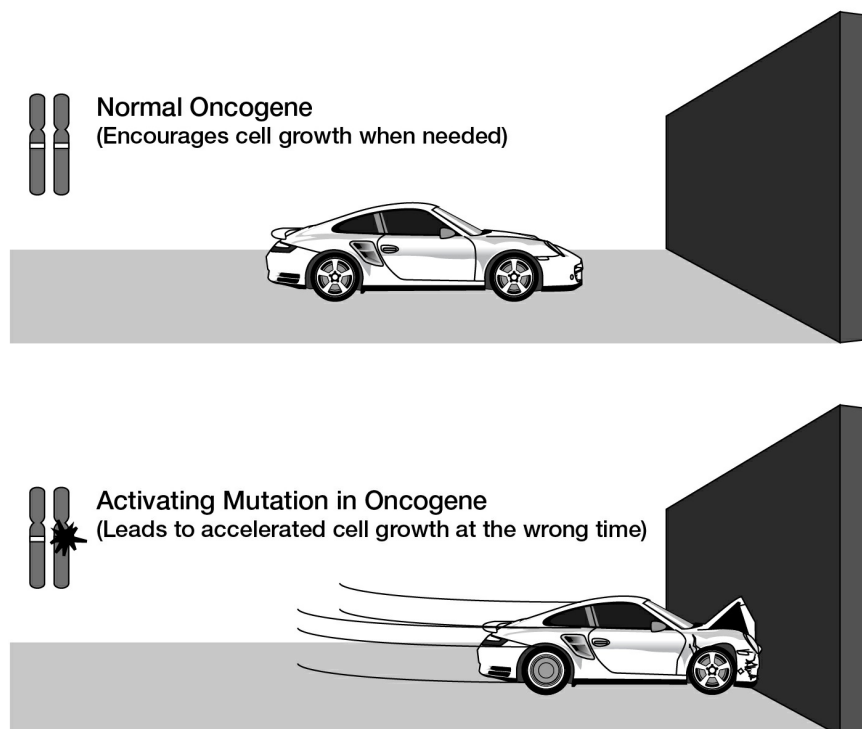


Oncogene

National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)

Source

National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI). *Oncogene*.



Figure

An oncogene is a mutated gene that contributes to the development of a cancer. In their normal, unmutated state, oncogenes are called proto-oncogenes, and they play roles in the regulation of cell division. Some oncogenes work like putting your foot down on the accelerator of a car, pushing a cell to divide. Other oncogenes work like removing your foot from the brake while parked on a hill, also causing the cell to divide.