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Phenocopy

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Source

National Cancer Institute (NCI). Phenocopy.

A phenotypic trait or disease that resembles the trait expressed by a particular genotype, but in an individual who is not a carrier of that genotype. For example, breast cancer in a hereditary breast/ovarian cancer syndrome family member who does not carry the family's BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation would be considered a phenocopy. Such an individual does not have the family's cancer-related mutation and therefore, they do not have the associated cancer risk from that specific mutation.