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COLD-PCR

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *COLD-PCR*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C99486.

A modification of the standard polymerase chain reaction that increases the ability to preferentially amplify minority alleles and somatic mutations in the presence of an excess of wild-type molecules. Sequence-variant molecules are preferentially selected by the lower melting temperature of their mismatched heteroduplex after they've annealed to a wild-type molecule that is present in excess. By carefully selecting the denaturing temperature below the T_m for the wild-type molecule, only the mismatch heteroduplexes will melt and act as efficient templates for strand synthesis.