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Chromosomal Instability

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Chromosomal Instability*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C48195.

The instability of chromosomes is attributed to the continuous formation of novel chromosome mutations. These mutations form at an elevated rate in comparison to the normal cell population. The increased frequency of structural chromosome aberrations can be caused by an abnormally high incidence of DNA double-strand breaks and translocations. Screening for chromosomal breakage and rearrangement is used as a diagnostic tool in Fanconi anemia.