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# Extracellular Matrix Degradation

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Extracellular Matrix Degradation*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C41580.

Extracellular Matrix Degradation consists of conjugation, transport, oxidation, and/or proteolysis of the supporting meshwork-like network of fibers and substances in the extracellular space or basement membrane to which cells adhere and that promotes cell proliferation. Extracellular Matrix is broken down during normal physiological and disease processes such as bone remodeling, embryogenesis, cancer, and arthritis.