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Proto-Oncogene

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Proto-Oncogene*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C17023.

Oncogenes are altered forms of normal cellular genes called proto-oncogene. Many proto-oncogenes are homologous to viral oncogenes and involved in the control of cell proliferation or differentiation. Mutations, amplifications or rearrangements of proto-oncogenes lead to upregulated or deregulated cell growth and allow them to function as oncogenes.