

## **xenobiotic**

A xenobiotic (Greek, *xenos* 'foreign'; *bios* 'life') is a compound that is foreign to a living organism. Principal xenobiotics include: drugs; carcinogens; and various compounds that have been introduced into the environment by artificial means.

**Source:**

PAC, 1997, 69, 1251 (*Glossary of terms used in bioinorganic chemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1997)*) on page 1303

This definition supersedes an earlier definition of xenobiotics.