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Satellite DNA

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Satellite DNA*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C13228.

DNA that contains many tandem highly repetitive sequences, that have a base composition (and thus density) sufficiently different from that of normal DNA that it sediments as a distinct band in cesium chloride density gradients. Satellite DNA is located at very specific spots in the genome (on chromosomes 1, 9, 16 and the Y chromosome, the tiny short arms of chromosomes 13-15 and 21 and 22, and near the centromeres of chromosomes).