

### **cytochrome P450**

Member of a superfamily of heme-containing monooxygenases involved in *xenobiotic* metabolism, cholesterol biosynthesis, and steroidogenesis, in eukaryotic organisms found mainly in the endoplasmic reticulum and inner mitochondrial membrane of cells.

‘P450’ refers to a feature in the carbon monoxide absorption difference spectrum at 450 nm caused by the presence of a thiolate in the axial position of the heme opposite to the carbon monoxide ligand.

2004, 76, 1048