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Desmosome

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Desmosome*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C13955.

Desmosomes are intercellular anchoring junctions that anchor intermediate filaments at membrane-associated plaques in adjoining cells. Desmosomes assemble in response to cell-cell contact and raised levels of extracellular calcium. Sensitivity to calcium levels is lost as desmosomes mature.