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Collagen Gene

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Collagen Gene*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C26001.

Collagen Genes encode different forms of Collagen, the principle fibrous protein of connective tissue, all consisting of triple helix alpha-polypeptide chains. Collagen is differentiated from other fibrous proteins by its content of proline, hydroxyproline, and hydroxylysine; by its absence of tryptophan; and by its high content of polar groups. Hydroxyproline residues likely promote the triple helical fibrous structure of collagen. (NCI)