

## **Amygdalin (Vitamin B17) PRODUCT DATA SHEET**

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**Product Name:** Amygdalin (Vitamin B17)

Product Number: A066

**CAS Number:** 29883-15-6

Molecular Formula:  $C_{20}H_{27}NO_{11}$ 

Molecular Weight: 457.43

Form: Powder

**Appearance:** White Powder

**Solubility:** Water: 83 mg/mL

**Source:** Almonds and apricot kernels

Melting Point: 210-215°C
Optical Rotation: -40° to -45°

Storage Conditions: 2-8°C

**Description:** Amygdalin (Vitamin B17) is a glucoside derived from almonds and apricot

kernals and is structurally related to vitamin B17. In the 1950s, amygdalin was a proposed anti-cancer agent; however, because of its cyanogenic properties, its use is highly avoided. Amygdalin is freely soluble in water at 83 mg/mL.

**Mechanism of Action:** After ingestion of amygdalin, β-glucosidase enzymes in the digestive system

metabolize amygdalin producing hydrogen cyanide. Some of the hydrogen cyanide produced can find its way to tumor cells which is thought to have a

potent cytotoxic effect.

**Cancer Applications** Amygdalin can be used to study cytotoxic effects of cyanide on cancerous

cells.

References: Miazzo, S., et al. "Laetrile Treatment for Cancer." Cochrane Database of

Systematic Reviews 9.11 (2011): n. pag. Ncbi.gov. Web. 5 Nov. 2012.

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