PACLITAXEL (TAXOL)

(11 STEREOCENTERS -> 2¹¹ = 2048 POSSIBLE STEREOISOMERS)

CLINICAL USE:

TREATMENT OF ADVANCED OVARIAN CANCER.

CLINICAL TRIALS:

TREATMENT OF LEUKEMIA, BREAST, OVARIAN, BRAIN, LUNG CANCERS.

NATURAL SOURCE:

BARK OF 100 YEAR OLD PACIFIC YEW TREE.

1 TREE -> 3000 G BARK -> 0.3 G TAXOL -> SINGLE DOSE FOR A CANCER PATIENT.

DRAWBACKS: LOW YIELD FROM SLOW-GROWTH TREES - DECIMATE OLD GROWTH FORESTS, HOME OF ENDANGERED NORTHERN SPOTTED OWL.

SYNTHETIC SOURCE:

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY LABORATORY.

<u>BENEFITS</u>: SAVE TREES, WILDLIFE, ALLOW SYNTHESIS OF DERIVATIVES WHICH ARE MORE POTENT AND HAVE FEWER SIDE EFFECTS, UNLIMITED SUPPLY.