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Colonization

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. <u>Colonization</u>. NCI Thesaurus. Code C128361.

The presence of microorganisms (not contamination) on a body surface, including the skin and mucosal surfaces (e.g., respiratory, gastrointestinal, and urogenital tracts). Colonization implies the lack of signs or symptoms of infection but often precedes infection.

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