Identity Determined by NMR.

MW 251.24

Purity ≥98% (HPLC)

Solubility Soluble in DMSO (up to 25 mg/mL).

Last modified: July 28, 2025

