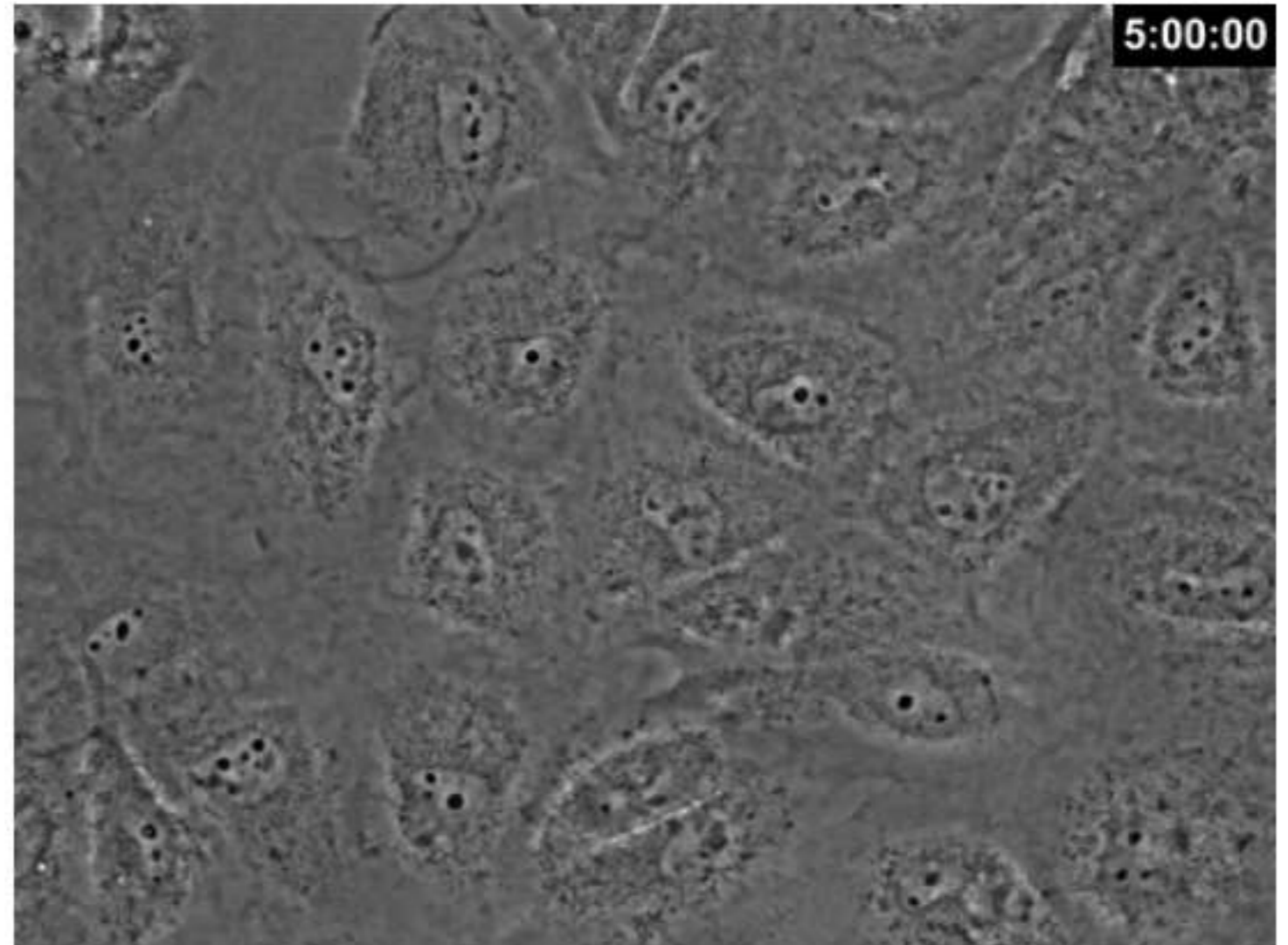
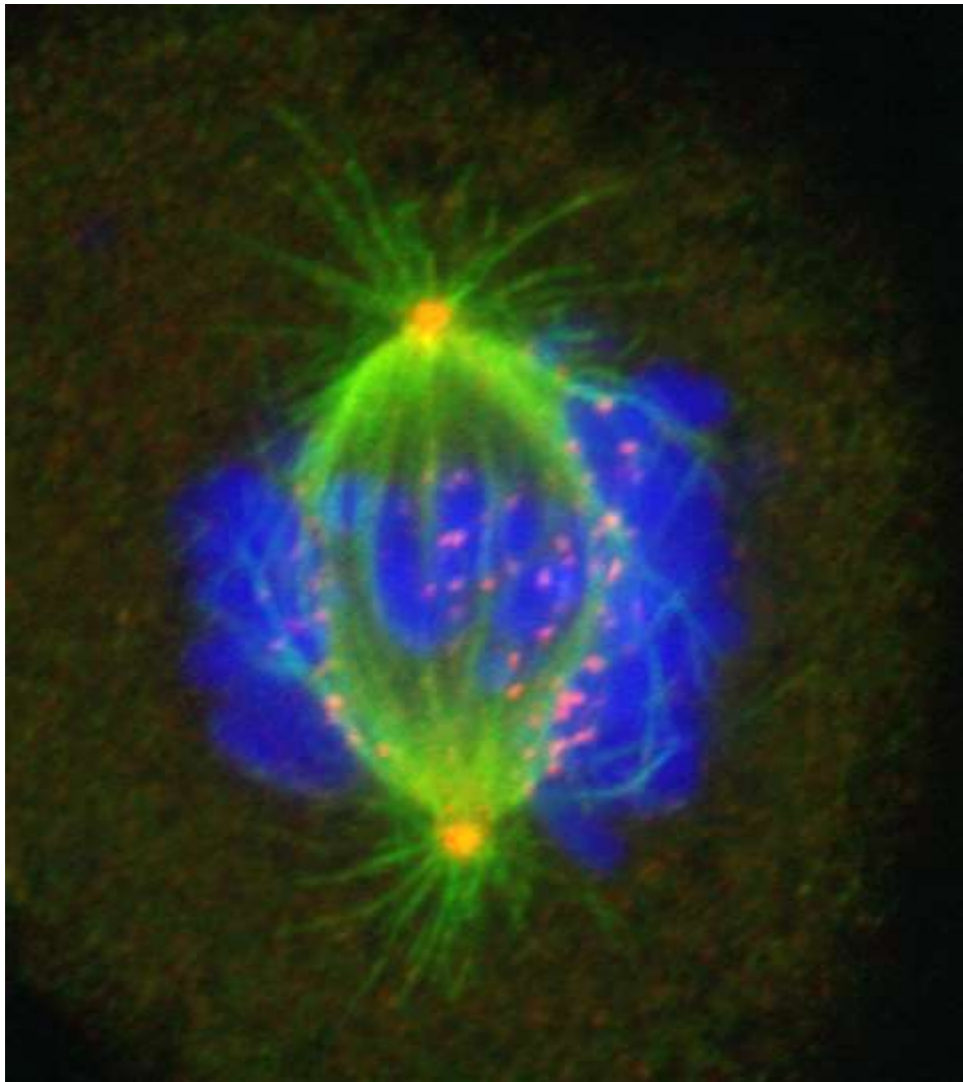


# *An introduction to cell biology, cancer, cell cycle, and mitosis*



*Dr. Lynne Cassimeris, Ph.D.  
Biological Sciences  
Lehigh University*

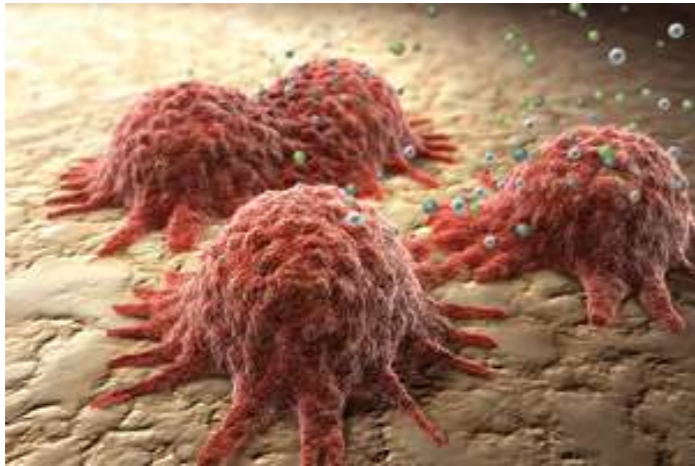
# Cells Replicate & Repair Themselves

---

- Bone marrow stem cells  
>1,000,000 divisions/min
- Skin stem cells
- Intestinal stem cells
- Muscle satellite cells
- Liver cells

# Cells Work Together

---



25,000X



250X



# Skin as an example of cells within a tissue

---

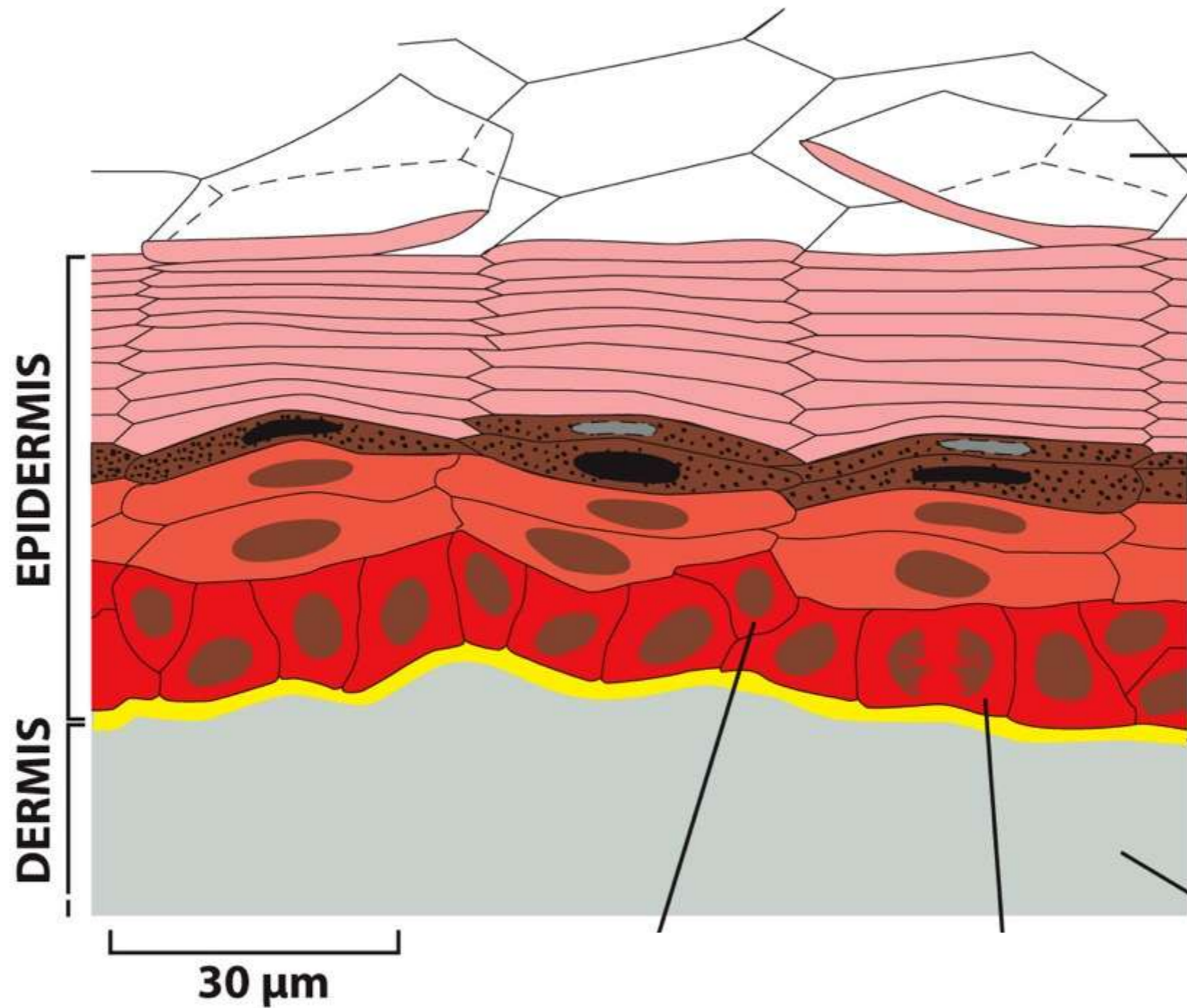


Figure 22-10a Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

# Normal Skin

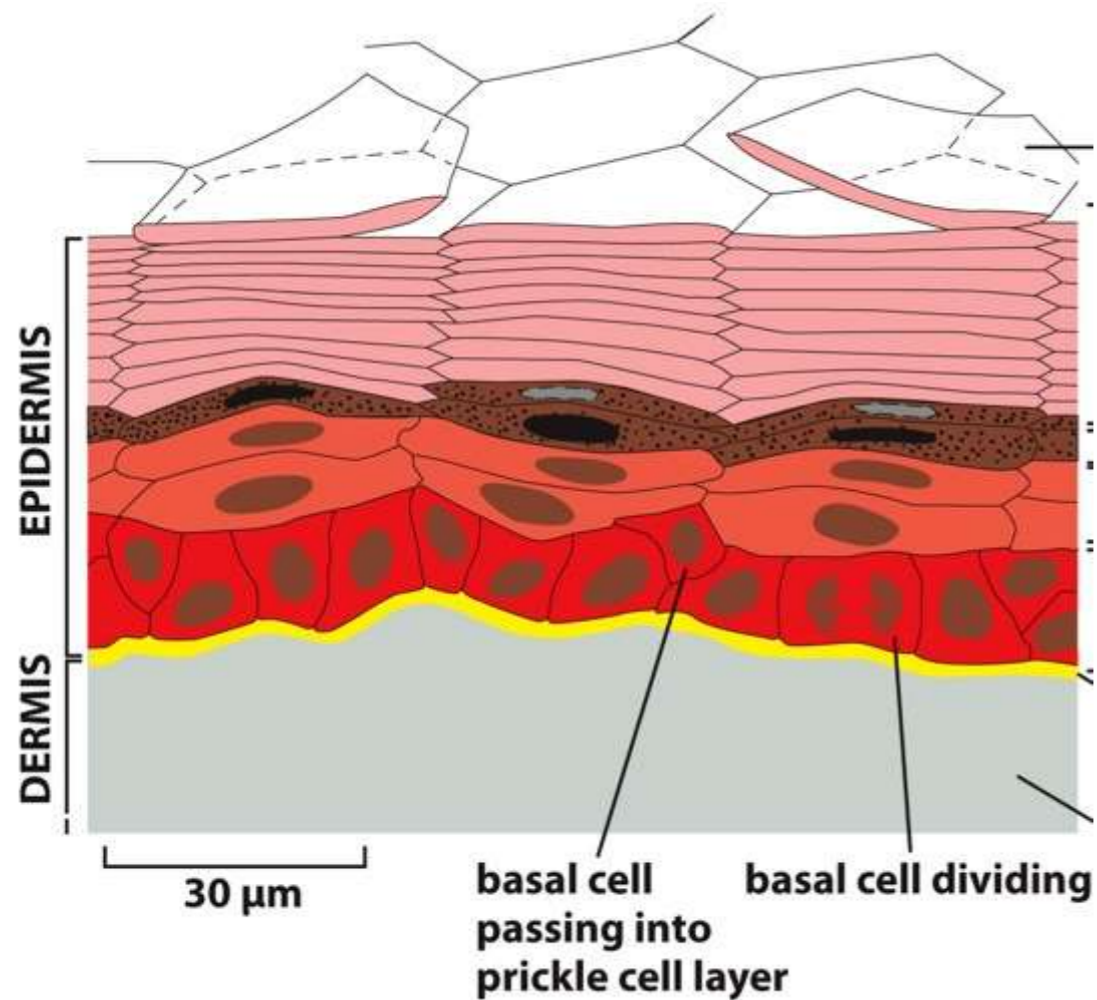
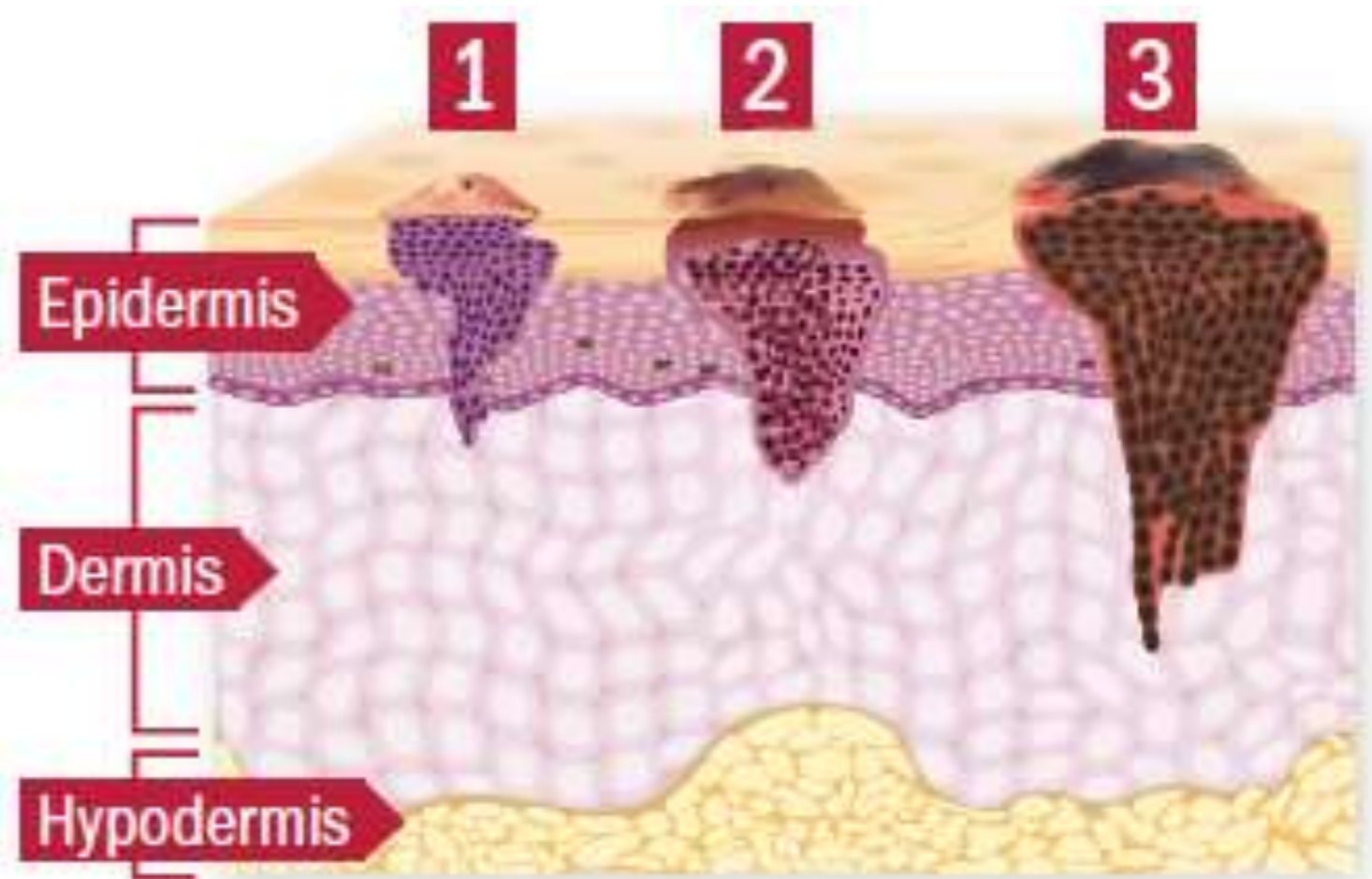


Figure 22-10a Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

# Types of Skin Cancer



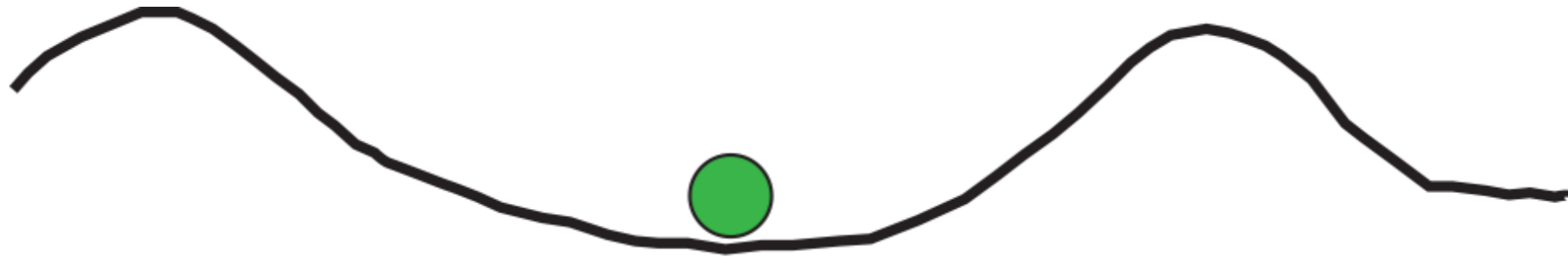
Squamous

Basal Cell

Melanoma

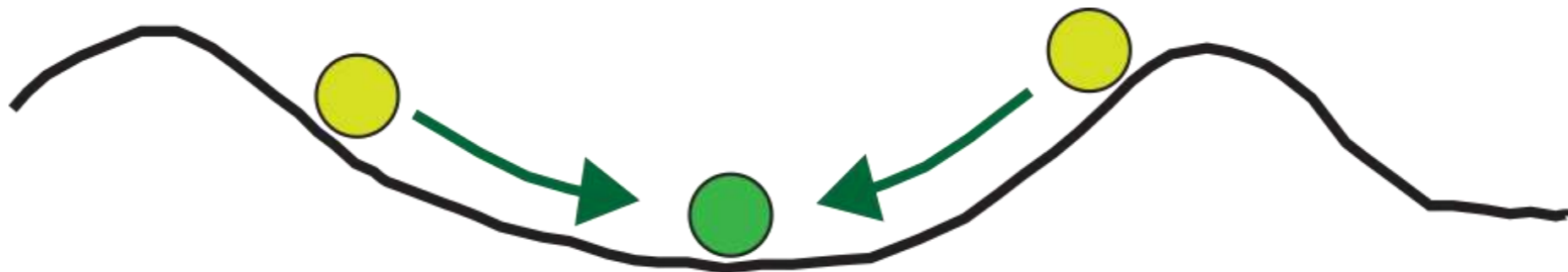
# A healthy landscape

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Healthy State

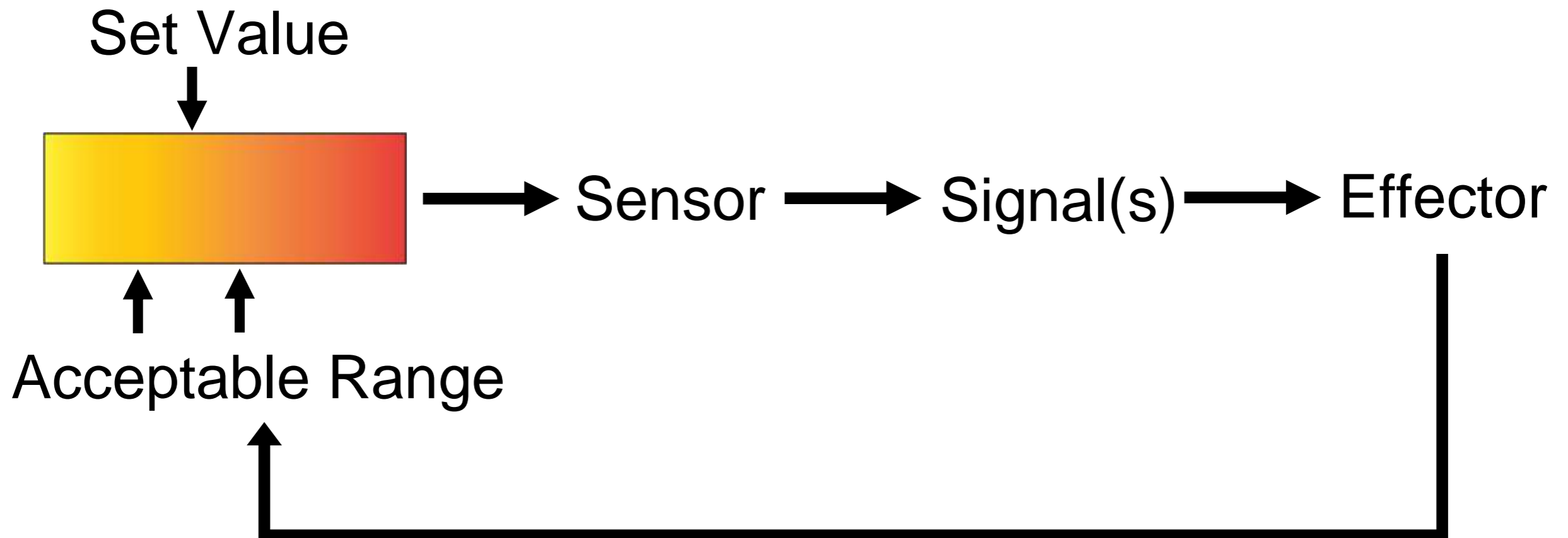


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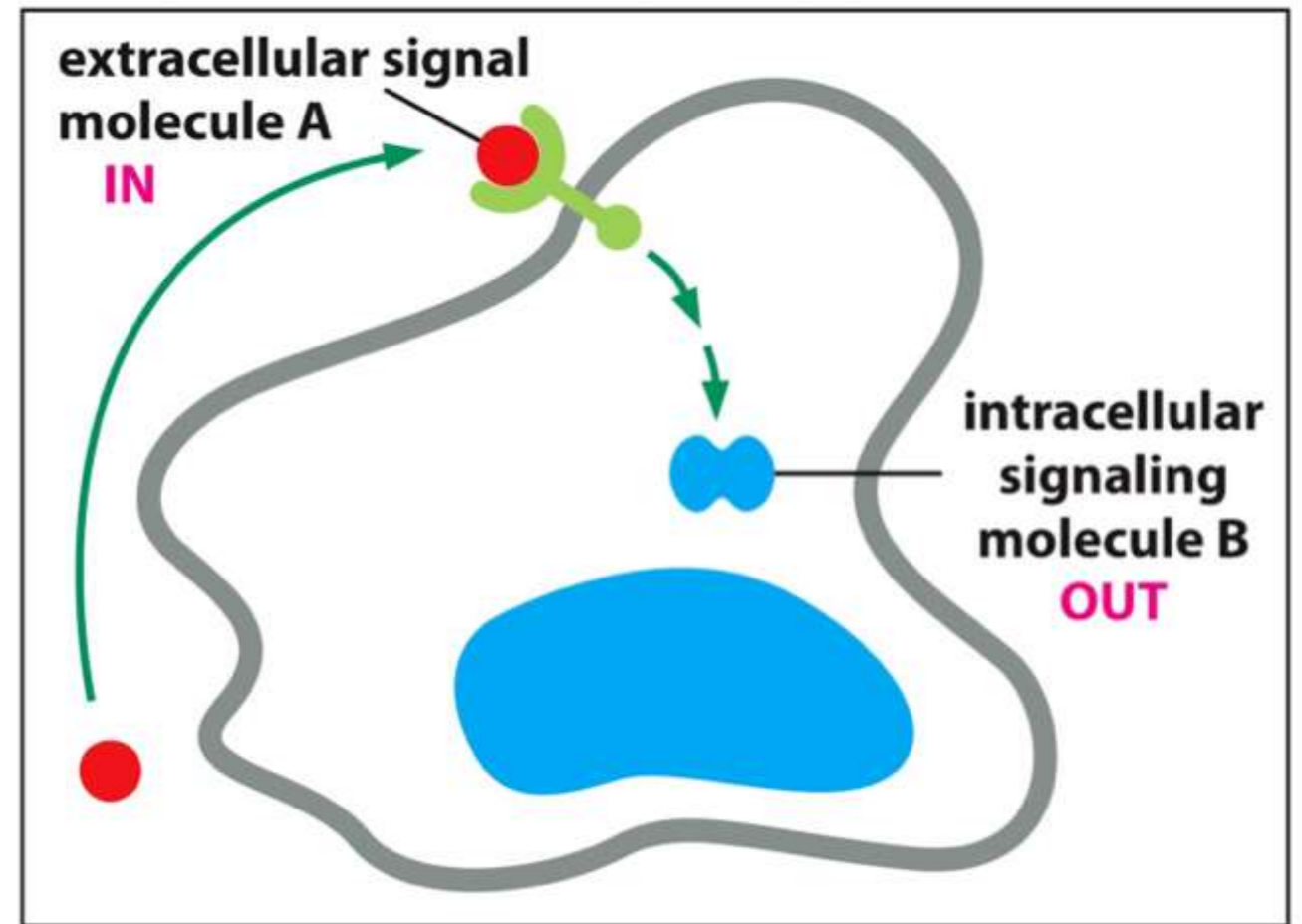
Healthy State

# A simple homeostatic circuit

---



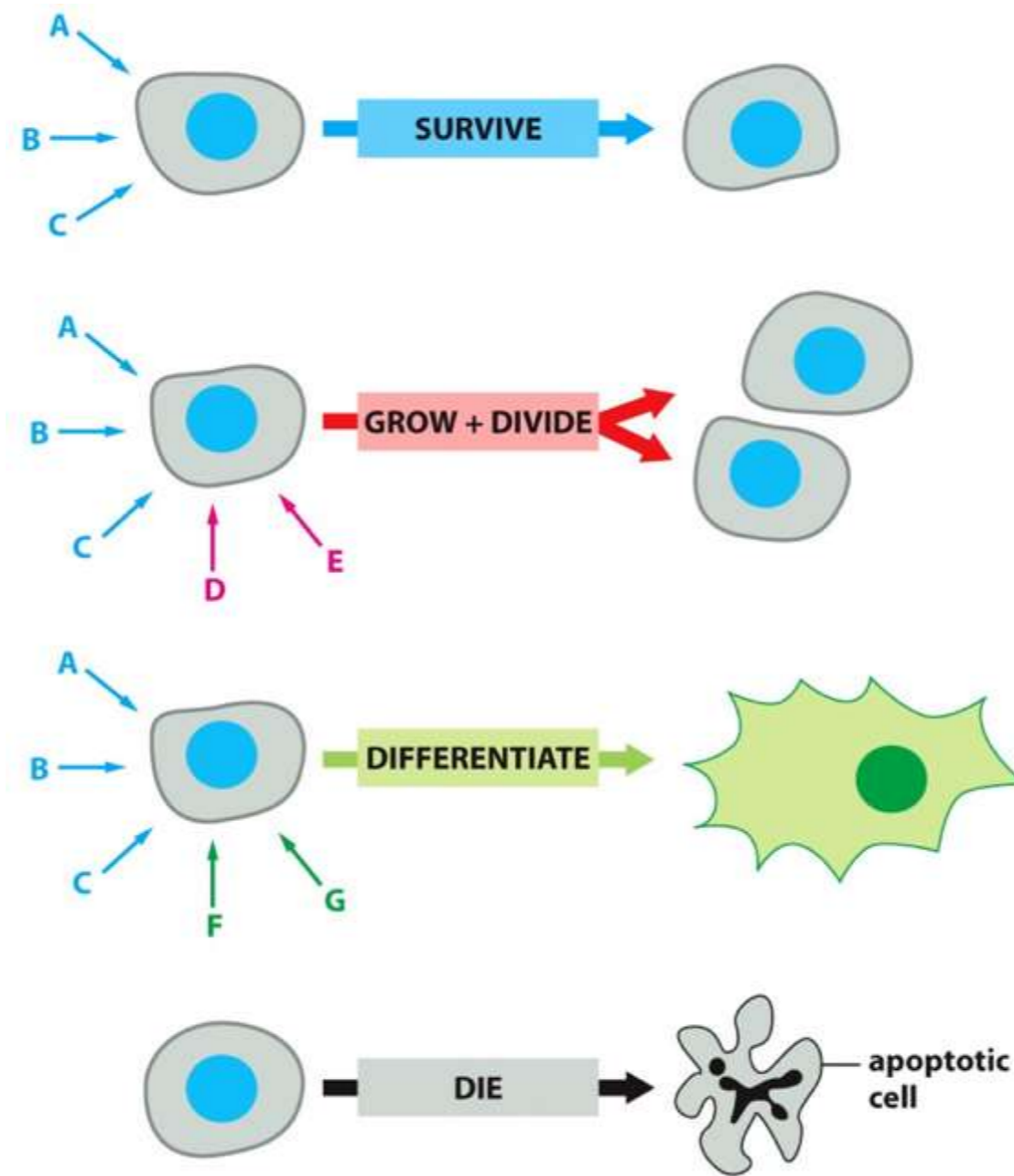
Cells constantly communicate with each other about how things are going



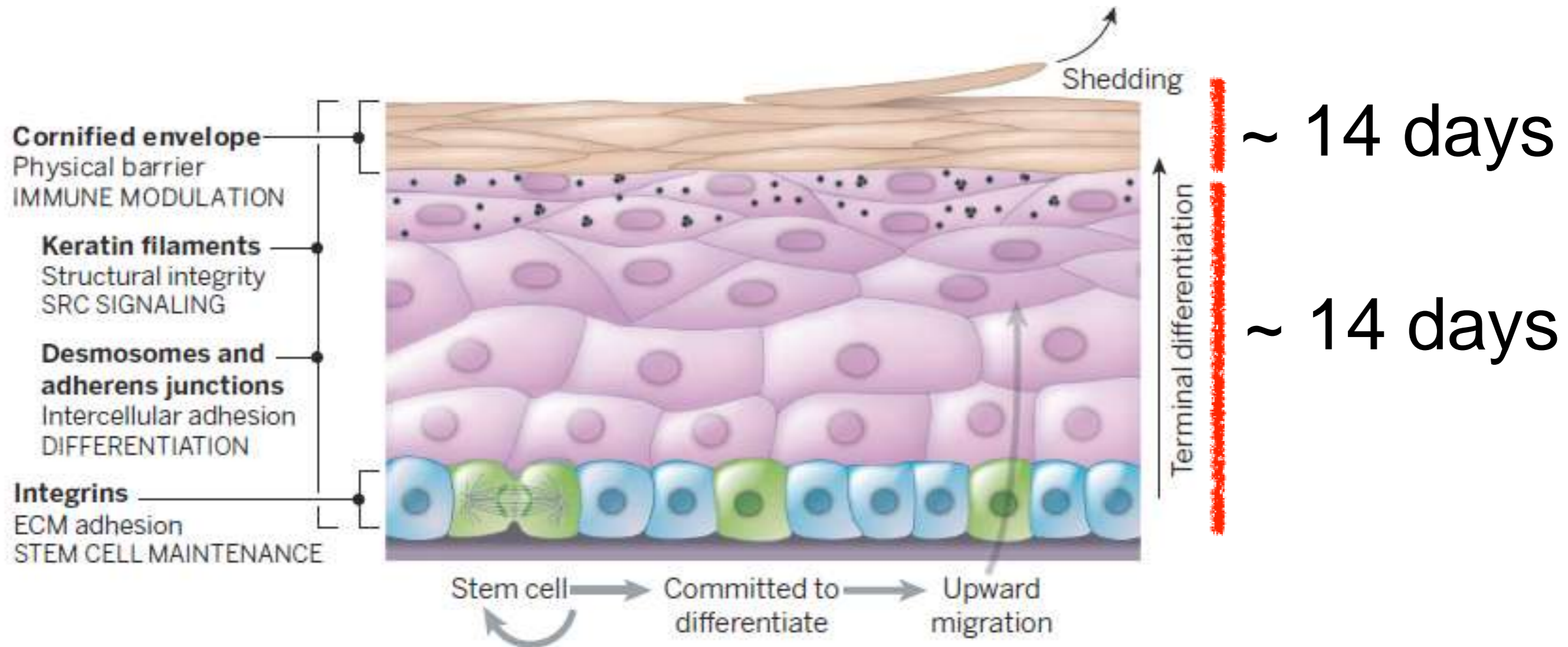


from all the signals in their environment:  
cells proliferate, specialize, interact, move,  
and sometimes they die

---



# Normal, healthy cell turnover in skin tissue



individual keratinocytes last for about a month and must be replaced

# Healthy vs. Disease Landscapes

---

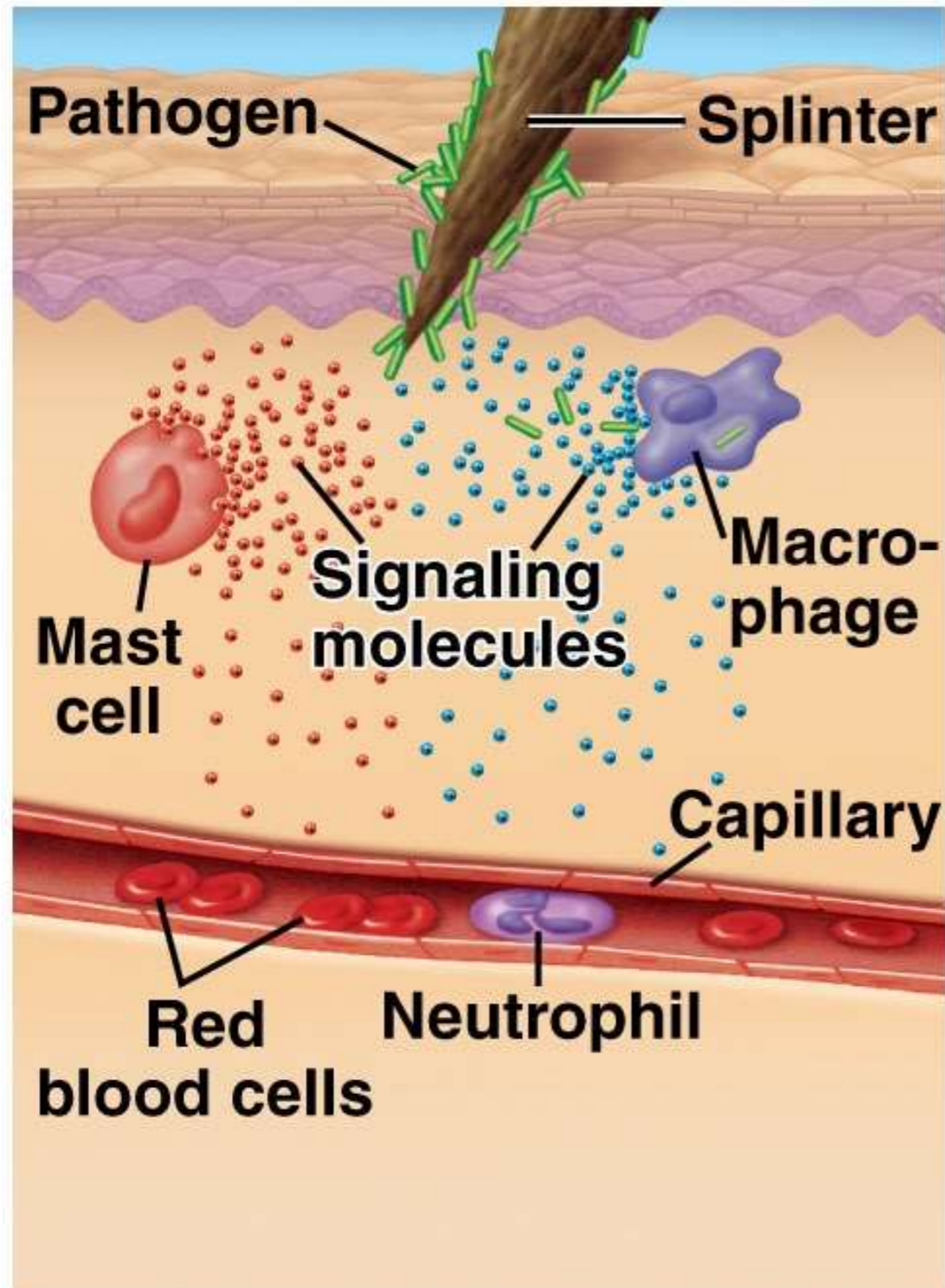


Pathological State

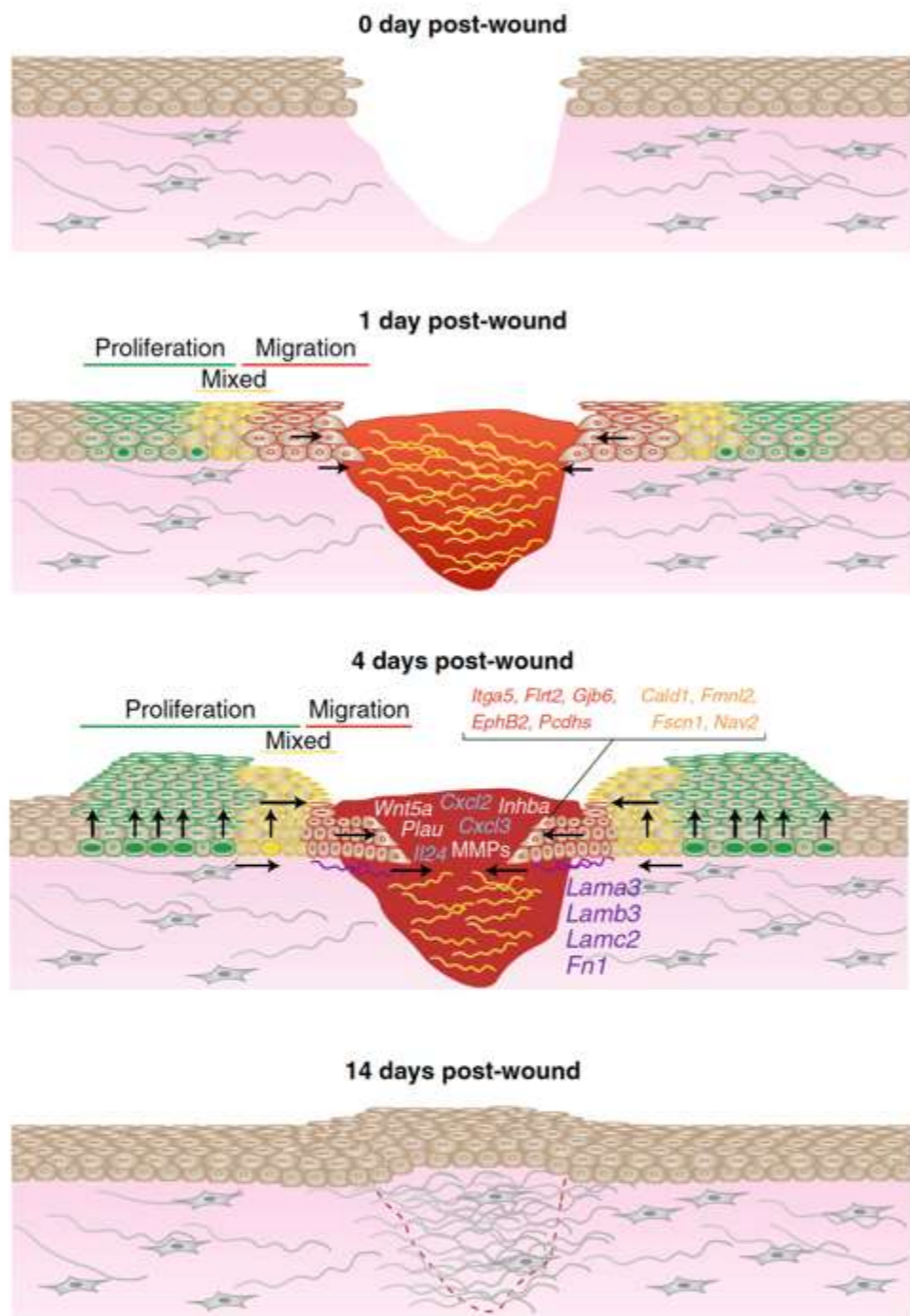
example: inflammation

# Signals and responses to infection

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# Inflammation and repair at the wound



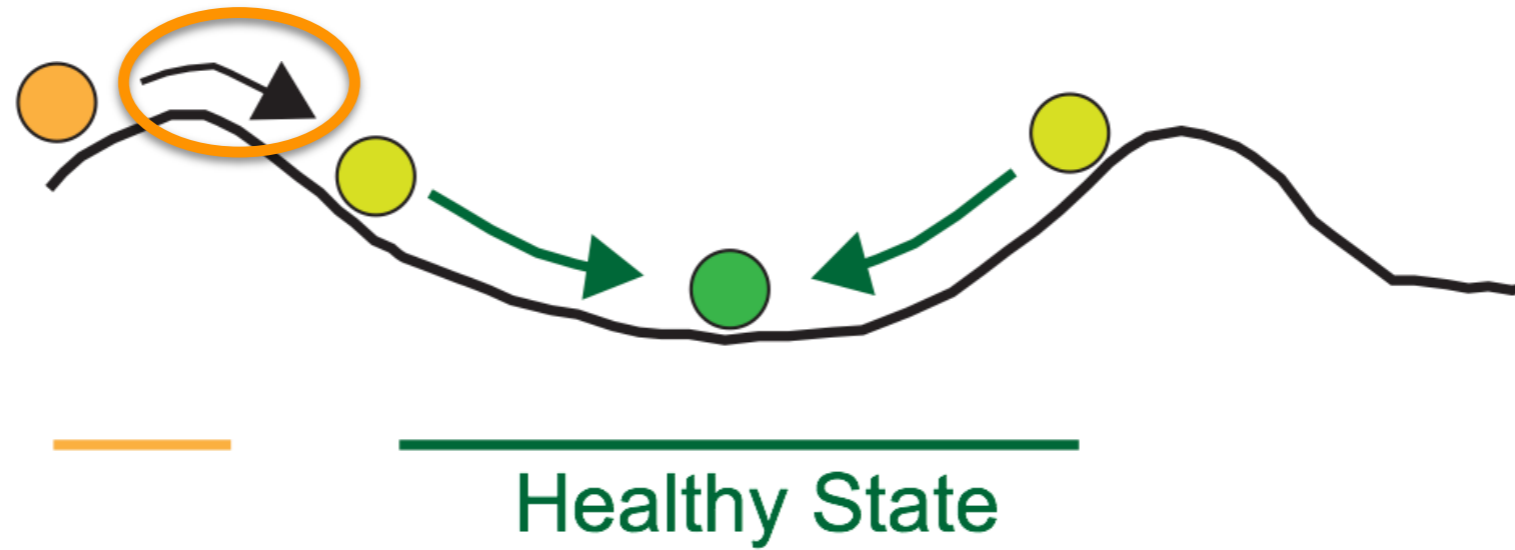
- Epithelial cells
- ECM (collagen, elastin, etc)
- Leading edge cells
- Signalling proteins
- Fibroblasts
- Proliferative cells
- Actin regulators
- ECM components
- Fibrin
- Proliferative hub cells
- Chemokines and cytokines
- Adhesion and cell junctions

mechanical and chemical signals

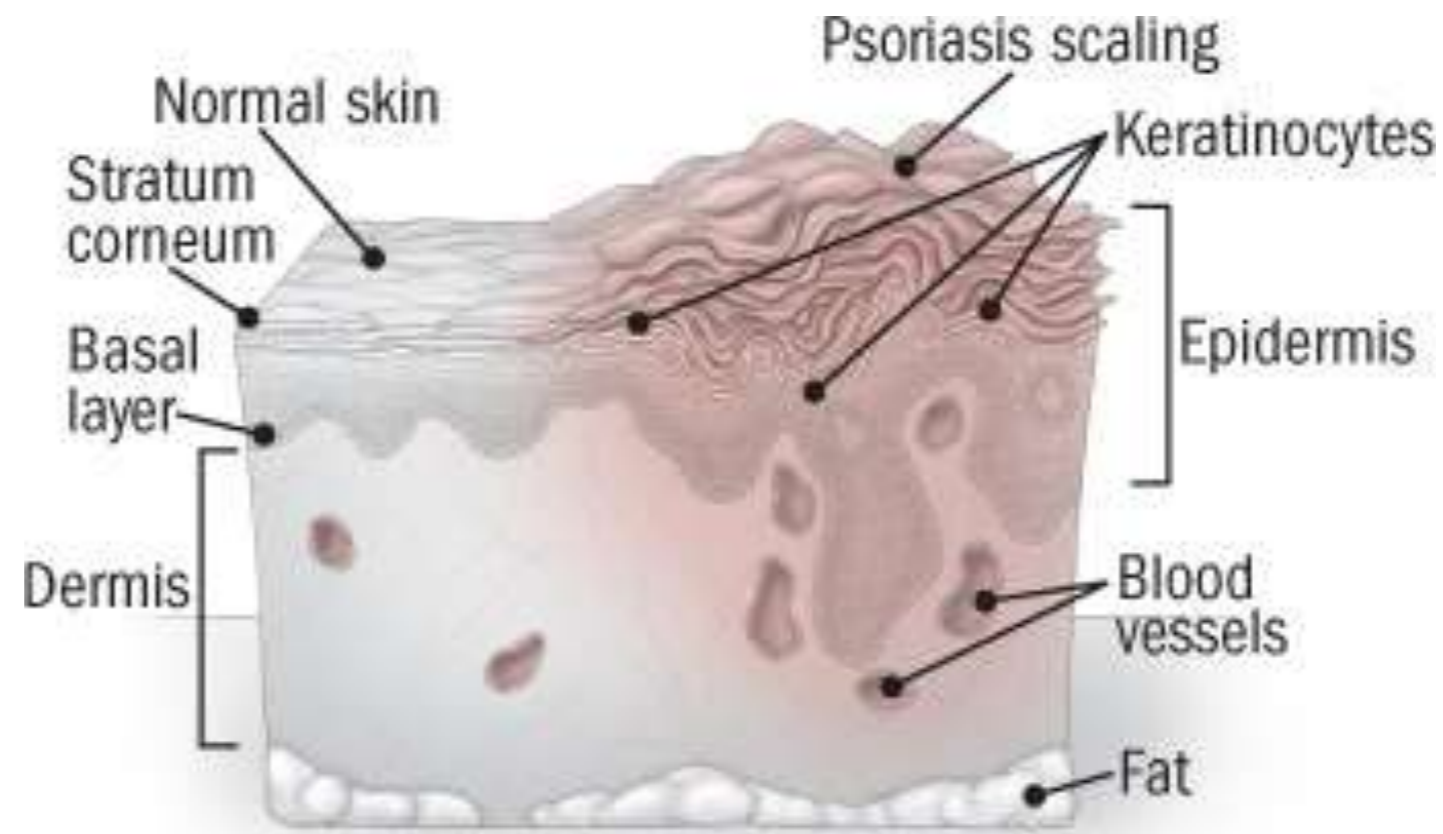
Some cells proliferate, others migrate,

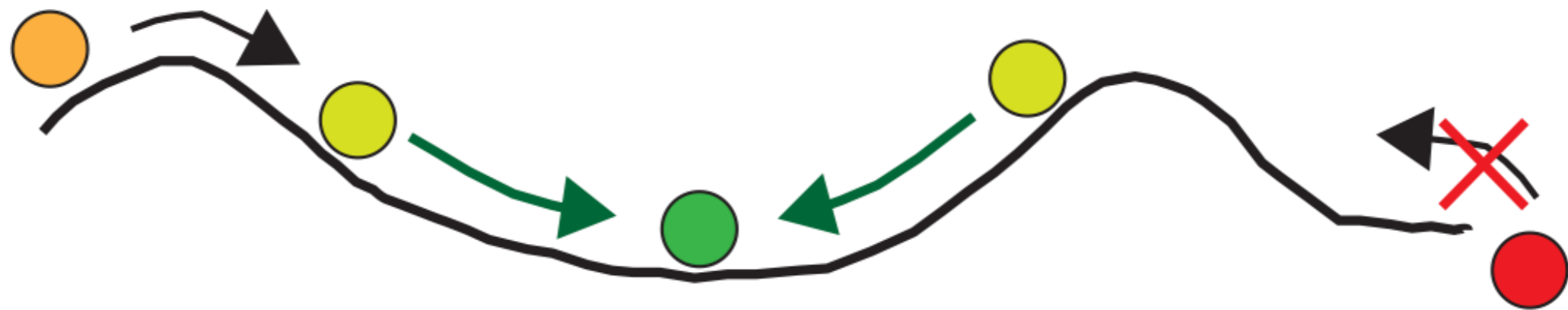
eventually heal without a scar

# Inflammation



Pathological State





Healthy State

Pathological State

Severe Disease

***Cancer***

# Gene mutations

Normal Skin



Skin Cancer

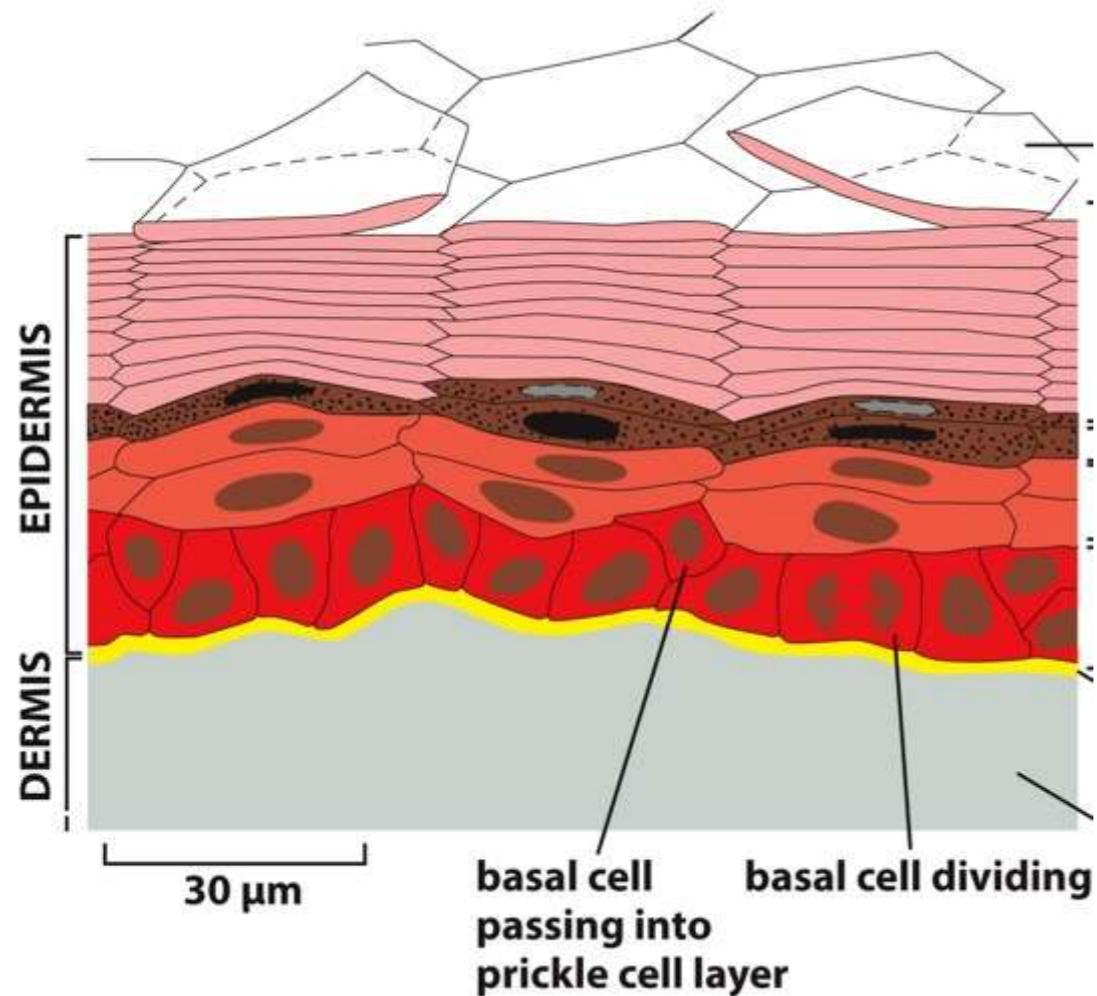
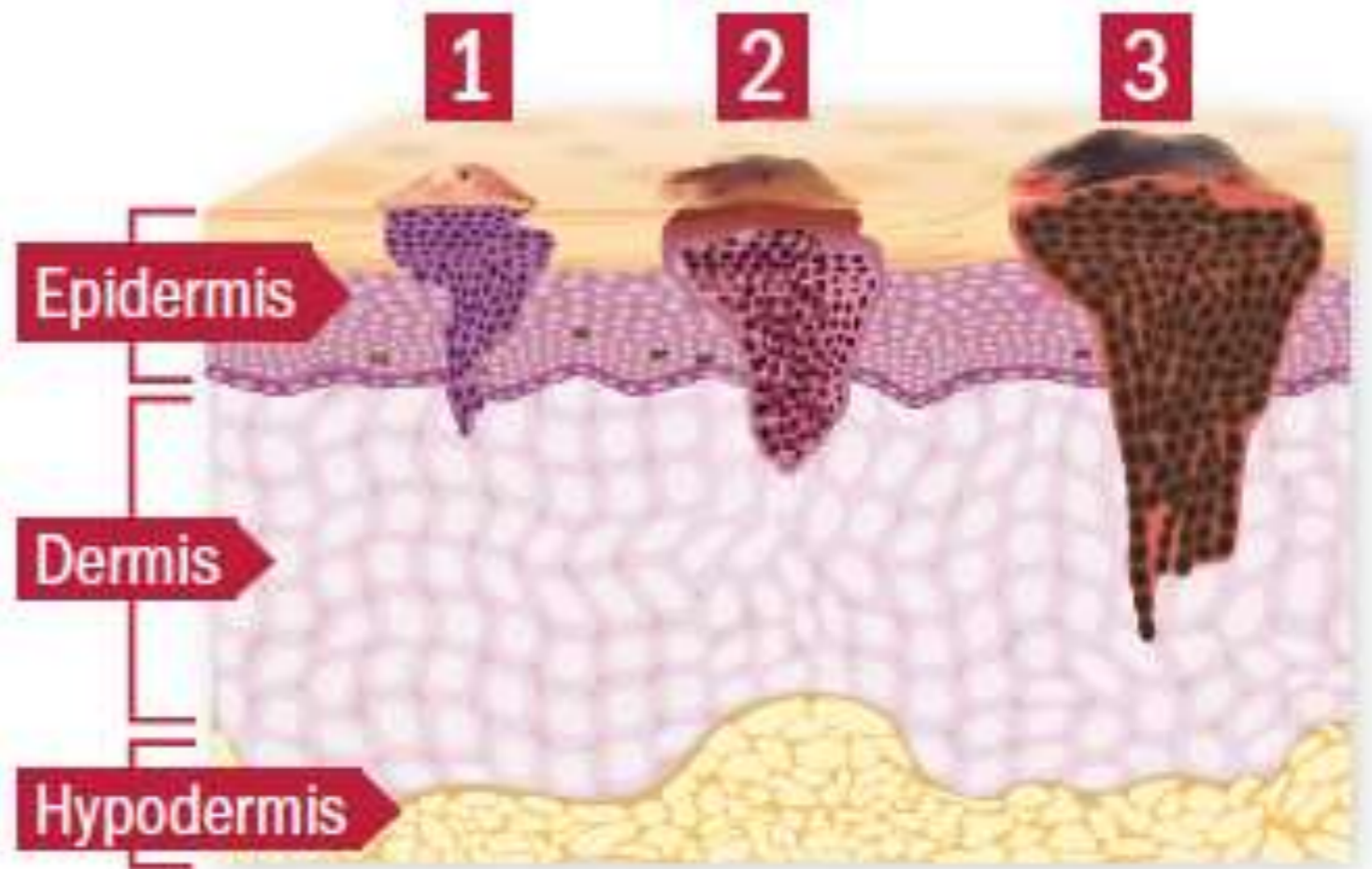


Figure 22-10a Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

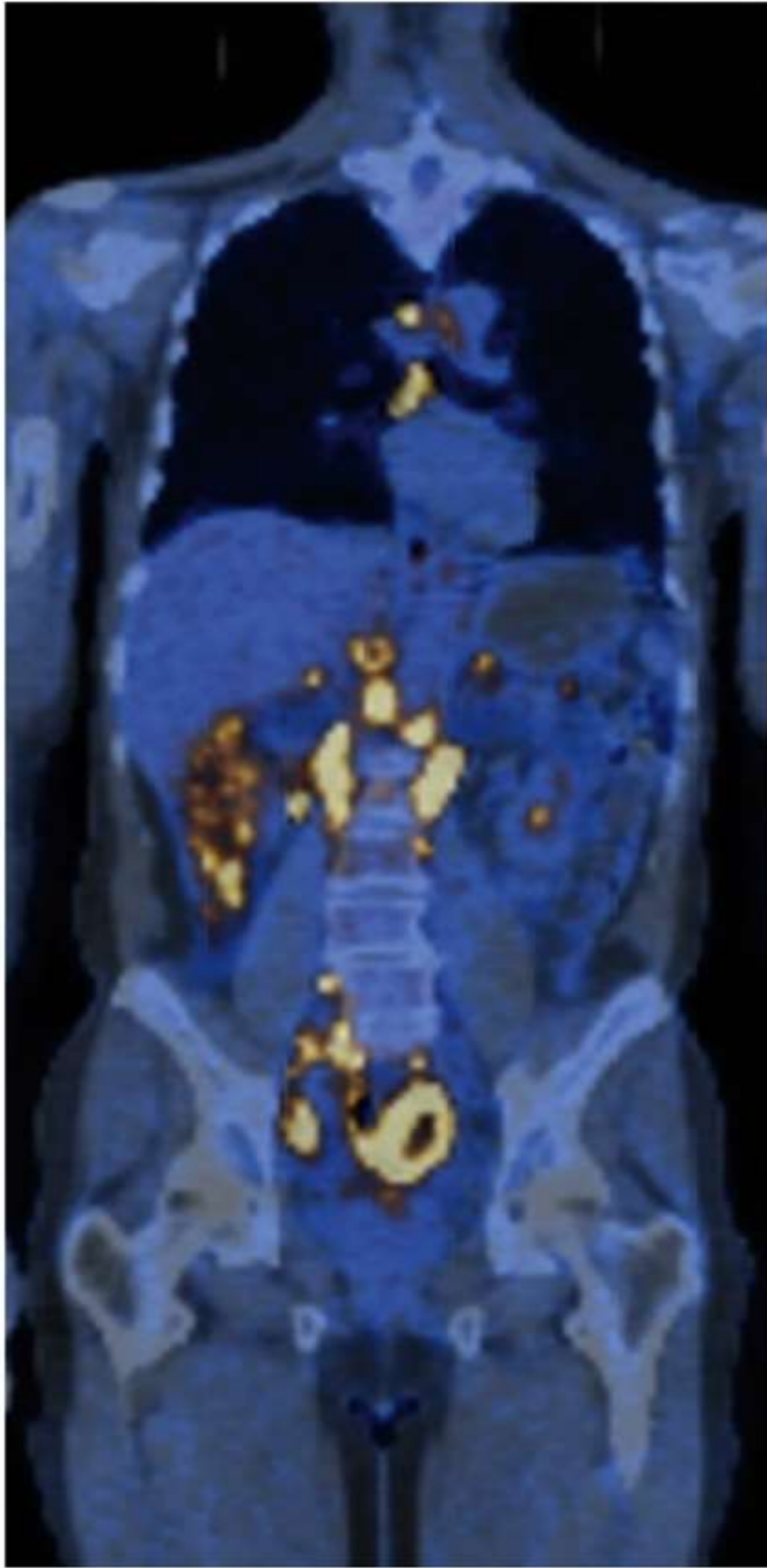


Squamous

Basal Cell

Melanoma



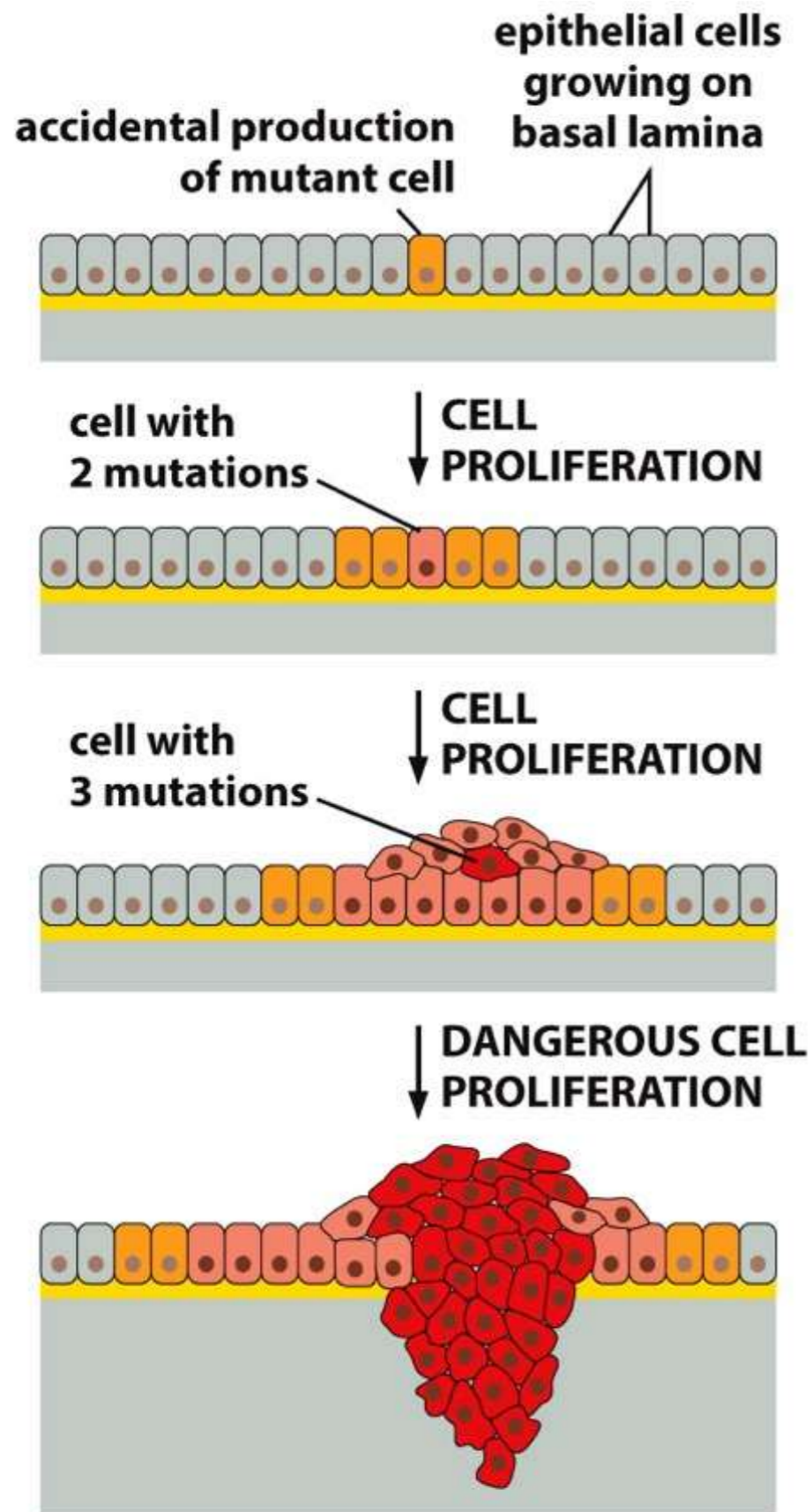


Cancer cells defined by:  
reproduce without, or in  
defiance of, normal  
signals

invade and colonize  
areas reserved for other  
cells

Figure 20-1 Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

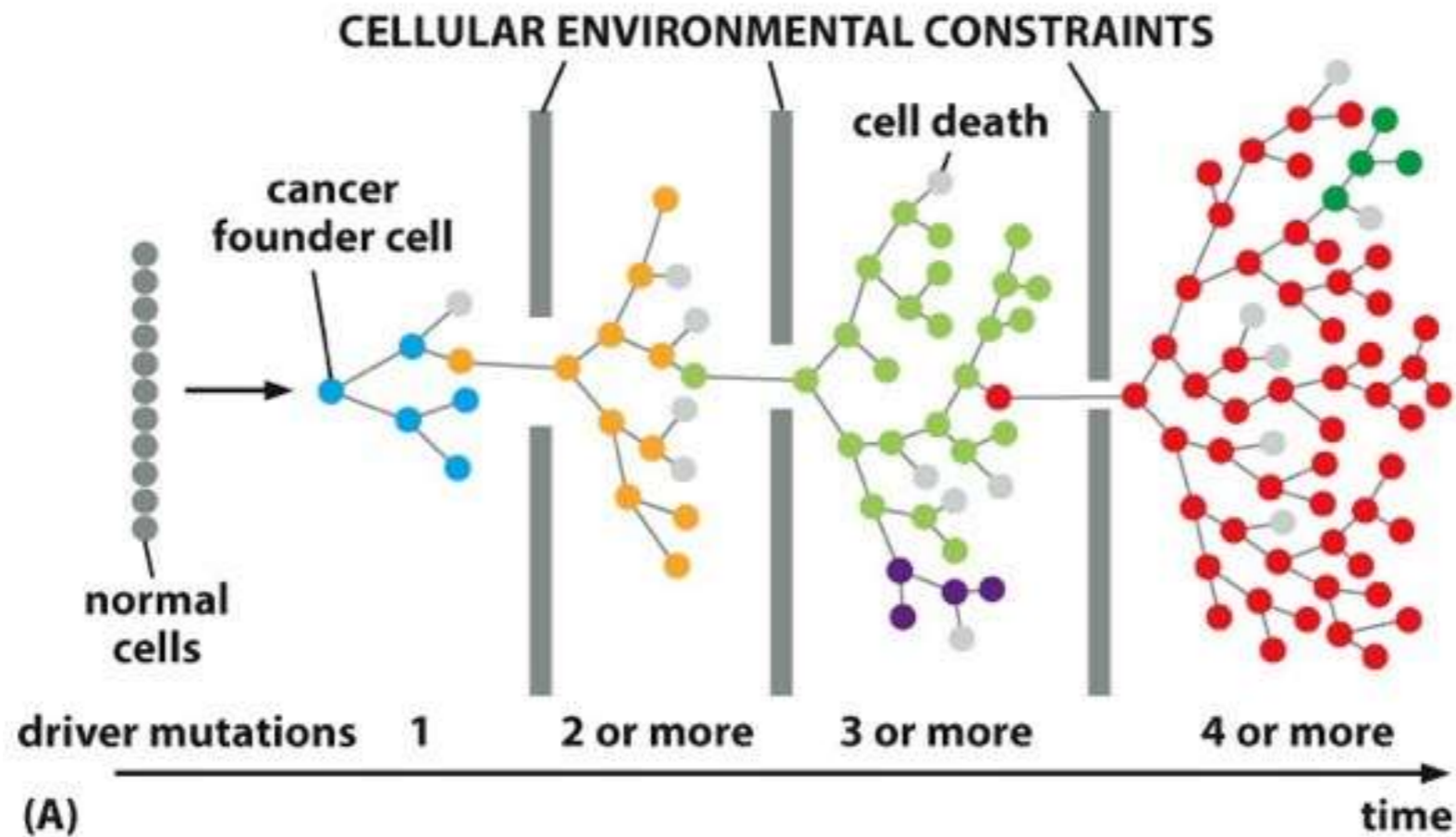
yellow: metastasis



Multiple mutations are required to overwhelm normal controls and drive cancer progression

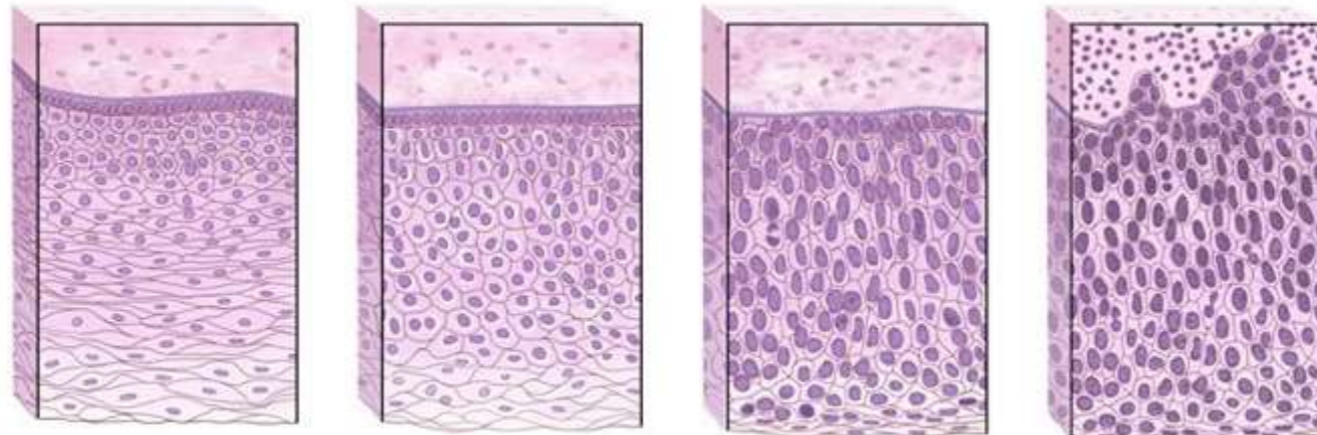
Figure 20-9 Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

# Cancer cells evolve through a series of mutations



Normal → Hyperplasia → Dysplasia → Cancer

**hyperplasia:**  
increased cell  
numbers



**dysplasia:**  
abnormal looking  
cells (may not be  
cancerous)

# Cancers can be defined by tissue of origin...

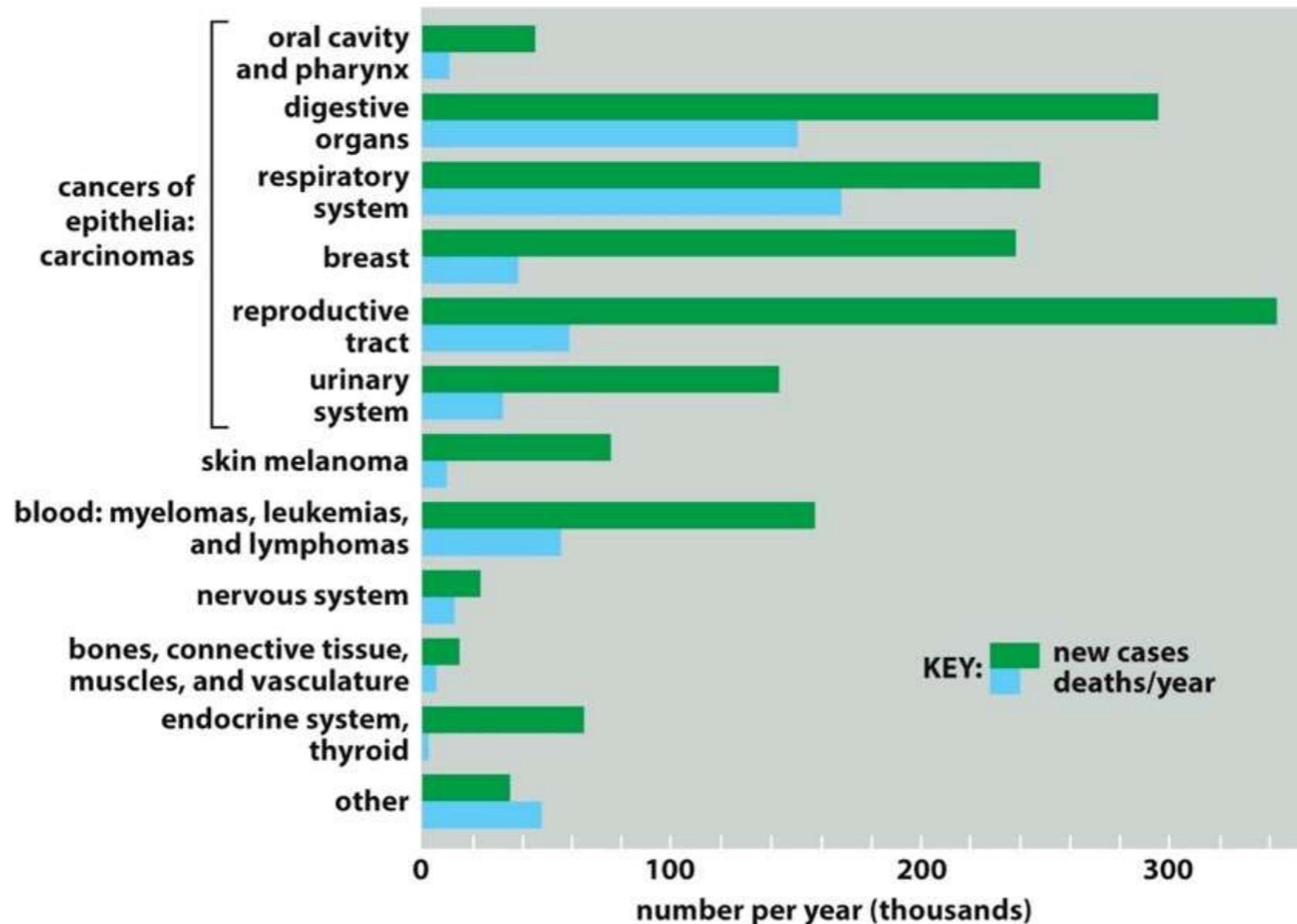


Figure 20-2 Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

carcinomas: epithelial cells

sarcomas: connective or muscle

leukemias and lymphomas: blood cells

# ....or by the driver mutations and the pathways they disrupt

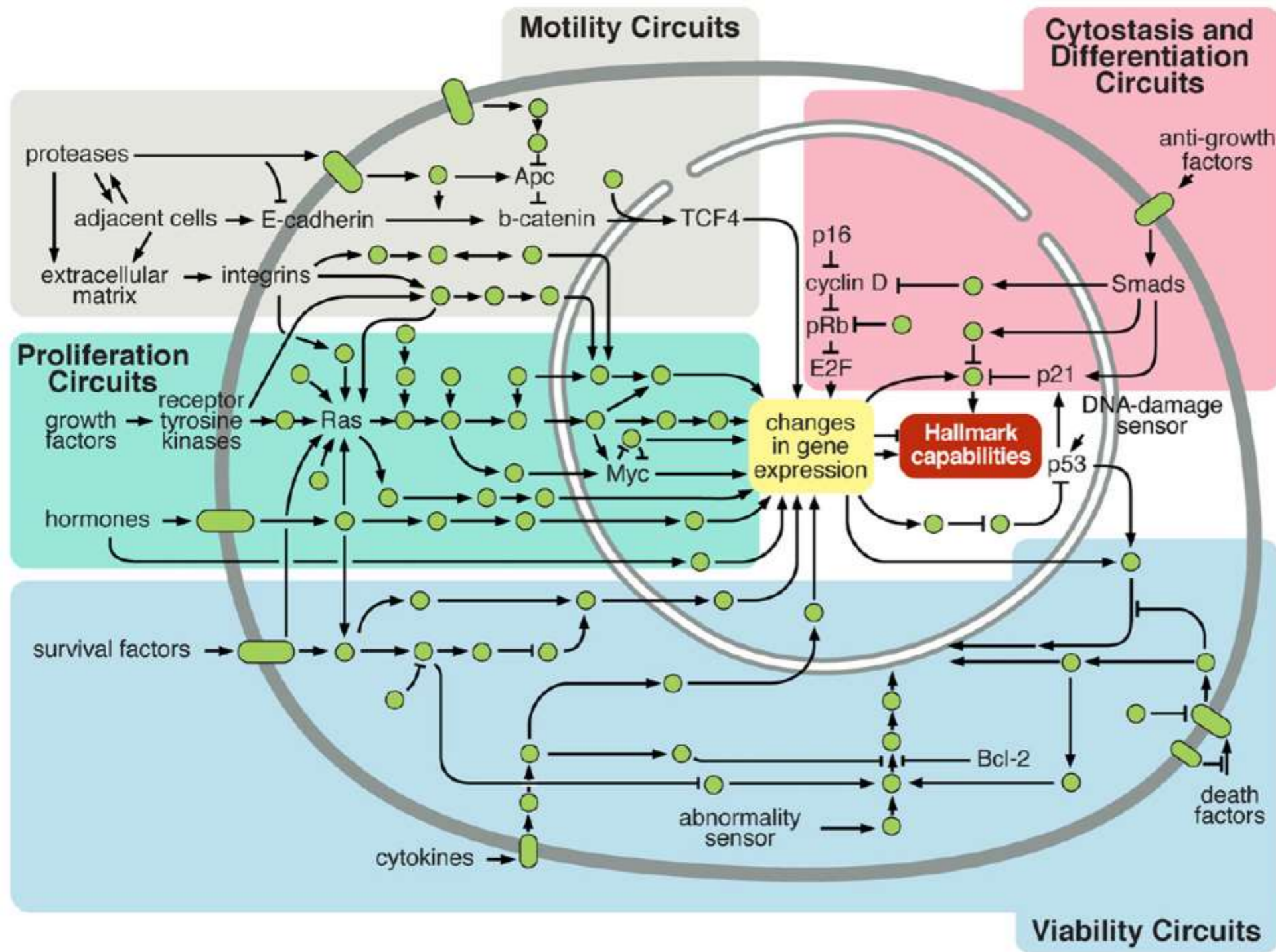


Figure 2. Intracellular Signaling Networks Regulate the Operations of the Cancer Cell

## Hallmarks of Cancer: The Next Generation

Douglas Hanahan<sup>1,2,\*</sup> and Robert A. Weinberg<sup>3,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research (ISREC), School of Life Sciences, EPFL, Lausanne CH-1015, Switzerland

<sup>2</sup>The Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics, UCSF, San Francisco, CA 94158, USA

<sup>3</sup>Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Ludwig/MIT Center for Molecular Oncology, and MIT Department of Biology, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA

\*Correspondence: dh@epfl.ch (D.H.), weinberg@wi.mit.edu (R.A.W.)

DOI 10.1016/j.cell.2011.02.013

# Glioblastoma



Mutations in 3 circuits commonly hit (~75%)

Broadly, these control:

Cell Growth

Cell Division

Responses to Stress and DNA Damage

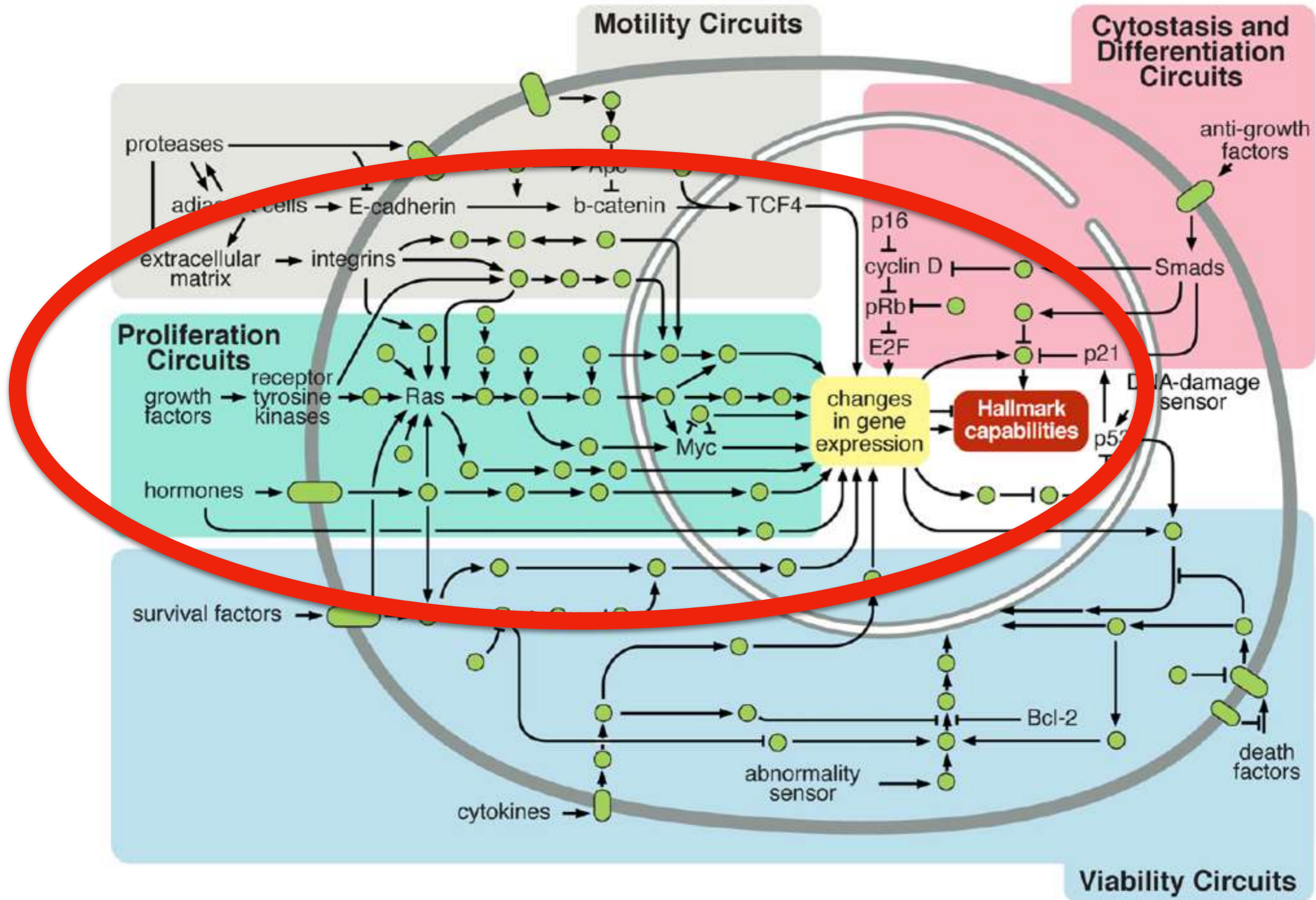


Figure 2. Intracellular Signaling Networks Regulate the Operations of the Cancer Cell

# Cells multiply (proliferate) by dividing

## Two views of the cell division cycle

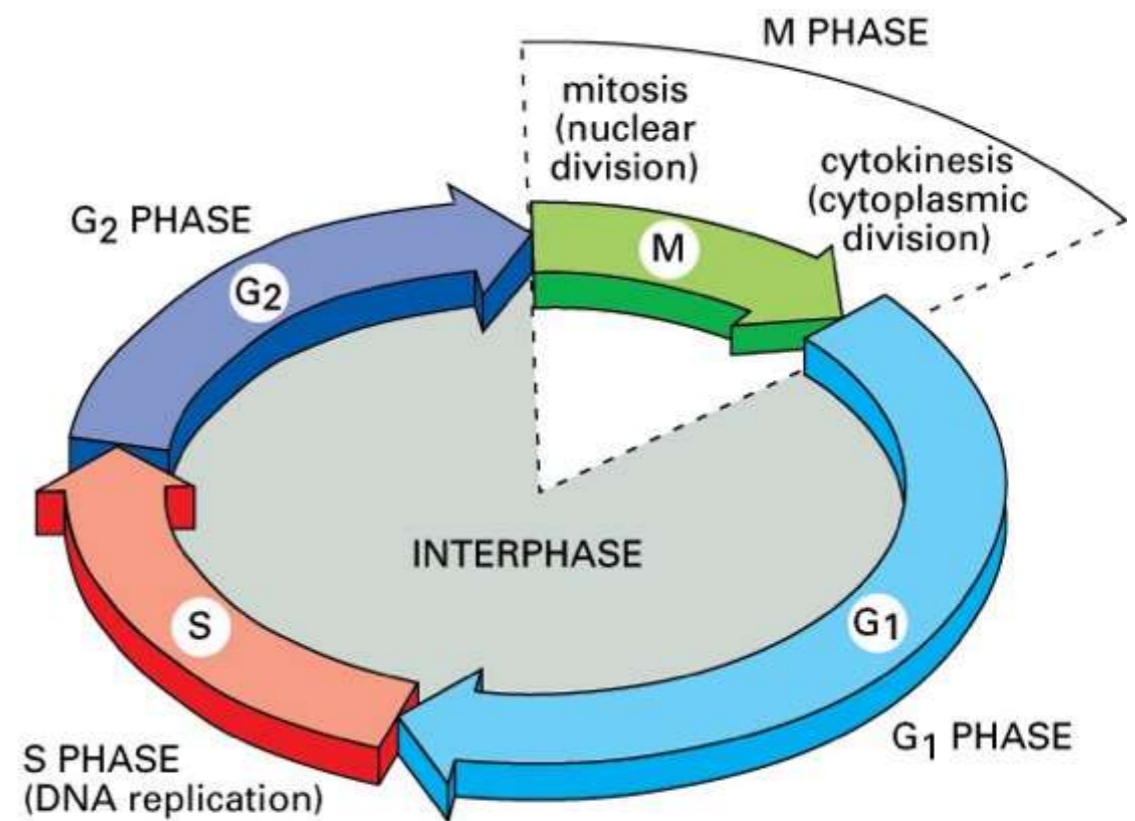
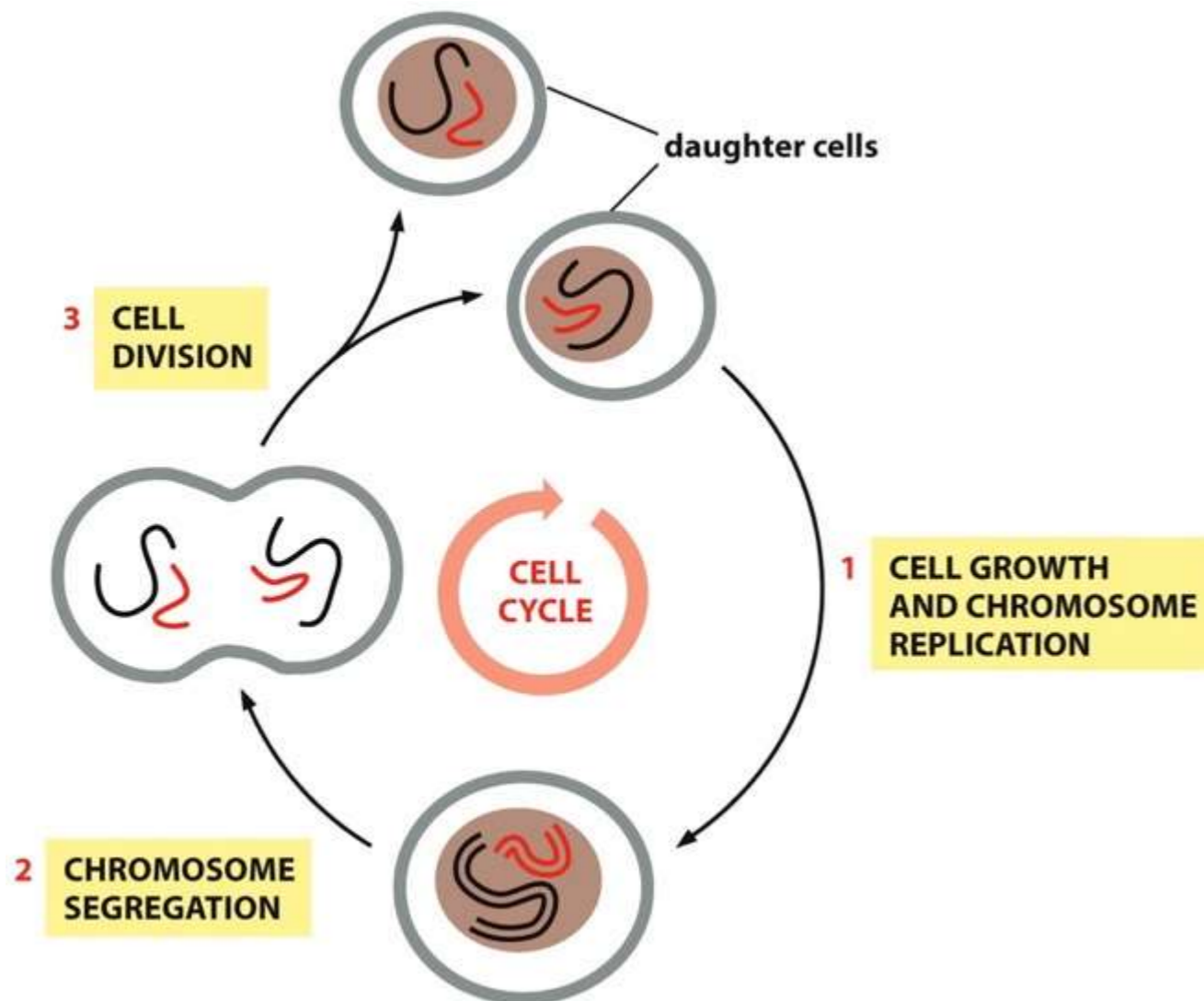


Figure 17-3. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.



A common pathway triggering entry into the cell cycle

and proteins frequently mutated in cancer cells

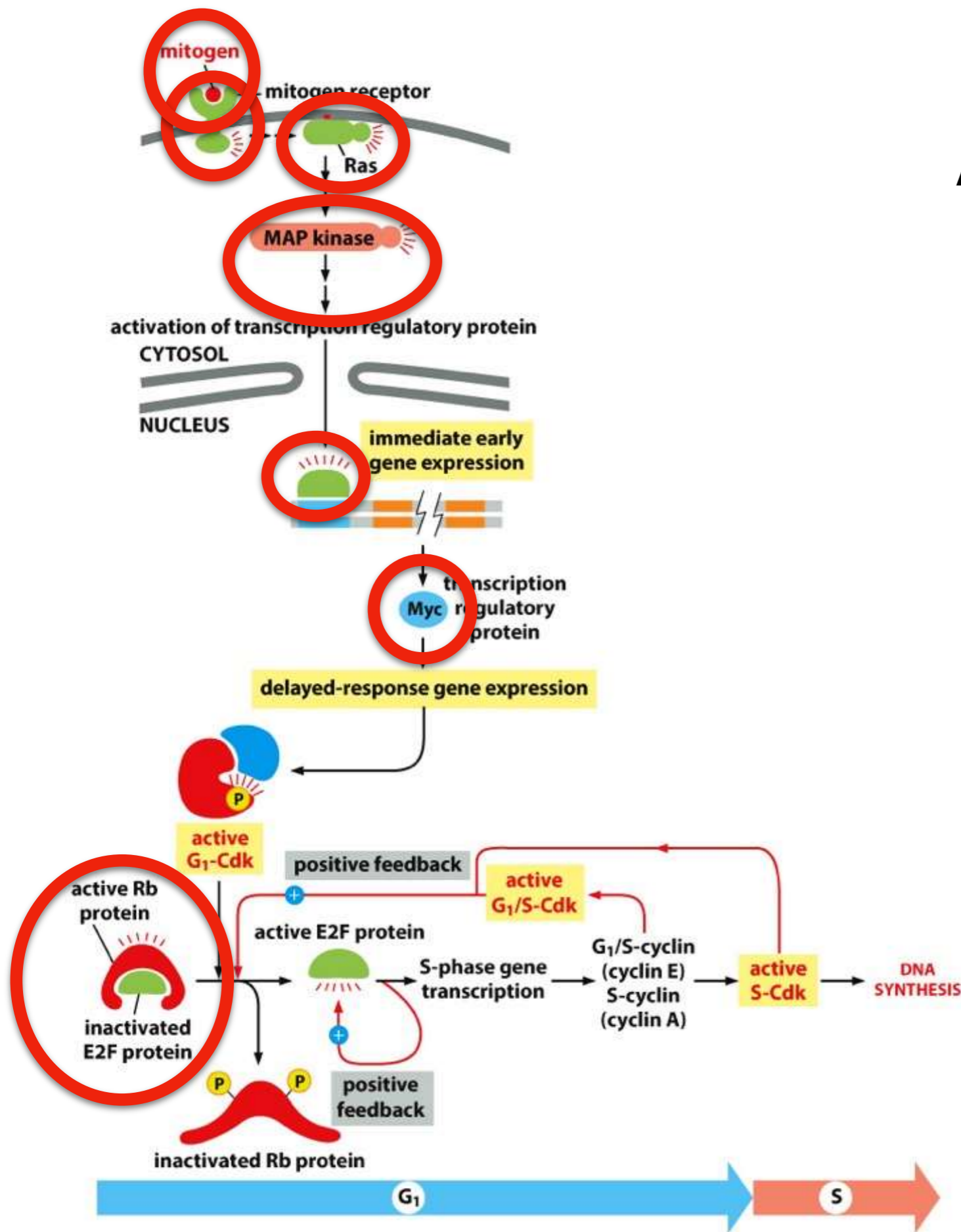


Figure 17-61 Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

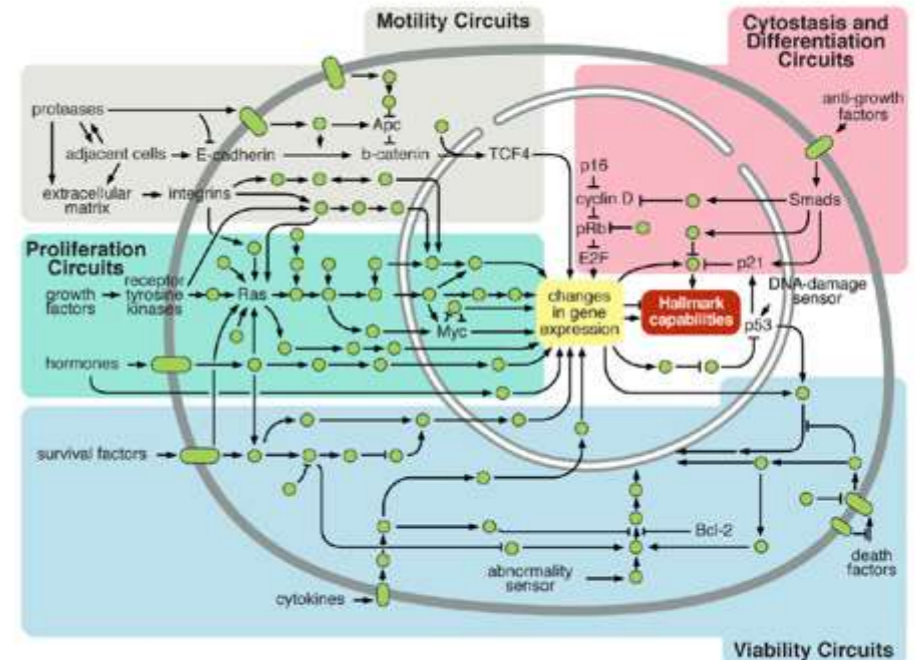


Figure 2. Intracellular Signaling Networks Regulate the Operations of the Cancer Cell

# The actual cell division stage: mitosis and cytokinesis

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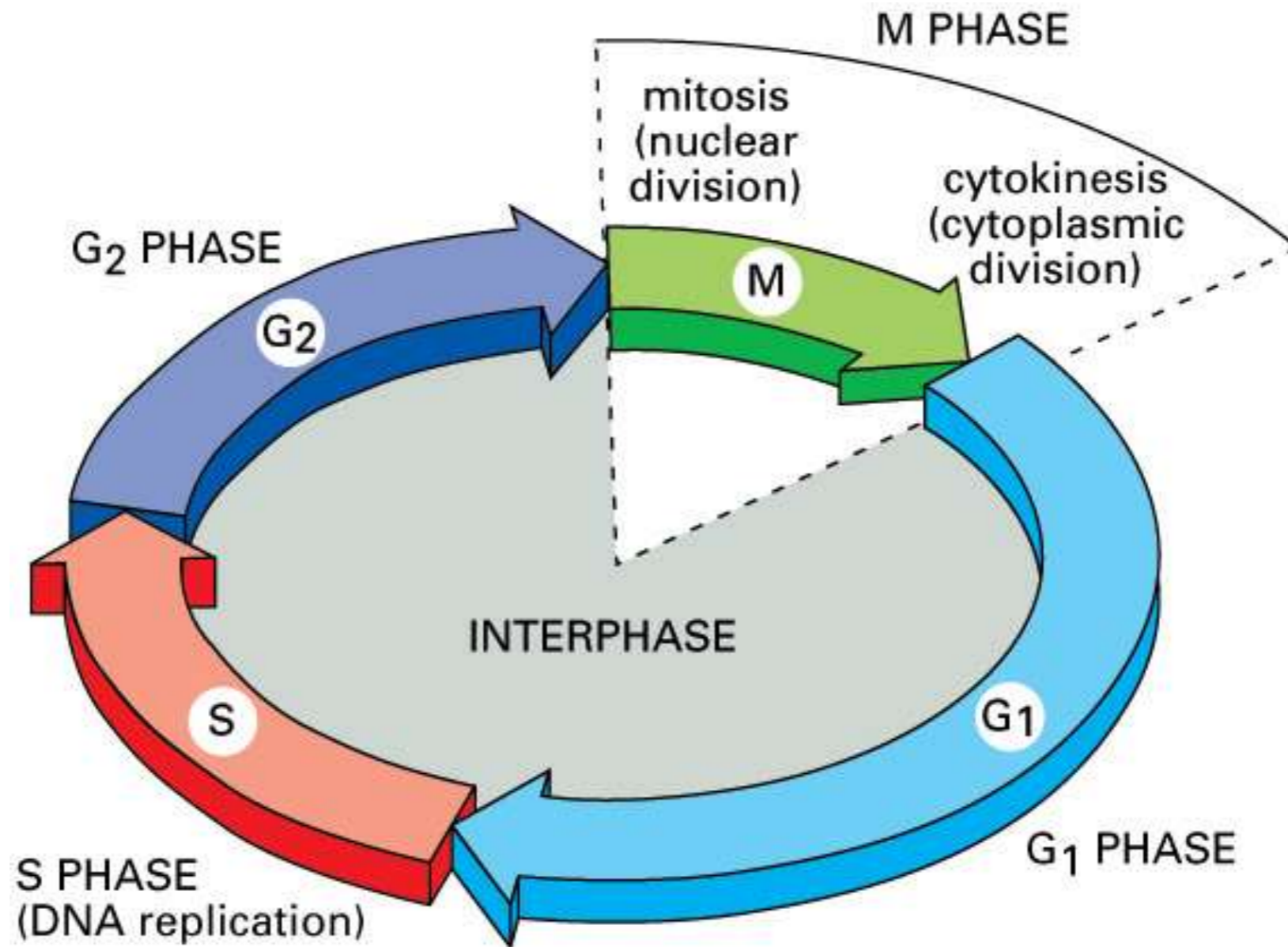
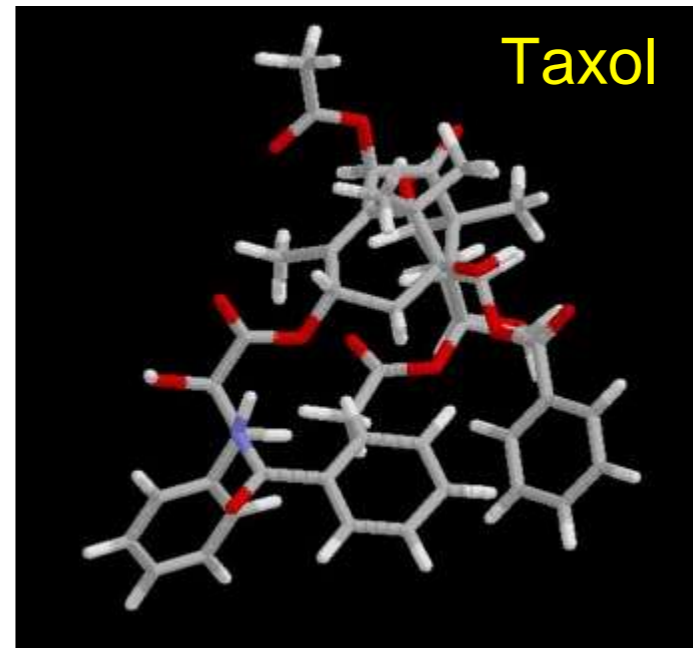
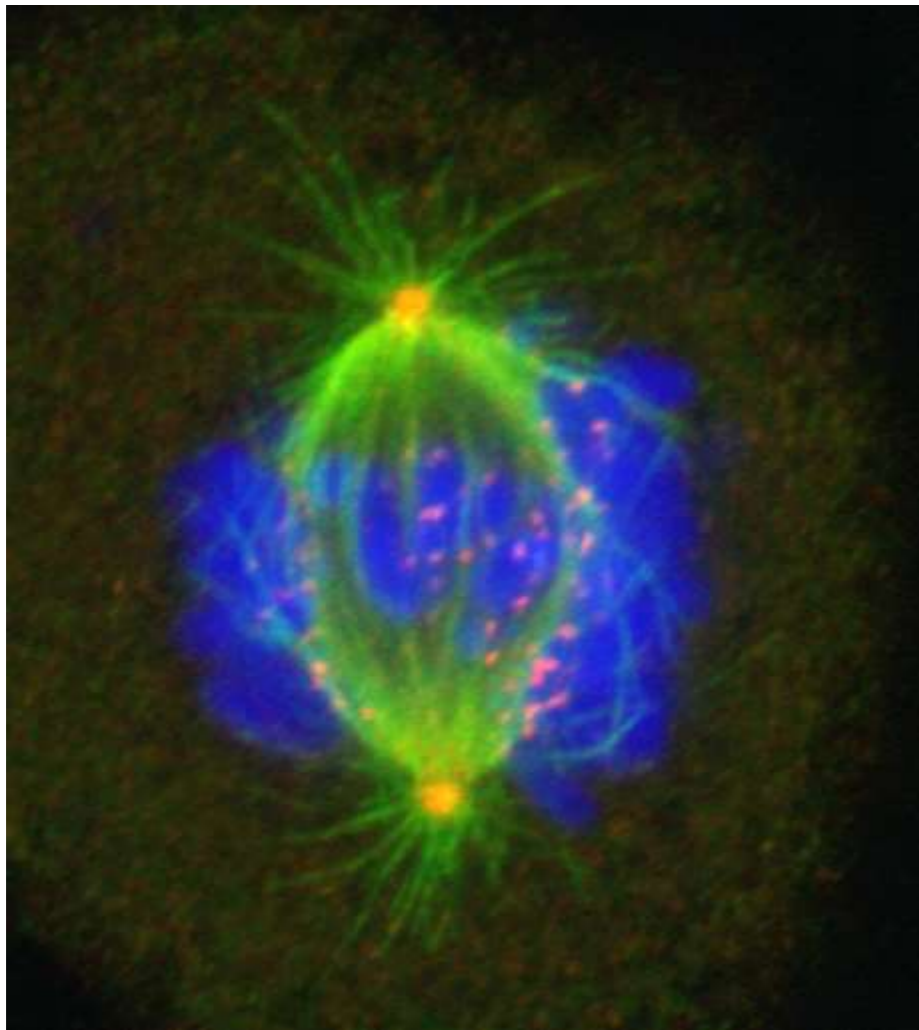


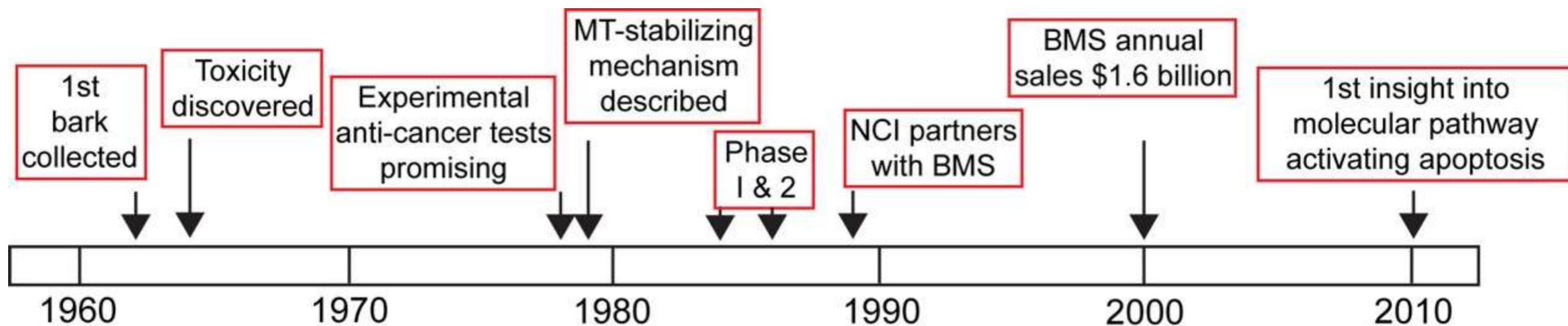
Figure 17-3. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

# Some of the most successful chemotherapies target mitosis

---



# A Brief History of Taxol as a Chemotherapy



April 21, 1977

Dr. Susan Horwitz  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Pharmacology  
Albert Einstein College of  
Medicine of Yeshiva University  
1300 Morris Park Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10461

Dear Susan:

At a recent Decision Network meeting, NSC-125973 (Taxol) was approved for further study. We have some information about it (folder enclosed) and believe that it may be a protein synthesis inhibitor. Would you please study this compound in your systems.

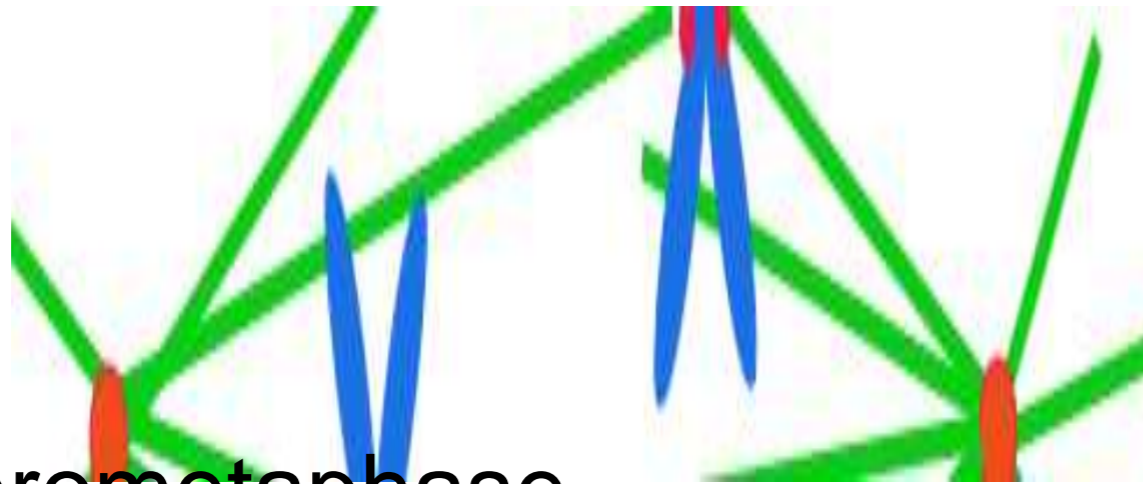
The compound is quite insoluble in aqueous vehicle, but DMA and DMSO can be used effectively.

The chemical structure of Taxol (paclitaxel) is shown, a complex diterpenoid with multiple stereocenters, hydroxyl groups, and ester linkages.

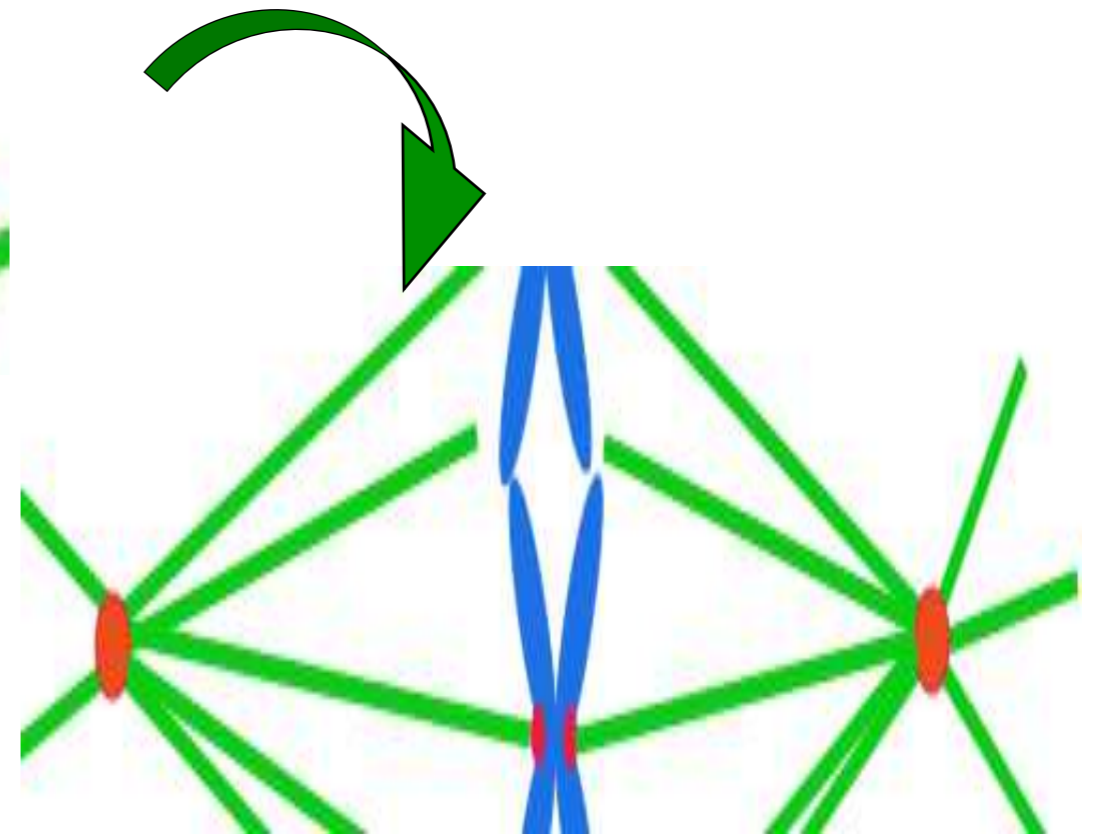
Susan Horwitz. Reflections on my life with Taxol. Cell. 177: 502-505.

# Mitosis Overview

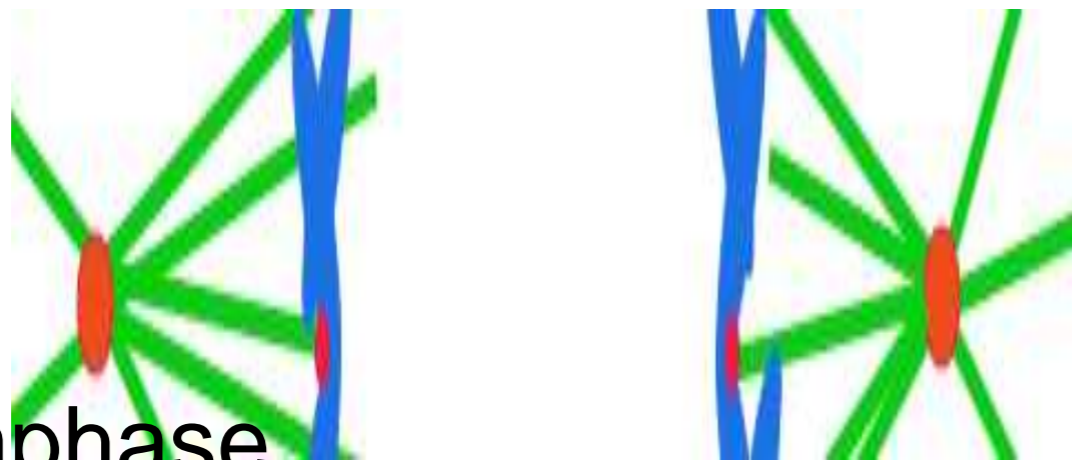
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prometaphase



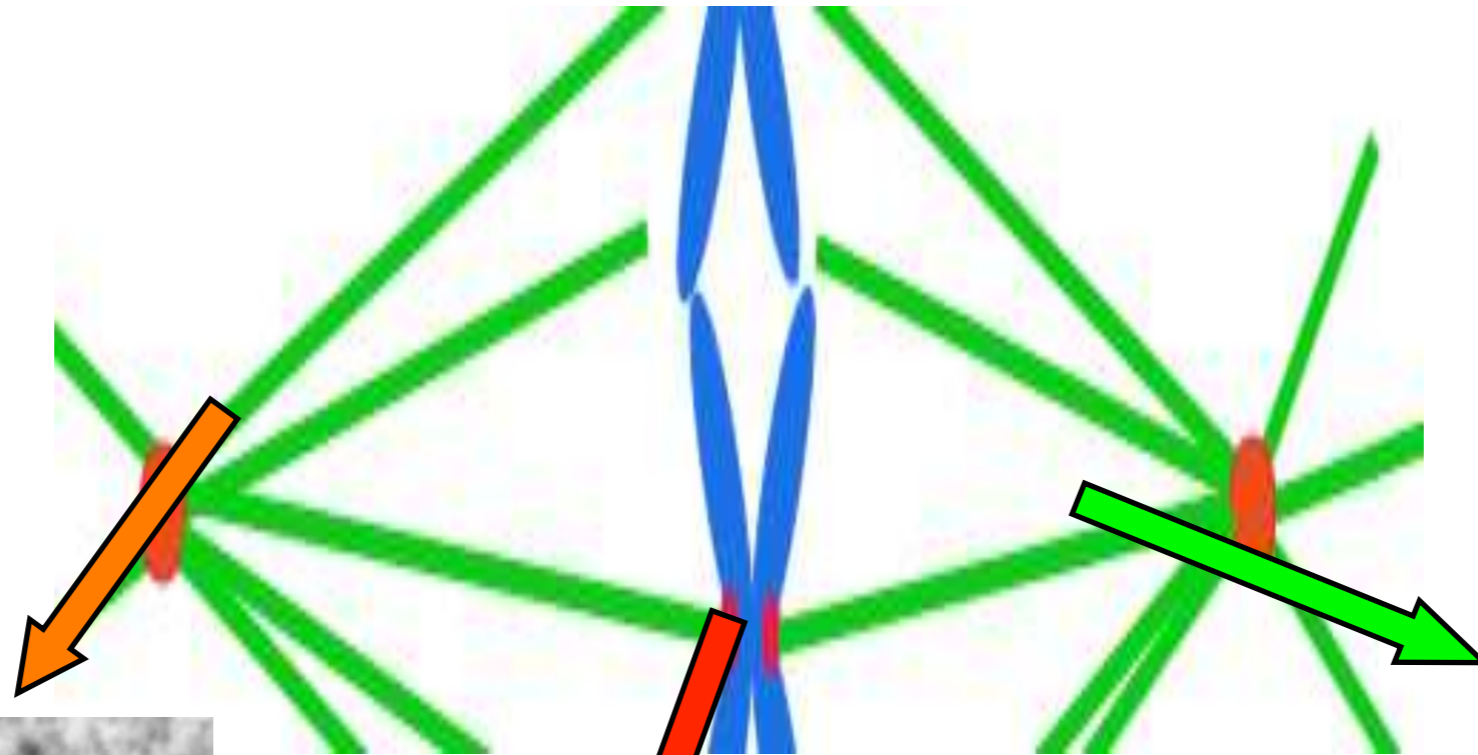
metaphase



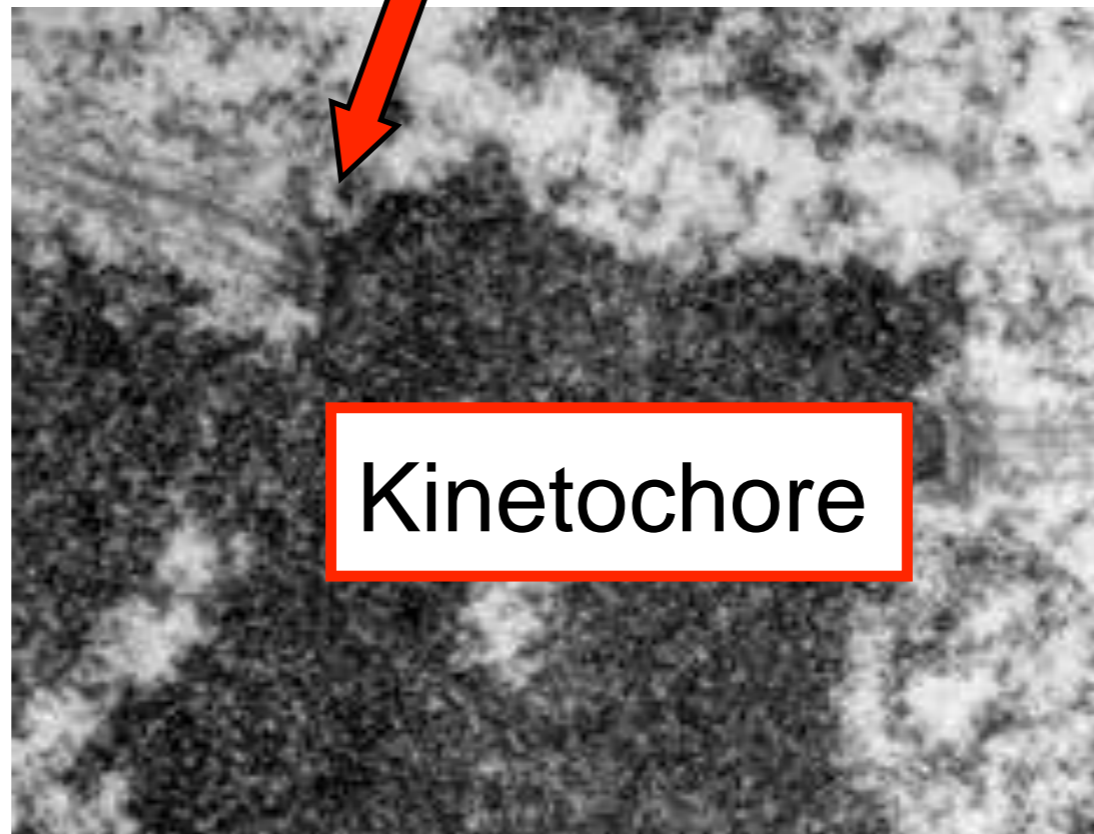
anaphase

# spindle structure

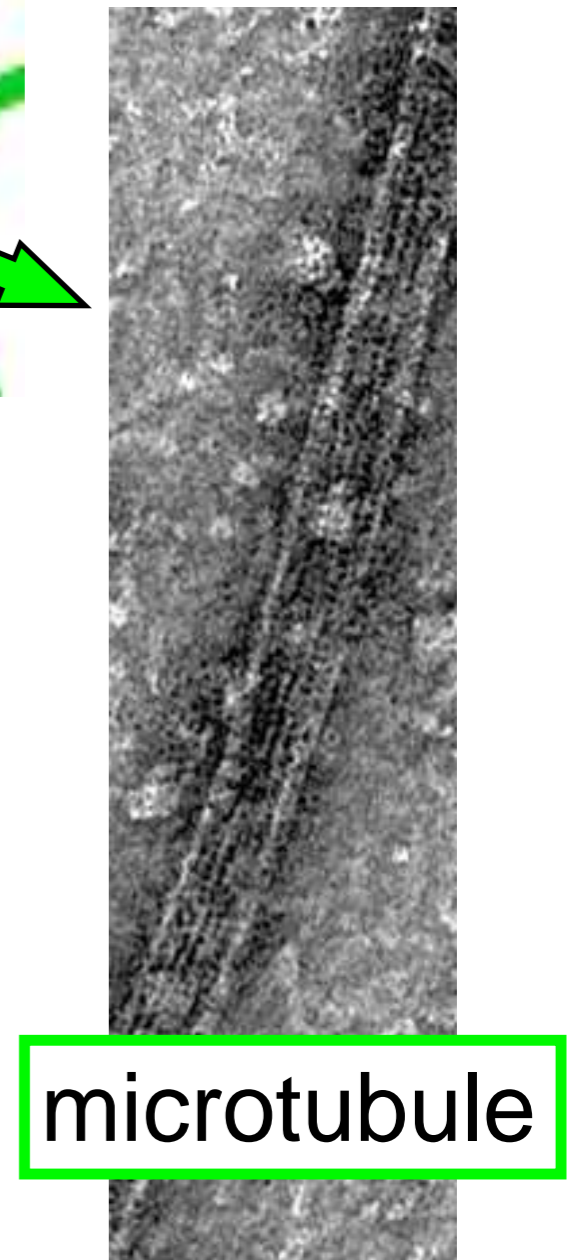
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Pole or centrosome

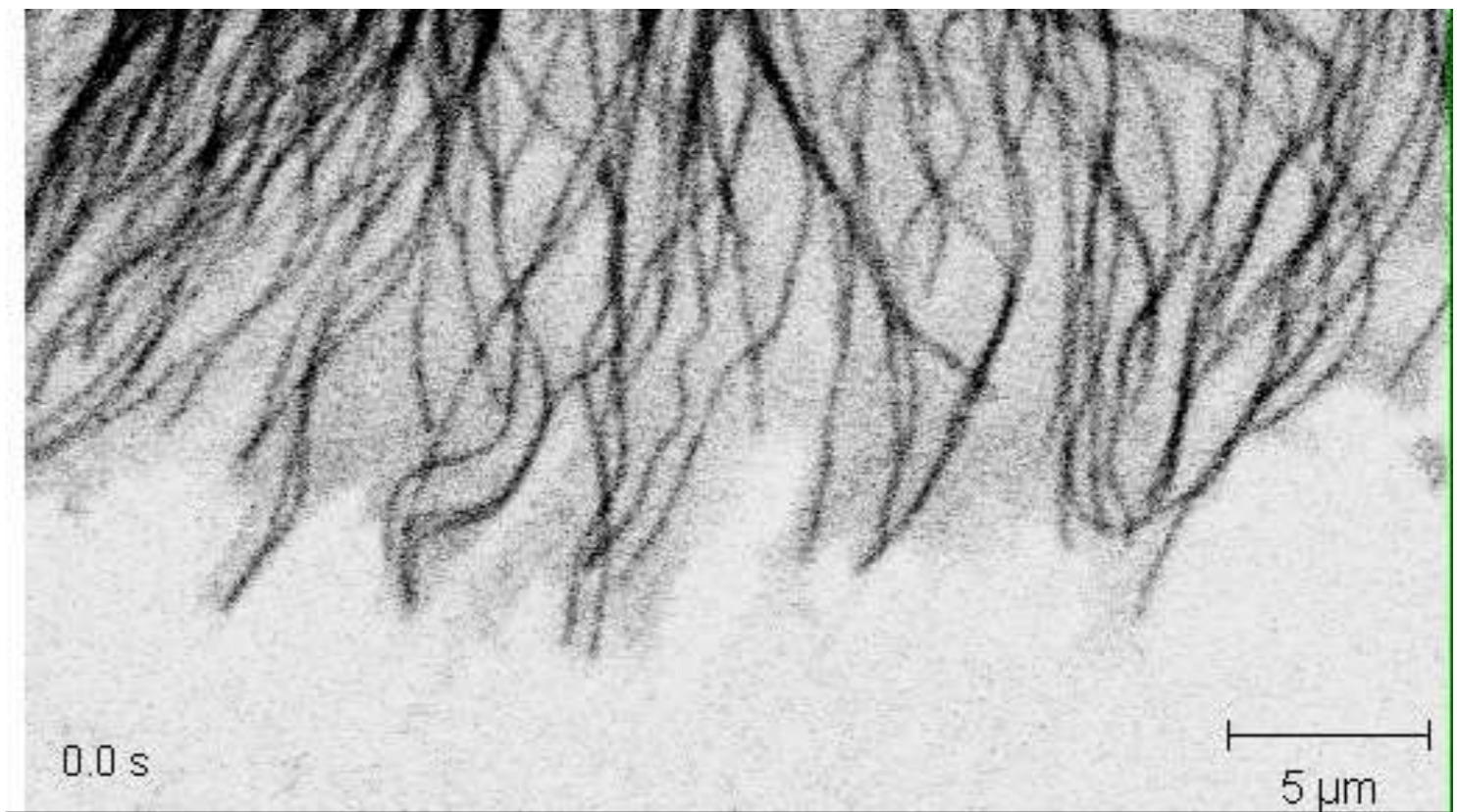
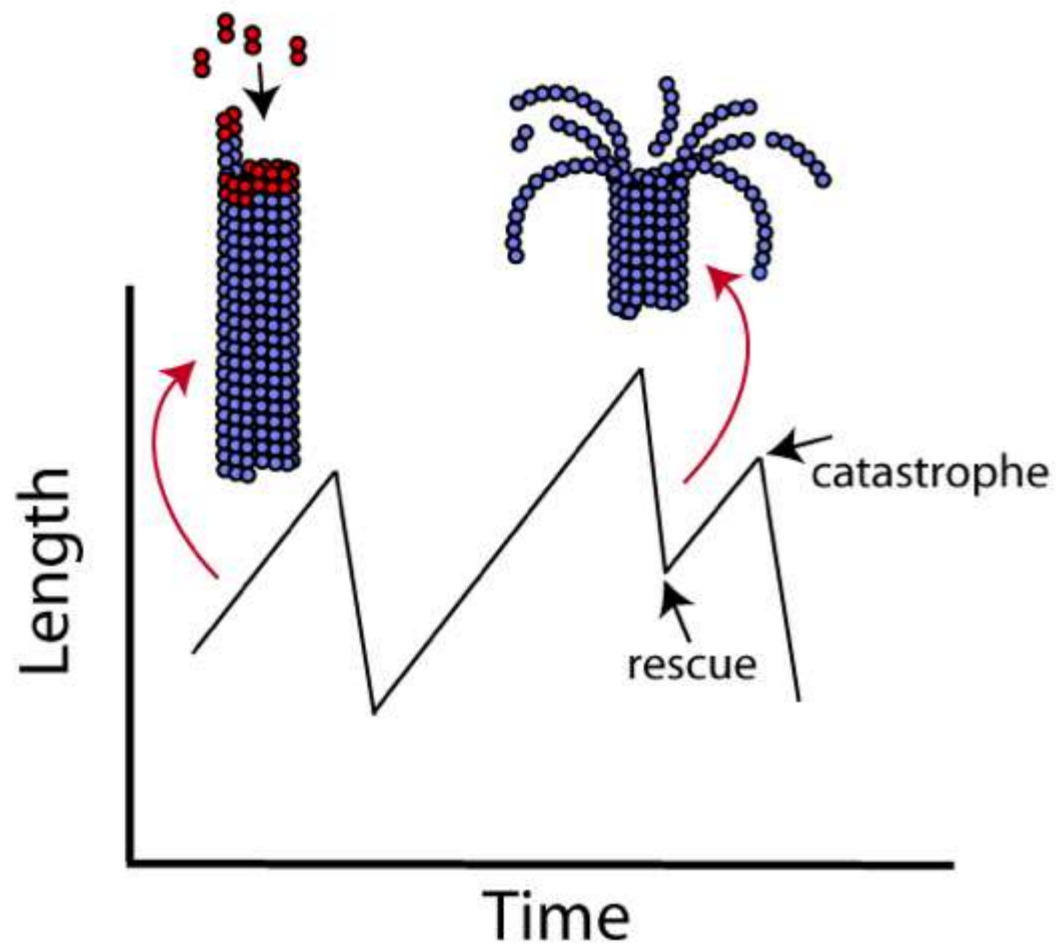
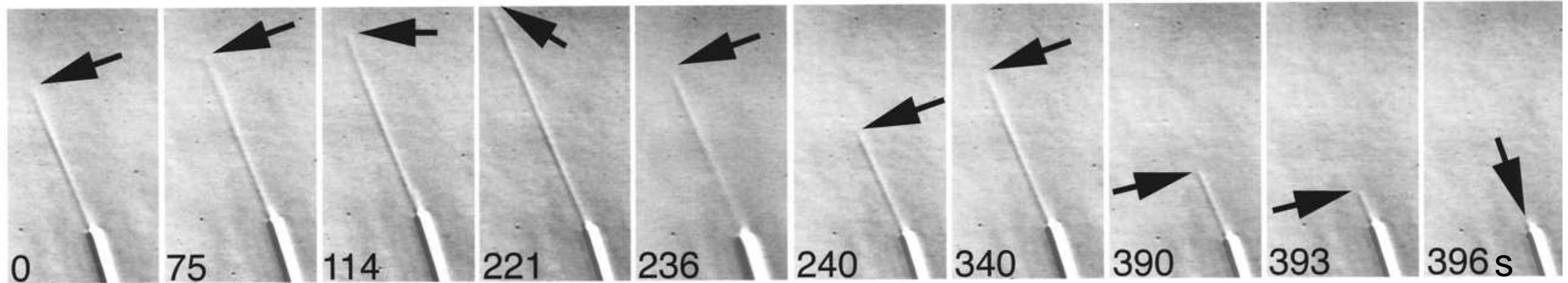


Kinetochore

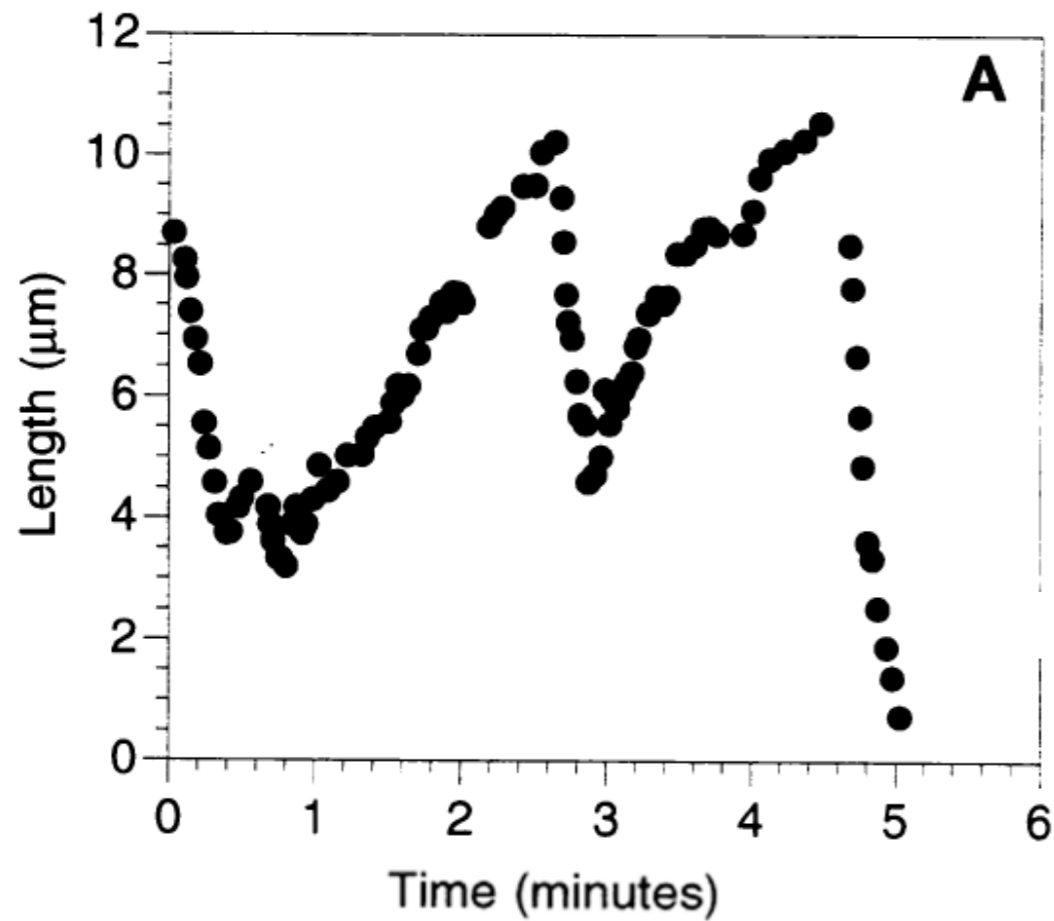


microtubule

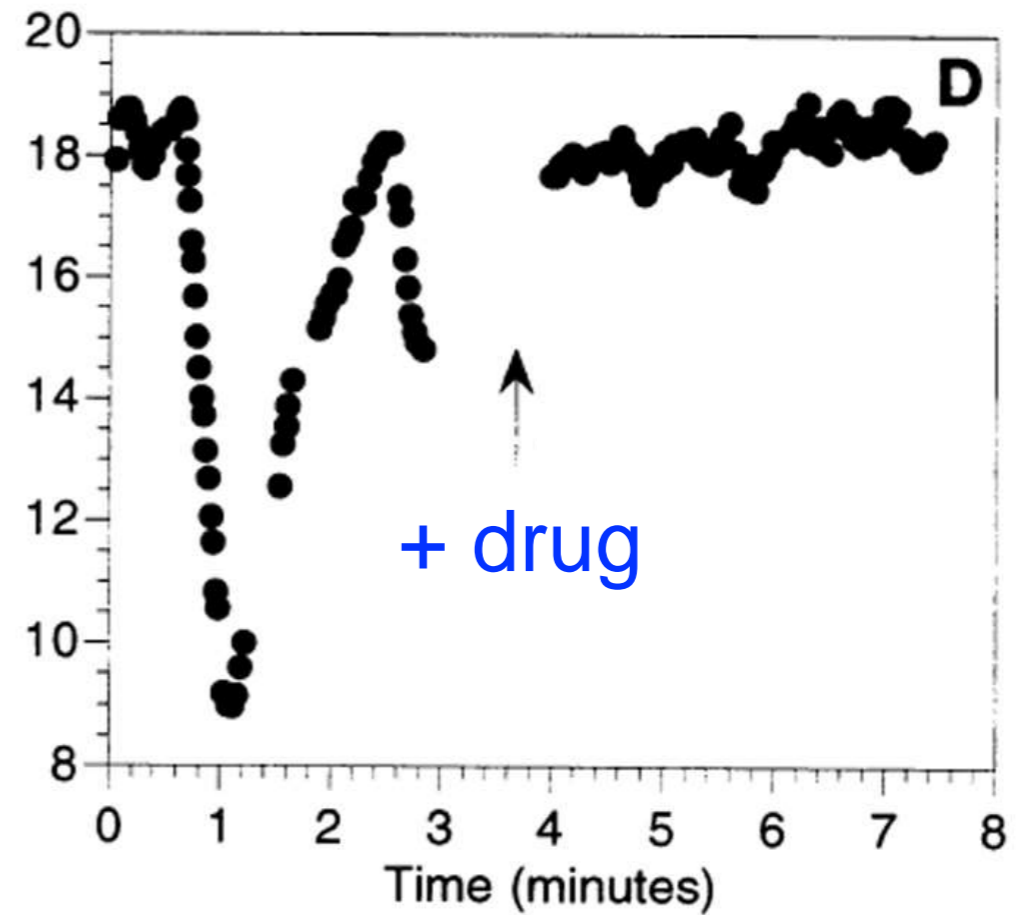
# Microtubules are dynamic protein polymers



# Taxol blocks microtubule disassembly

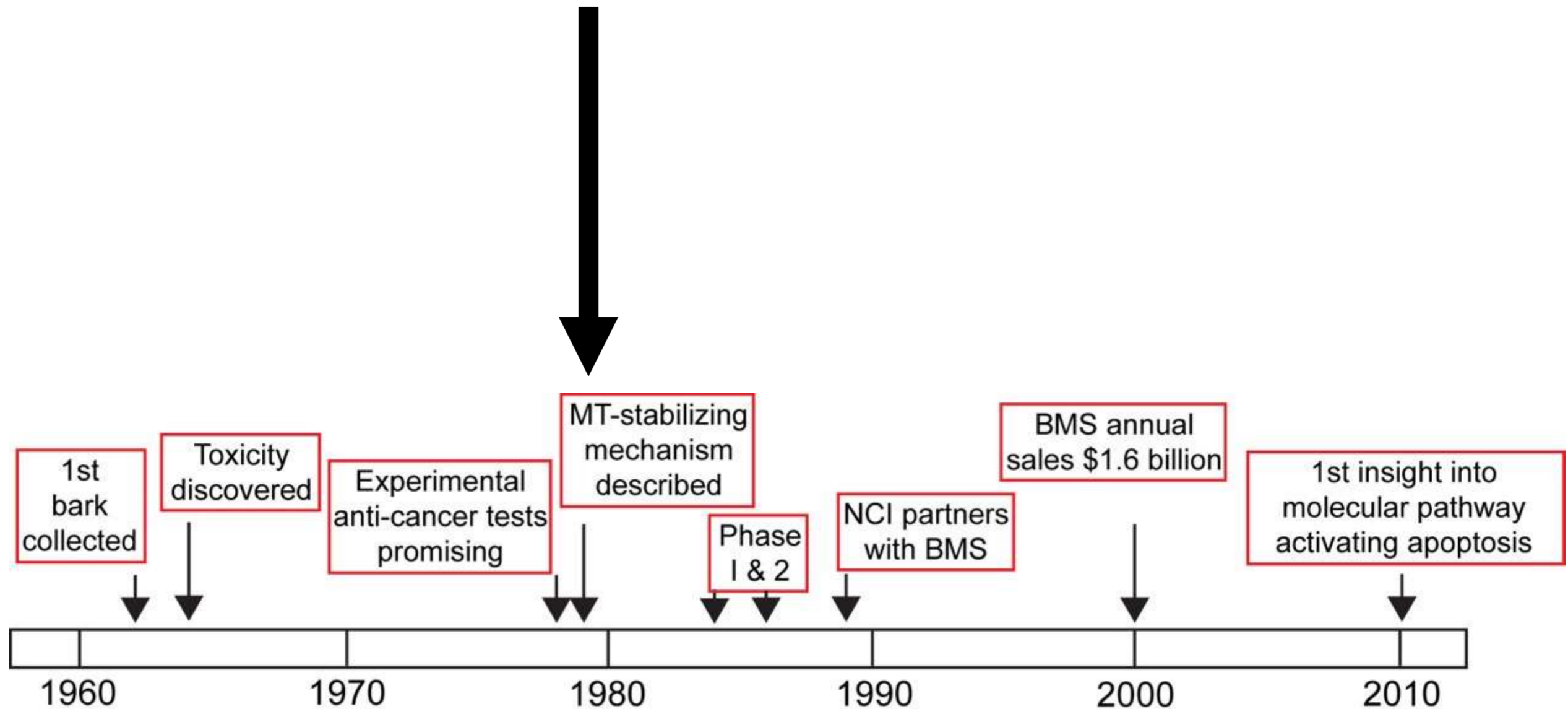


Untreated

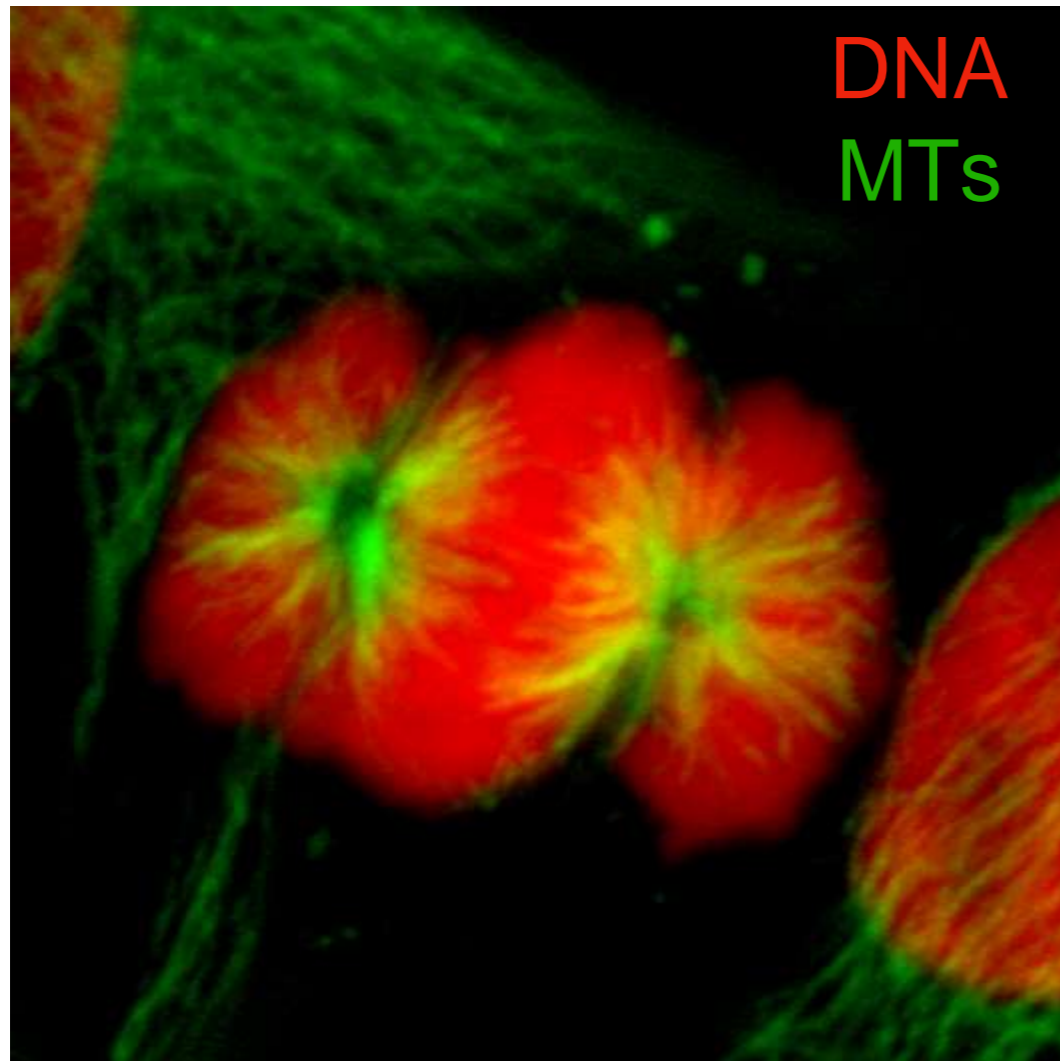
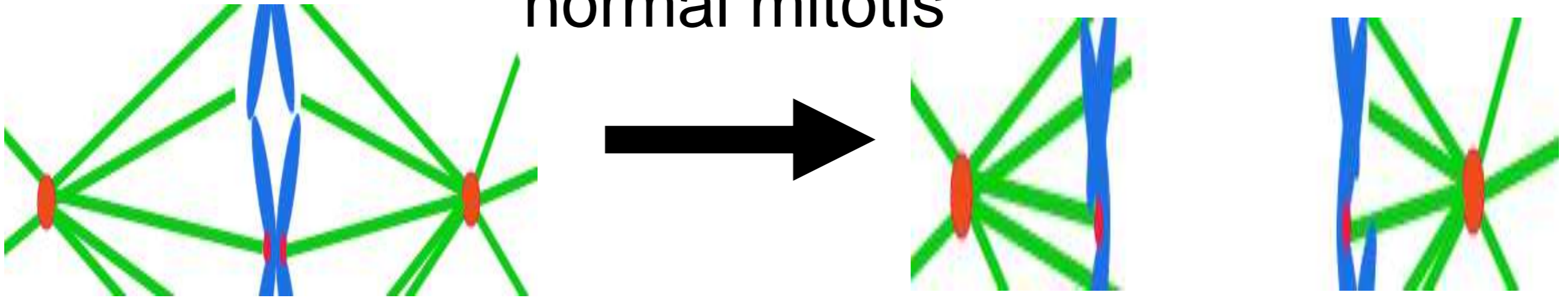




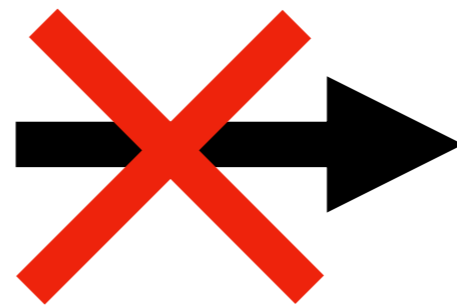
Unique mode of action (at the time)  
led to highly successful clinical trials



normal mitosis



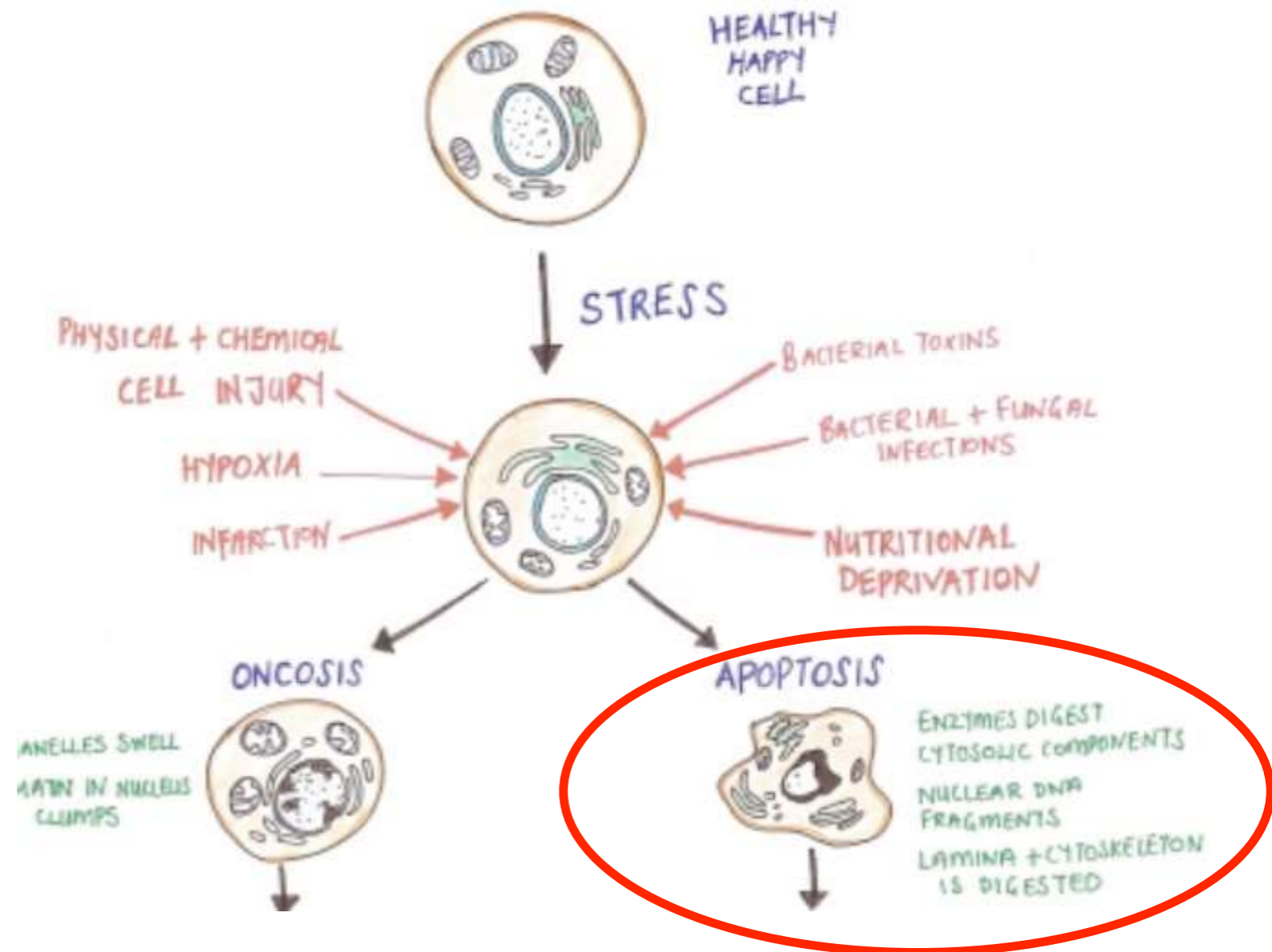
+ Taxol



prolonged  
mitotic  
block

# Stuck in Mitosis: Activates Cell Death Pathway

prolonged  
mitotic  
block



# Taxol and other chemotherapies come with major side effects

---

**Cancer  
Cells**



**Normal  
Cells**

## ***Newer approaches***

*\*combat side effects*

\*new therapies that target only cancer cells

# Avoid death of normal cells: Target something novel in cancer cells

## chronic myeloid leukemia

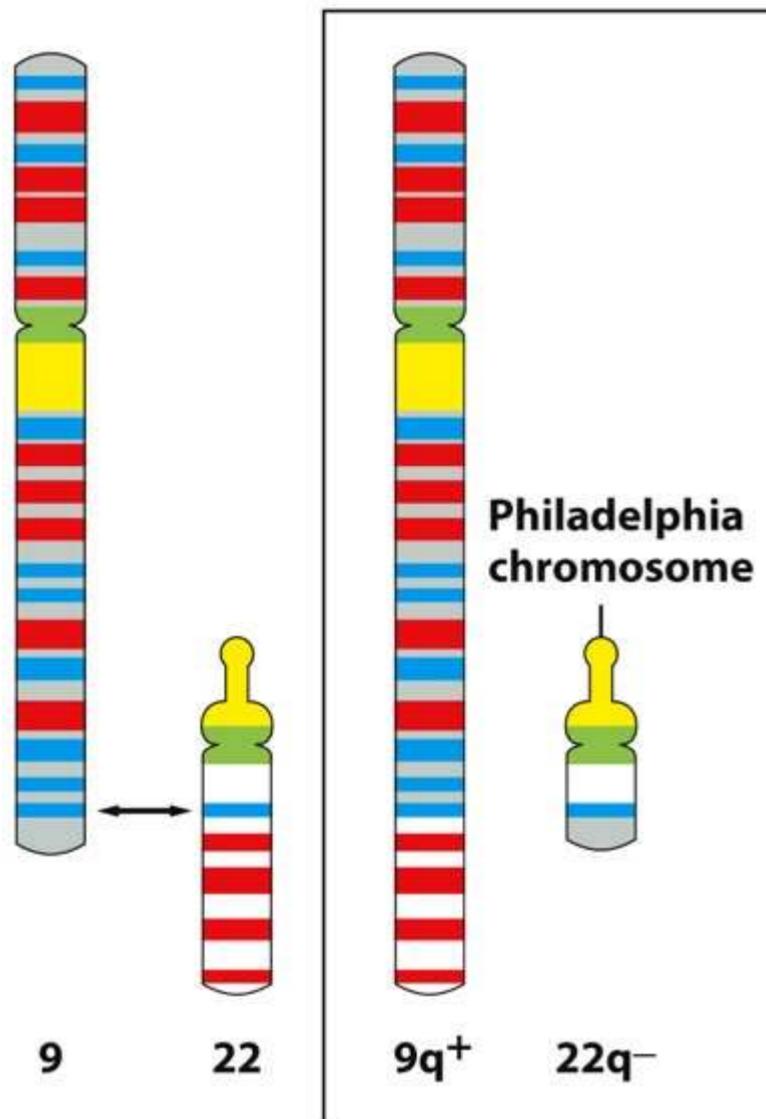


Figure 20-5 Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

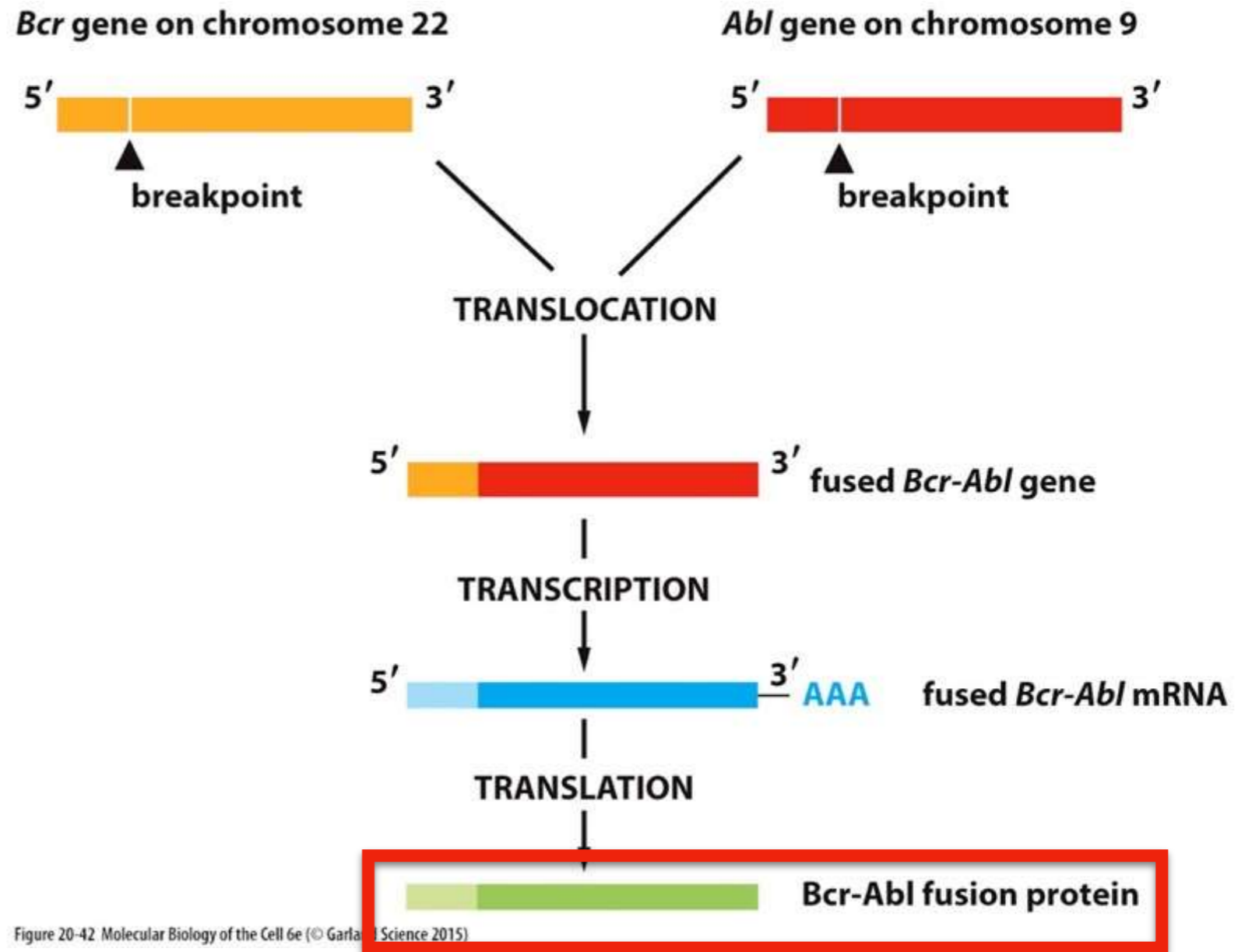


Figure 20-42 Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

***Gleevec (drug) blocks Bcr-Abl fusion protein***

# Ras pathway is target for many inhibitors

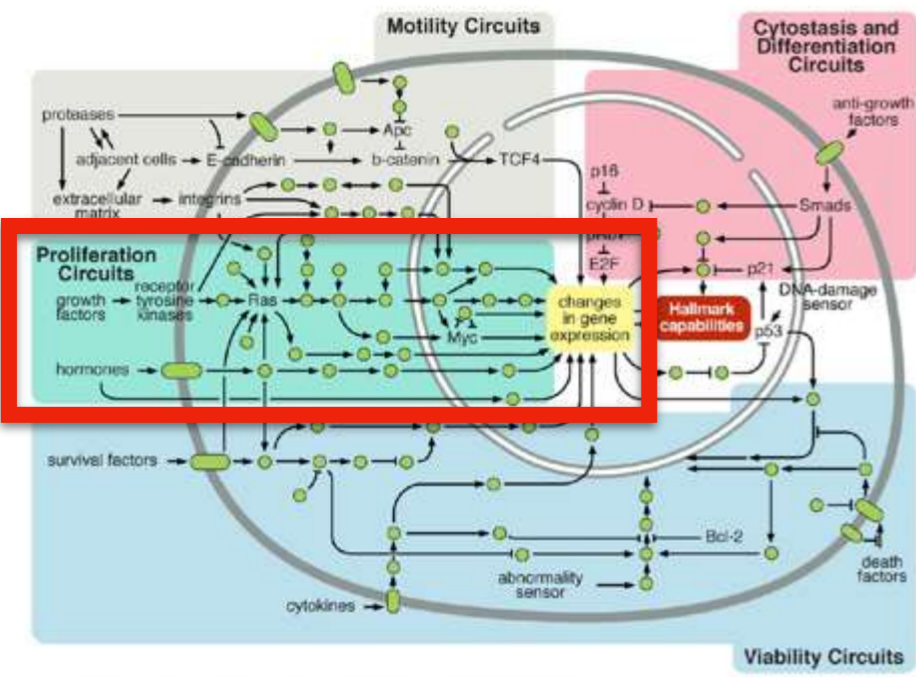
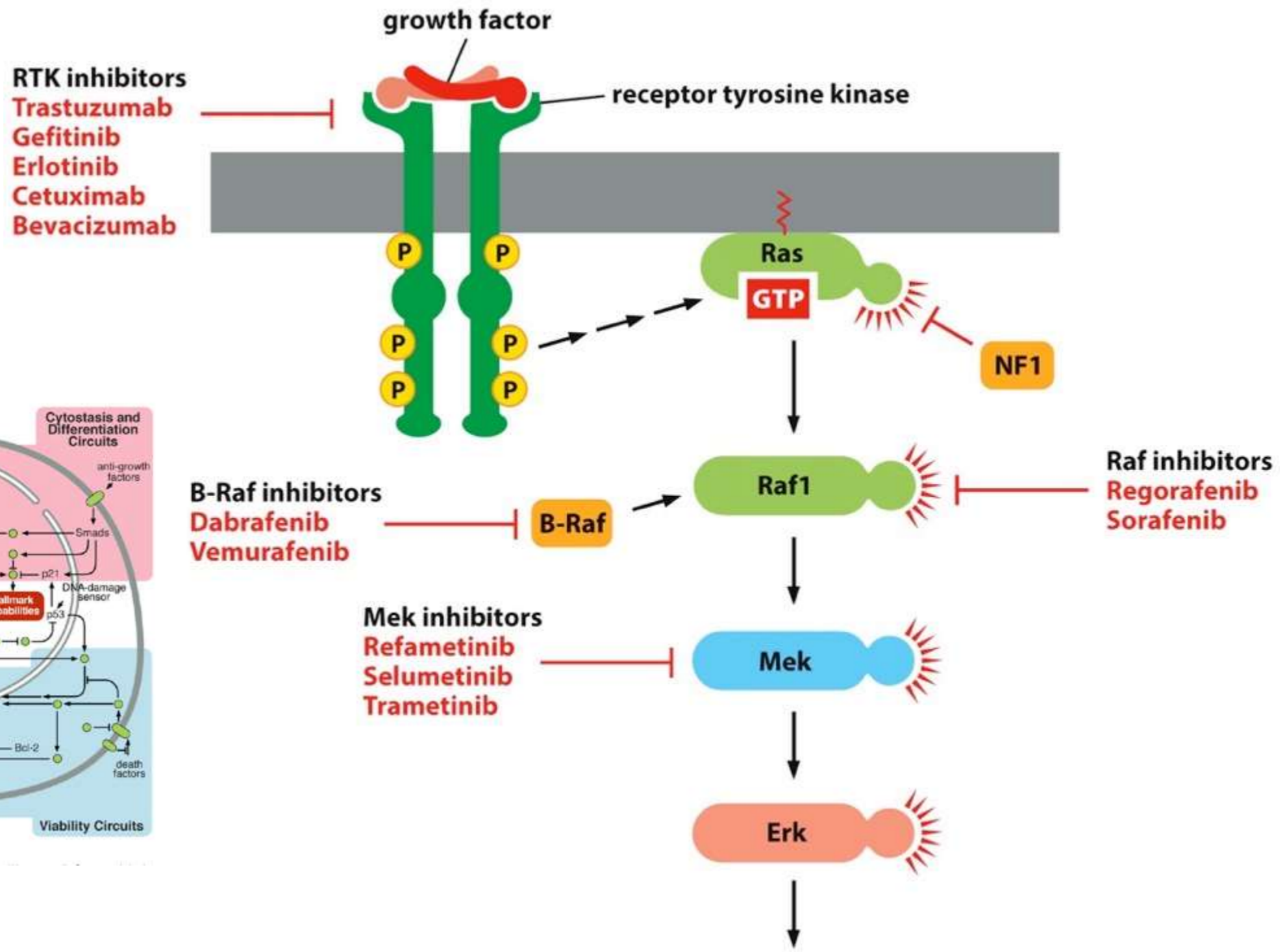
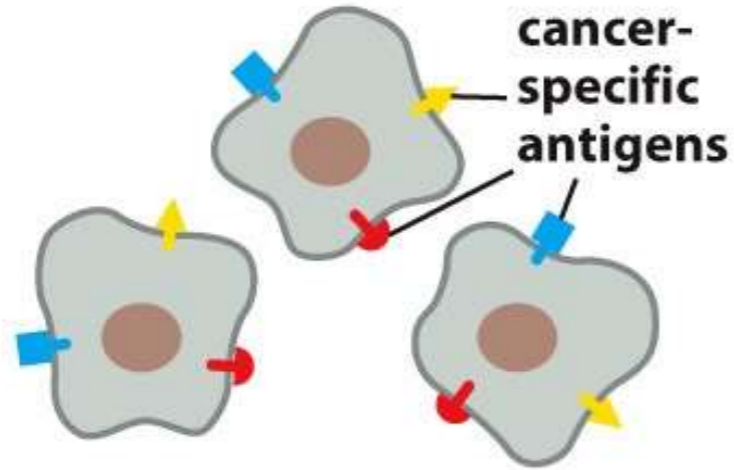


Figure 2. Intracellular Signaling Networks Regulate the Operations of the Cancer Cell

Figure 20-44 Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)



**CANCER CELLS PROTECTED  
BY AN IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE  
ENVIRONMENT**

Cancer cells protect themselves from detection by our immune system

Newer area for treatment - unmask cancer cells so immune system can attack

# Mutations needed for metastasis are poorly understood

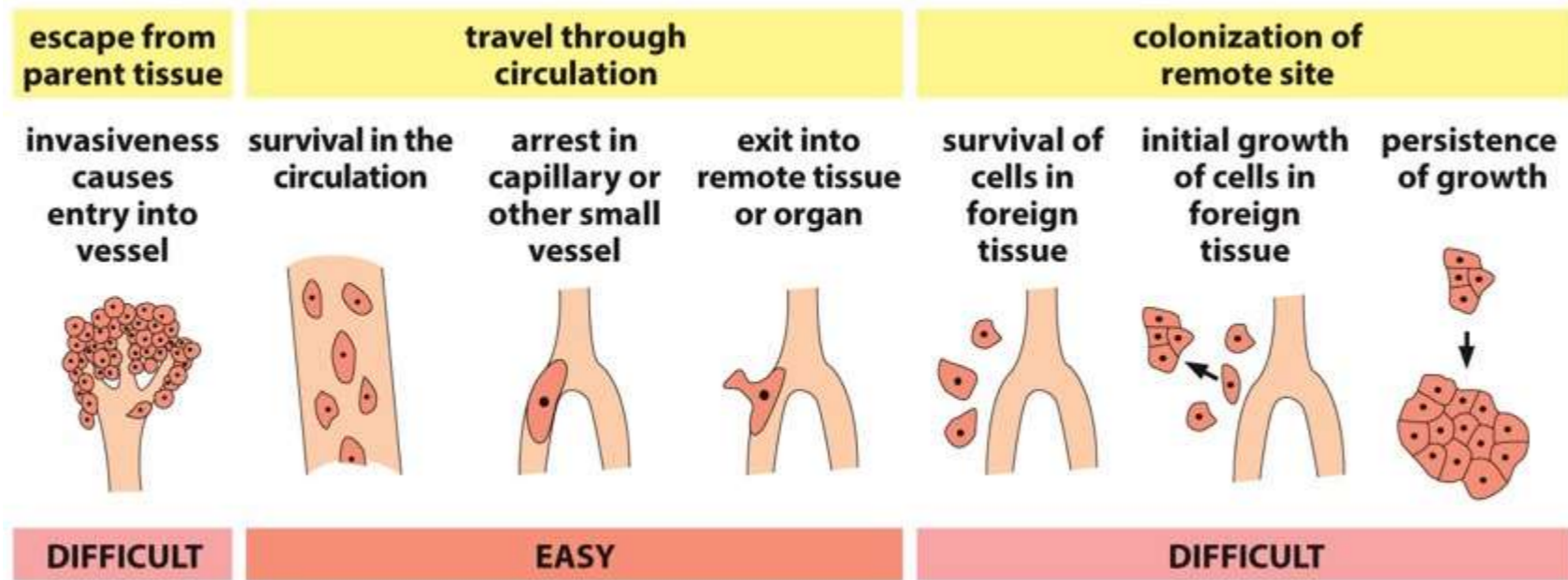
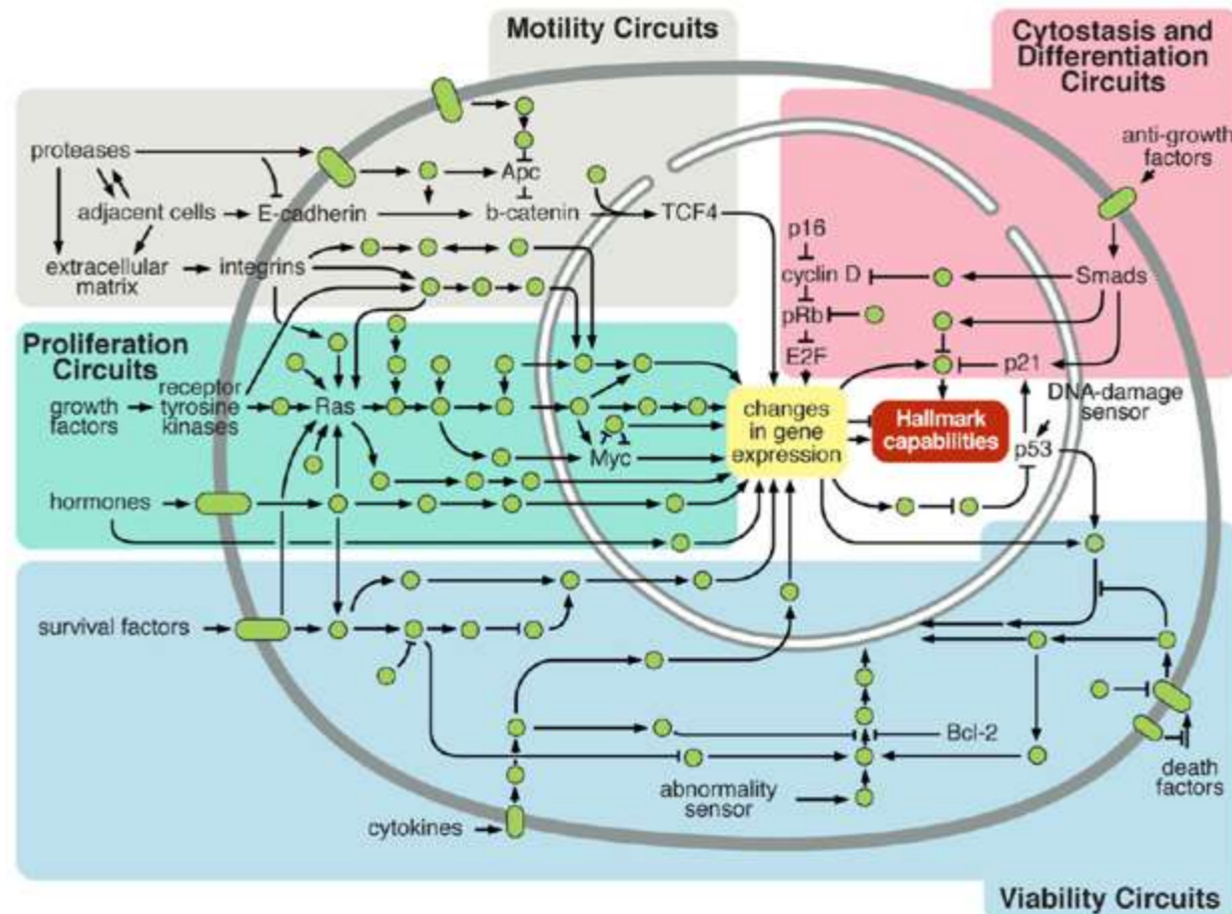


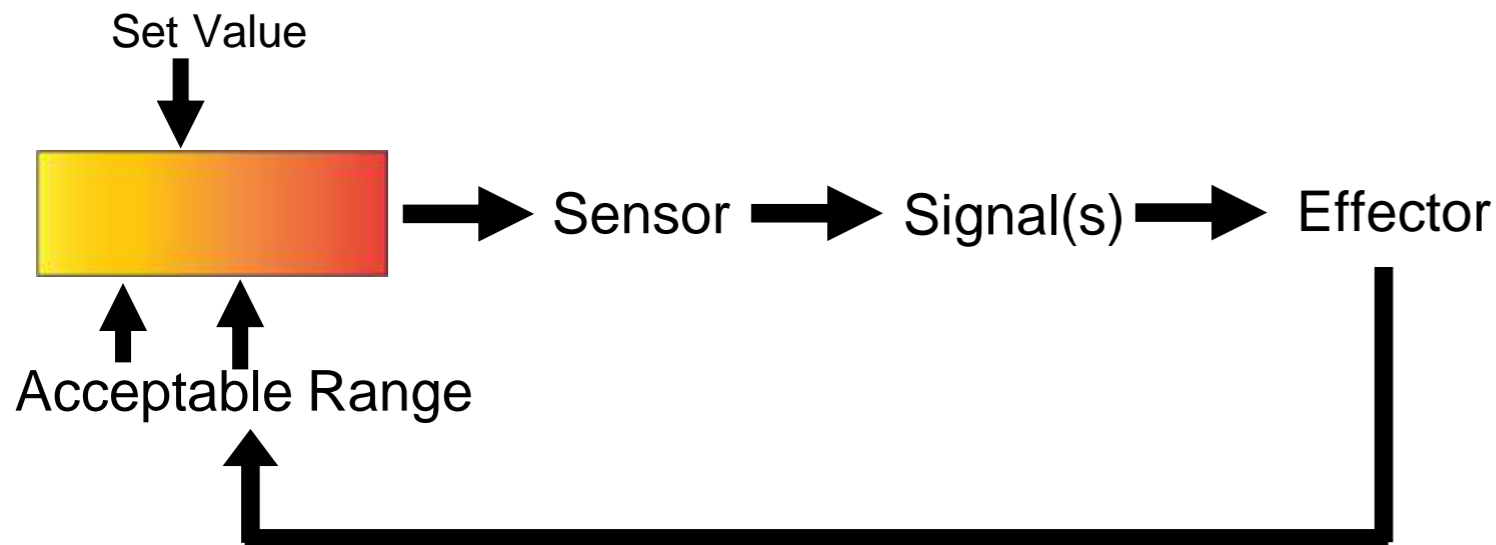
Figure 20-31 Molecular Biology of the Cell 6e (© Garland Science 2015)

predict these pathways necessary

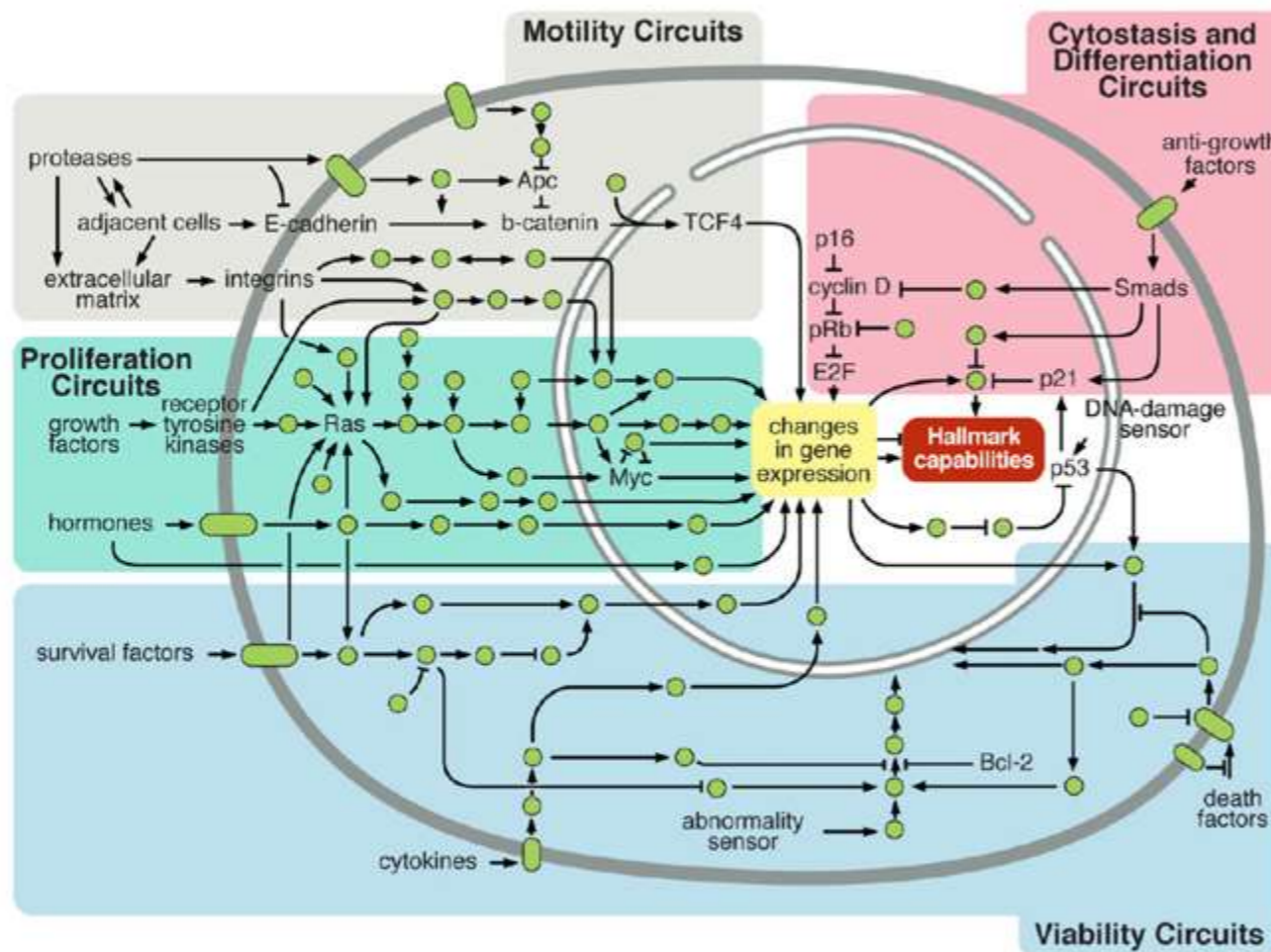




# Key points



Cells maintain a healthy state by constantly monitoring themselves and their environment



Mutations to the sensors and effectors drive cancer progression

## Hallmarks of Cancer: The Next Generation

Douglas Hanahan<sup>1,2\*</sup> and Robert A. Weinberg<sup>3,4\*</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>The Texas Institute for Experimental Cancer Research (TI-ECR), School of Life Sciences, EPFL, Lausanne CH-1015, Switzerland  
<sup>2</sup>The Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics, UCSF, San Francisco, CA 94158, USA  
<sup>3</sup>Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Ludwig-MIT Center for Molecular Oncology, and MIT Department of Biology, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA  
<sup>4</sup>Correspondence: dhanahan@texas.ti-ecr.ch (D.H.), weinberg@mit.edu (R.A.W.)  
 DOI 10.1016/j.ccr.2011.02.013

Figure 2. Intracellular Signaling Networks Regulate the Operations of the Cancer Cell