



Product Information

Kynurenic acid

Product Number **K 3375**
Store at Room Temperature

Product Description

Molecular Formula: $C_{10}H_7NO_3$
Molecular Weight: 189.2
Melting point: 282-283 °C¹ (with decomposition)²
Extinction coefficient: $E^{1\%1cm} = 9.8$ (332 nm, pH 7),
7.92 (344 nm, pH 7)³
Synonym: 4-Hydroxy-2-quinolinecarboxylic acid

Kynurenic acid is an NMDA excitatory amino acid receptor antagonist.⁴ It blocks kainic acid-induced neurotoxicity. It is found in the urine of some animals as a metabolite of tryptophan. The excretion is increased in avitaminoses B₁, B₂, and B₆.¹ In a study of rat brain tissue, concentrations of kynurenic acid in rat brain tissue were significantly lower at birth as compared to those found prenatally; then kynurenic acid decreased in the first postnatal week and increased thereafter.⁵ In a study on the effect of L-kynurenine, kynurenic acid, and quinolinic acid on rat heart mitochondrial function, only kynurenic acid affected dose-dependently the respiratory parameters of heart mitochondria.⁶ Kynurenic acid failed to affect nicotine-induced convulsions in mice which may indicate that γ_7 nicotinic receptor-mediated events play no role in seizure activity produced by nicotine.⁷

Precautions and Disclaimer

For Laboratory Use Only. Not for drug, household or other uses.

Preparation Instructions

Kynurenic acid is soluble in water (approximately 0.9% at 100 °C) and in hot alcohol.¹ It is also soluble in 0.1 N NaOH (4 mg/ml) and DMSO (5 mg/ml), but is insoluble in ether.

Storage/Stability

Solutions may be stored for several days at 4 °C.

References

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6. Baran, H., et al., Kynurenic acid influences the respiratory parameters of rat heart mitochondria. Pharmacology, **62**, 119-123 (2001).
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10. Hansen, J. J., and Krogsgaard-Larsen, P., Excitatory amino acid receptors in the vertebrate central nervous system. Med. Res. Rev., **10**, 55-94 (1990).

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