

$\alpha$ -Ketoglutaric acid (2-oxoglutaric acid) is one of two ketone derivatives of glutaric acid. (The term "ketoglutaric acid," when not further qualified, almost always refers to the alpha variant.  $\beta$ -Ketoglutaric acid varies only by the position of the ketone functional group, and is much less common.

Its anion,  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate ( $\alpha$ -KG, also called 2-oxoglutarate, or 2OG) is an important biological compound. It is the keto acid produced by deamination of glutamate, and is an intermediate in the Krebs cycle.

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