The Cell Cycle and Cell Death

SNC2D



Cell Reproduction

Mitosis in animal cells looks very like mitosis in plant cells:











Whitefish Blastula



Interphase

Prophase

Metaphase

Anaphase

Telophase











Interphase

The cell prepares for cell division by growing (producing new proteins and organelles) and by synthesizing copies of its DNA (the chromatin).







Prophase

During the first phase of mitosis, the chromatin condenses into chromosomes and the nuclear structure disintegrates. A framework called the mitotic spindle forms.





Metaphase

Next the chromosomes line up in the middle of

the cell.



Metaphase





Metaphase

Next the chromosomes line up in the middle of

the cell.



Metaphase



In an animal cell, at the end of the spindle fibres at the poles are the centrioles.



Anaphase

The chromosomes separate and are pulled to opposite ends of the cell.





Telophase and Cytokinesis

In the last stage of mitosis, the cell divides the cytoplasm into two portions. The final separation of the cytoplasm into two distinct cells is called cytokinesis.





Rate of Mitosis

Different parts of an organism experience different rates of mitosis (e.g. an onion root tip is where growth occurs and therefore the cells divide frequently, every 12 – 36 hours).





Rate of Mitosis

In humans, skin cells (that brush off) or intestinal cells (that are broken down by the digestive process) have high rates of mitosis, whereas red blood cells may last for months.



human skin cells



Artwork by Jeanne Kelly. © 2004.

Apoptosis

The regulated death of a cell that is no longer useful (e.g. white blood cells post-infection) or has lost its ability to function efficiently is called **apoptosis**.





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Apoptosis

The material of the cell is recycled by the body.



Cancer

What happens when damage to a cell impairs its ability to commit apoptosis and it divides and divides and divides?







Cancer Cell Division



Consider what happens if 1 cell out of 1 000 starts dividing uncontrollably.

The remaining 999 will die as often as they are replaced.That 1 cell . . .











| # of divisions | normal cells | cancer cells |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 0 | 999 | 1 |
| 1 | 999 | 2 |
| 2 | 999 | 4 |
| 3 | Keep going | |
| 4 | 2.0 | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | | |
| 9 | | |
| 10 | | |
| | | |



| # of divisions | normal cells | cancer cells |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 0 | 999 | 1 |
| 1 | 999 | 2 |
| 2 | 999 | 4 |
| 3 | 999 | 8 |
| 4 | 999 | 16 |
| 5 | 999 | 32 |
| 6 | 999 | 64 |
| 7 | 999 | 128 |
| 8 | 999 | 256 |
| 9 | 999 | 512 |
| 10 | 999 | 1024 |
| | | |



The Beginning of Cancerous Growth



Cancerous growths are called tumours.





Invasion and Metastasis

Cancer cells can invade surrounding tissues and blood vessels.



Artwork by Jeanne Kelly. © 2004.





Invasion and Metastasis

Cancer cells can invade surrounding tissues and blood vessels.



Artwork by Jeanne Kelly. © 2004.

They can also be transported by the circulatory system to other parts of the body (metastasis).



Cancer cells then grow at the new locations.



Malignant versus Benign Tumors

Malignant cells invade neighboring tissues, enter blood vessels, and metastasize to different sites.

Benign turnor cells grow only locally and cannot spread by invasion or metastasis.

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Why Cancer Is Dangerous

Liver

Melanoma (initial tumor)



Melanoma (skin cancer) cells can travel through the circulatory system.

The cancer that spreads to the liver would be called metastatic melanoma, not liver cancer.



Artwork by Jeanne Kelly. © 2004

Cancer Detection and Diagnosis



Cancerous tumours can be detected by medical imaging (x-ray, ultrasound, and MRI scans).



Cervical Cancer Screening



But even earlier stages of cancer can be detected by screening cells.



Abnormal Pap smear

Cervical Cancer Screening



But even earlier stages of cancer can be detected by screening cells.

Biopsies similarly look at cells inside suspected tumours.



Cancer Cells Look Different



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Hyperplasia

Sometimes screening detects an excessive rate of cell division called hyperplasia - the cells are still normal and the process is reversible.

An example of hyperplasia would be a callus on your hand.







Dysplasia

Also detectable is dysplasia: excessive growth <u>and</u> abnormal tissue arrangement.



















Dysplasia is often monitored to make sure it doesn't develop into a metastatic cancer.





Population-Based Studies

We can determine possible causes of cancer by looking at the incidence in different populations:





Incidence in Populations



The higher incidence of colon cancer in Japanese families that have moved to the U.S. suggests that it's behavioural and/or environmental factors are what is changing the risk.



Look For Correlations

Correlation Between Meat Consumption and Colon Cancer Rates in Different Countries





Some Cancer-Causing Chemicals in Tobacco Smoke

aminostilbene indeno[1,2,3-c d]pyrene S-methylchrysene arsenic benz[a]anthracene S-methylfluoranthene alpha-naphthylamine benz[a]pyrene nickel compounds benzene benzo[b]fluoranthene **N-nitrosodimethylamine** benzo[c]phenanthrene benzo[f]fluoranthene cadmium chrysene dibenz[a c]anthracene dibenzo[a e]fluoranthene dibenz[a h]acridine dibenz[a j]acridine dibenzo[c g]carbazone **N-dibutyInitrosamine** 2,3-dimethylchrysene

Some chemicals can damage cells N-nitrosomethylethylamine N-nitrosodiethylamine N-nitrosonornicotine N-nitrosoanabasine N-nitrosopiperidine ylamine polonium-210

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How Can We Show the Risk?





And Skin Cancer is Correlated with UV Exposure





Viruses

Some viruses are also linked to certain cancers (e.g. human papillomavirus to cervical cancer).





Reducing Your Cancer Risk!

- Cancer is NOT contagious!
- Cancer screening is checking for cancer in absence of cancer symptoms
- Can be done at home (breast self-exams, testicular self-exams)
- Routine check-ups (pap test, PSA test)
- Special appointments (mammograms)
- Genetic screening is recommended in cases of family history of cancer



Reducing Your Cancer Risk
Check your skin regularly for moles following the ABCD test



Reducing Your Cancer Risk
Educate yourself about the risks in your family history, your environment and your lifestyle choices



Lifestyle Choices: No smoking Exercise Healthy Diet Healthy Body weight



Textbook Questions

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