Barbituric acid or malonylurea or 6-hydroxyuracil is an organic compound based on a pyrimidine heterocyclic skeleton. It is an odorless powder soluble in water. Barbituric acid is the parent compound of barbiturate drugs, although barbituric acid itself is not pharmacologically active.

It remains unclear why the German chemist Adolf Baeyer chose to name the compound that he discovered "barbituric acid". In his textbook Organic Chemistry, the American organic chemist Louis Frederick Fieser (1899–1977) initially speculated that the name stemmed from the German word Schlüsselbart (Latin: barba) of a key (Schlüssel); that is, the bit of a key), because Baeyer had regarded barbituric acid as central (or "key") to understanding uric acid and its derivatives. However, Fieser subsequently decided that Baeyer had named the compound after a young lady whom he'd met and who was called "Barbara"; hence the name "barbituric acid" was a combination of the name "Barbara" and "uric acid". Other sources claim that Baeyer named the compound after Saint Barbara, either because he discovered it on the feast day of St. Barbara (December 4th) or because he sometimes lunched with artillery officers and St. Barbara is their patron saint.
Other names

2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-Pyrimidinetrione (IUPAC Name); 2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-Pyrimidintrion; Barbituric acid derivative; Pyrimidin-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trion; pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione