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Heterotrimeric G Protein Subunit

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Heterotrimeric G Protein Subunit*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C19273.

The alpha, beta, and gamma subunits (or beta-gamma dimers) of heterotrimeric guanine nucleotide binding (G) proteins are intracellular membrane-associated proteins activated by various receptors (e.g., beta adrenergic). They serve as transducers of the receptor-initiated response linked to intracellular elements, such as enzymes, that generate second messengers to initiate an effect. These proteins have a high affinity for guanine nucleotides and hence are named "G" proteins.