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Word Origin and History for glycerol Expand

n.

1884, from glycerine + -ol, suffix denoting alcohols.

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glycerol in Medicine Expand

glycerol glyc·er·ol (glīs'ə-rōl', -rōl')

n.

A sweet syrupy fluid obtained by the saponification of fats and fixed oils, used as a solvent, a skin emollient, and as a vehicle and sweetening agent; it is also used by injection or in suppository form for constipation and orally to reduce ocular tension.

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glycerol in Science Expand

glycerol

(glīs'ə-rōl')

A sweet, syrupy liquid obtained from animal fats and oils or by the fermentation of glucose. It is used as a solvent, sweetener, and antifreeze and in making explosives and soaps. Glycerol consists of a propane molecule attached to three hydroxyl (OH) groups. Also called *glycerin*, *glycerine*. *Chemical formula: C₃H₈O₃*.