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# Natural Killer Cell

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Natural Killer Cell*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C12536.

Natural killer cells are cells that resemble large granular lymphocytes. They do not express markers of either T or B cell lineage. They are positive for CD16, CD56, and CD94. These cells do possess Fc receptors for IgG and can kill target cells using antibody-dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity. They can also use perforin to kill cells in the absence of antibody and killing may occur without previous sensitization.