# PRODUCT INFORMATION



## Megestryl Acetate

Item No. 21749

CAS Registry No.: 595-33-5

Formal Name: 17-(acetyloxy)-6-methyl-pregna-4,6-diene-

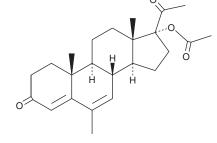
3,20-dione

Synonyms: Megestrol Acetate, NSC 71423, SC-10363

MF:  $C_{24}H_{32}O_4$ FW: 384.5 ≥98% **Purity:** UV/Vis.:  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ : 288 nm Supplied as: A crystalline solid

Storage: -20°C Stability: ≥4 years

Information represents the product specifications. Batch specific analytical results are provided on each certificate of analysis.



## **Laboratory Procedures**

Megestryl acetate is supplied as a crystalline solid. A stock solution may be made by dissolving the megestryl acetate in the solvent of choice. Megestryl acetate is soluble in organic solvents such as ethanol and DMSO, which should be purged with an inert gas.

#### Description

Megestryl acetate is a synthetic progestogen and derivative of progesterone (Item No. 15876) originally developed as a contraceptive.<sup>1</sup> It binds with high relative affinity to the progesterone, androgen, and glucocorticoid receptors in mammary cancer cells.<sup>2</sup> It increases neuropeptide Y (Item No. 15071) by 90-140% and inhibits calcium channel currents in the rat hypothalamus.<sup>3,4</sup> Megestryl acetate decreases cytokine and serotonin production in patient-derived peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs).<sup>5</sup> In rats, it increases food and water intake when administered at a dose of 50 mg/kg per day.<sup>3</sup> Formulations containing megestryl acetate have been used in the treatment of endometriosis, hormone-related cancers, and as an appetite stimulant for cancer patients with anorexia and cachexia.<sup>6</sup>

### References

- 1. Østergaard, M.D. The oral progestational and anti-ovulatory properties of megestrol acetate and its therapeutic use in gynaecological disorders. J. Obstet. Gynaecol. Br. Emp. 72(1), 45-48 (1965).
- Teulings, F.A., van Glise, H.A., Henkelman, M.S., et al. Estrogen, androgen, glucocorticoid, and progesterone receptors in progestin-induced regression of human breast cancer. Cancer Res. 40(7), 2557-2561 (1980).
- McCarthy, H.D., Crowder, R.E., Dryden, S., et al. Megestrol acetate stimulates food and water intake in the rat: Effects on regional hypothalamic neuropeptide Y concentrations. Eur. J. Pharmacol. 265(1-2), 99-102 (1994).
- 4. Costa, A.-M., Spence, K.T., Plata-Salamán, C.R., et al. Residual Ca<sup>2+</sup> channel current modulation by megestrol acetate via a G-protein α<sub>c</sub>-subunit in rat hypothalamic neurones. J. Physiol. **487(Pt 2)**, 291-303
- 5. Mantovani, G., Macciò, A., Esu, S., et al. Medroxyprogesterone acetate reduces the in vitro production of cytokines and serotonin involved in anorexia/cachexia and emesis by peripheral blood mononuclear cells of cancer patients. Eur. J. Cancer 33(4), 602-607 (1997).
- 6. Argilés, J.M., Anguera, A., and Stemmler, B. A new look at an old drug for the treatment of cancer cachexia: Megestrol acetate. Clin. Nutr. 32(3), 319-324 (2013).

WARNING
THIS PRODUCT IS FOR RESEARCH ONLY - NOT FOR HUMAN OR VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC OR THERAPEUTIC USE.

This material should be considered hazardous until further information becomes available. Do not ingest, inhale, get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing. Wash thoroughly after handling. Before use, the user must review the complete Safety Data Sheet, which has been sent via email to your institution.

#### WARRANTY AND LIMITATION OF REMEDY

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