

# CARCINOGENESIS

CARCINOGENESIS: Multistep process at both

Phenotype (الشكل المظهري)

Genotype (الشكل الجيني)

CARCINOGENESIS start with genetic damage

Environmental

Inherited

Chemical

Radiation

Viral

Leads to mutation

Undergoes neoplastic proliferations

(Clonal expansion)

توسع الأعضاء بسبب تكون كتلة السرطان

Forming TUMOR mass.

Where are the targets of the genetic damage??

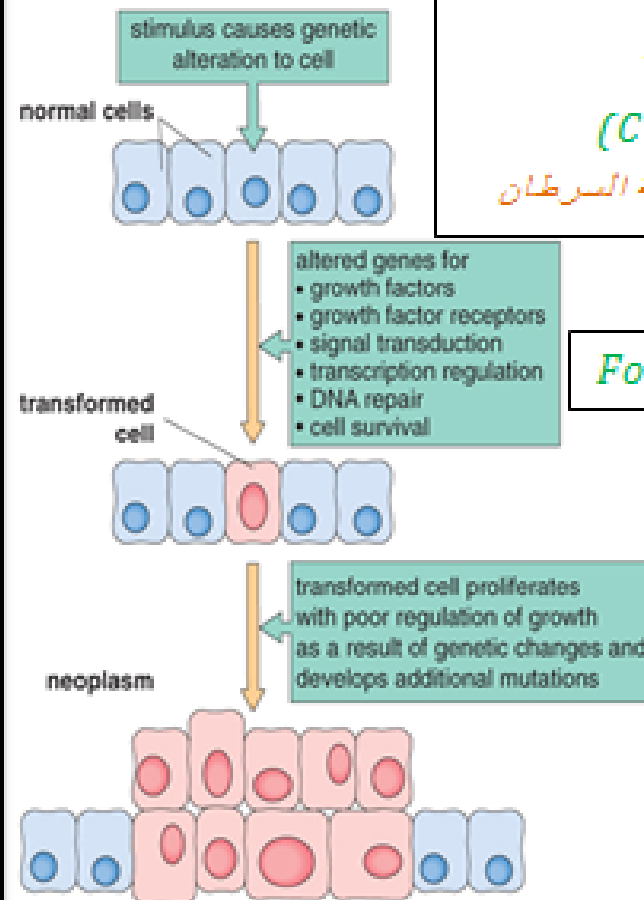
Four regulatory genes are the main targets

Growth promoting genes (proto-oncogenes)

Growth inhibiting (suppressor) genes

Genes regulating apoptosis

DNA repair genes



# Main changes in the cell physiology that lead to formation of the malignant phenotype

Self-sufficiency in growth signals

Insensitivity to growth-inhibitory signals

Evasion of apoptosis

Limitless replicative potential

Sustained angiogenesis

Ability to invade and metastasize

Oncogenes

Promote autonomous cell growth in cancer cells

Derived by mutations in (**proto-oncogenes**)

Function

Ability to promote cell growth in the absence of normal growth-promoting signals

Produce

Oncoprotein

HOW CANCER CELLS ACQUIRE SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN GROWTH SIGNALS??

Some depend on cell cycle  
Refer to lecture

1- Growth factors:

2- Growth factors receptors:

3- Signal-transducing proteins:

4- Nuclear transcription factors:

5- Cyclins and cyclins-dependent kinases (CDKs)

Cancer cells synthesize growth factors to which they are responsive.

E.g.

Sarcomas -> (TGF- $\alpha$ )

Glioblastoma -> (PDGF)

Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF) Receptor family

# HER2

\*Amplified in **breast cancers** and other tumors

\*High levels of HER2 in breast cancer indicate poor prognosis

\*Anti-HER2 antibodies are used in treatment

RAS

30% of tumors  
E.g.: **colon**, **Pancreas cancers**

E.g.: chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) due to **ABL gene chromosome trans. (9,22)** treated with (Gleevec)

ABL gene

\*ABL proto-oncogene has a **tyrosine kinase activity**

\*Its activity is controlled by **-tive regulatory mechanism**

Mutations may affect genes that regulate transcription of DNA  $\rightarrow$  **growth autonomy**

E.g. **MYC**

\*MYC proto-oncogene produce MYC protein  $\rightarrow$  cell receives growth signals  
\*MYC protein binds to DNA leading to activation of growth-related genes.  
\*More MYC  $\rightarrow$  continuous proliferation.  
E.g. **Burkitt Lymphoma** due to t(8.14)

Progression of cells through cell cycles is regulated by CDKs after they are **activated** by binding with cyclins

Mutations that dysregulate cyclins and CDKs  $\rightarrow$  lead to cell proliferation ... E.g.:

\***Cyclin D** genes are overexpressed in **breast, esophagus and liver cancers**.

\***CDK4** is amplified in **melanoma and sarcomas**

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For Example:

**(RB)** retinoblastoma gene:

## Info about RB:

- \* Uncommon childhood tumor.
- \* 1st tumor suppressor gene discovered .
- \* It was discovered initially in retinoblastomas.
- \* Found in other tumors, e.g. breast cancer.
- \* RB gene is a DNA-binding protein.
- \* RB is located on chromosome 13
- \* Can be "active" and "inactive"
- \* Sporadic (60%) \* Familial (40%)
- \* 2 mutations required to produce RB

## RB function:

If **active** → stop cell cycle in G1 to S phase  
 if **inactive** → start cell cycle → **active RB**

**(TGF-β)** Transforming Growth Factor-β pathway:

## (TGF-β) functions:

- 1) tumor suppressor gene
- 2) Regulate RB pathway.
- 3) **Inactivation of TGF-β lead to cell proliferation**

**Mutations in TGF-β pathway are present in:**  
 100% of pancreatic cancers  
 83% of colon cancers

**(APC)** Adenomatous Polyposis Coli-β Catenin pathway: **(Colon)**

## (APC) Functions:

- 1) tumor suppressor gene
- 2) loss is very common in colon cancers
- 3) Has **anti-proliferative action** through inhibition of b-Catenin => activate cell proliferation.
- 4) **mutant APC** develop thousands of **colonic polyps**

Polyps => colonic carcinoma  
 # 70% to 80% of sporadic colon cancers



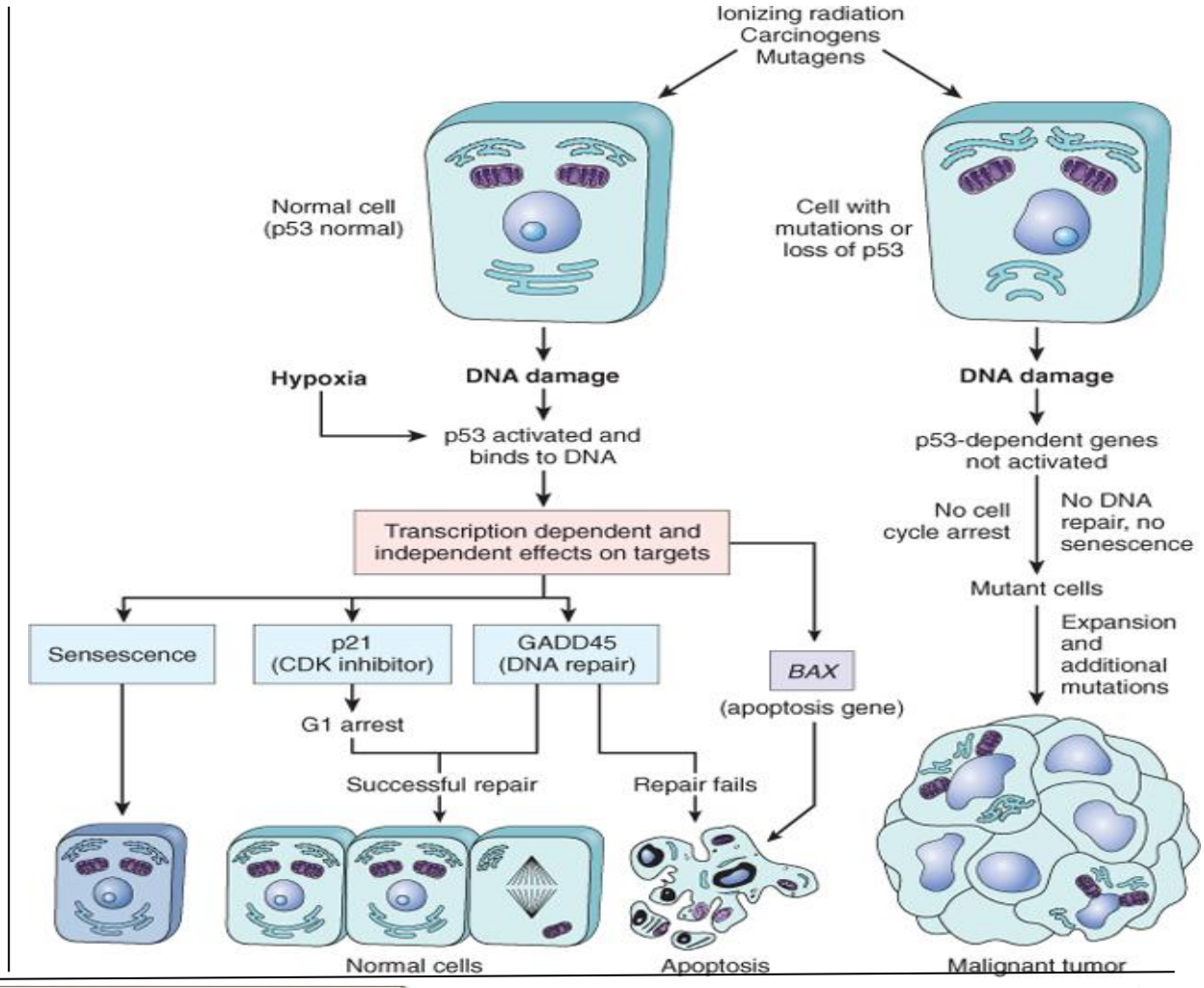
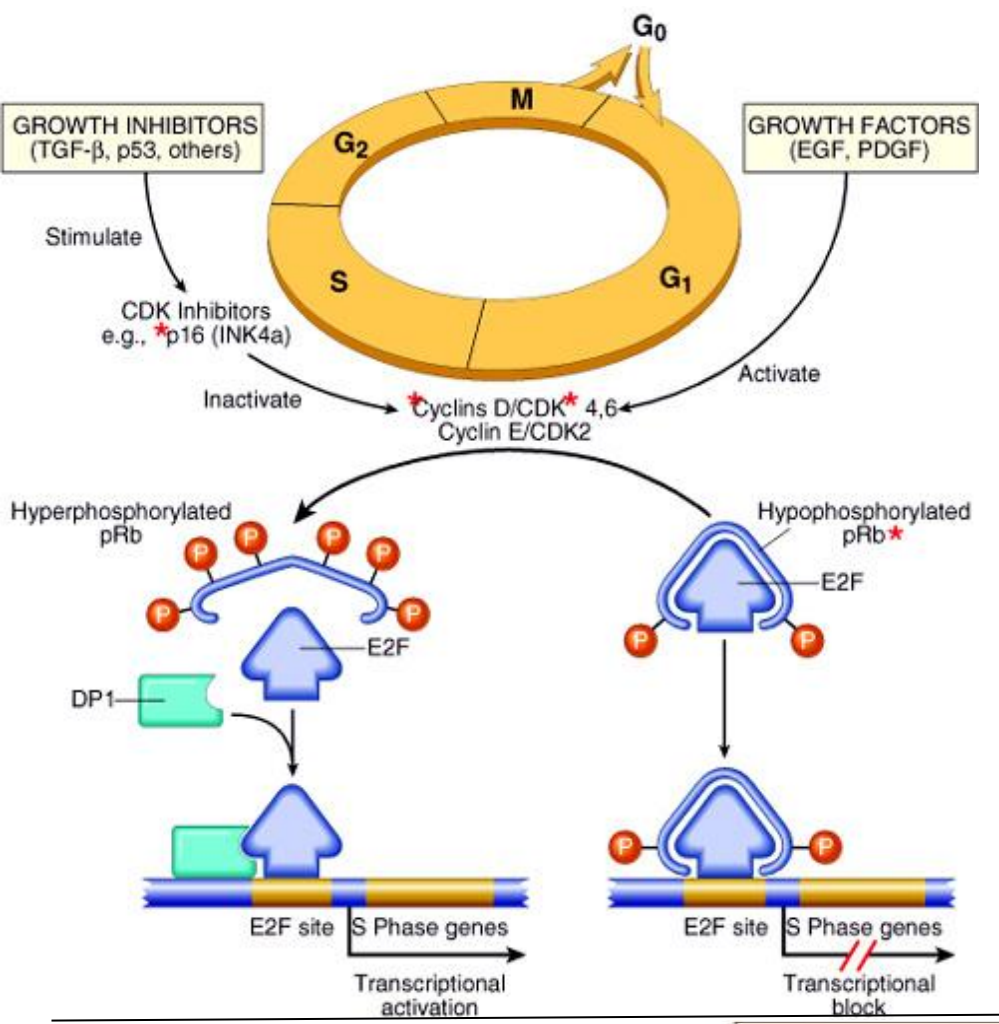
**(P53)**

## (P53) functions:

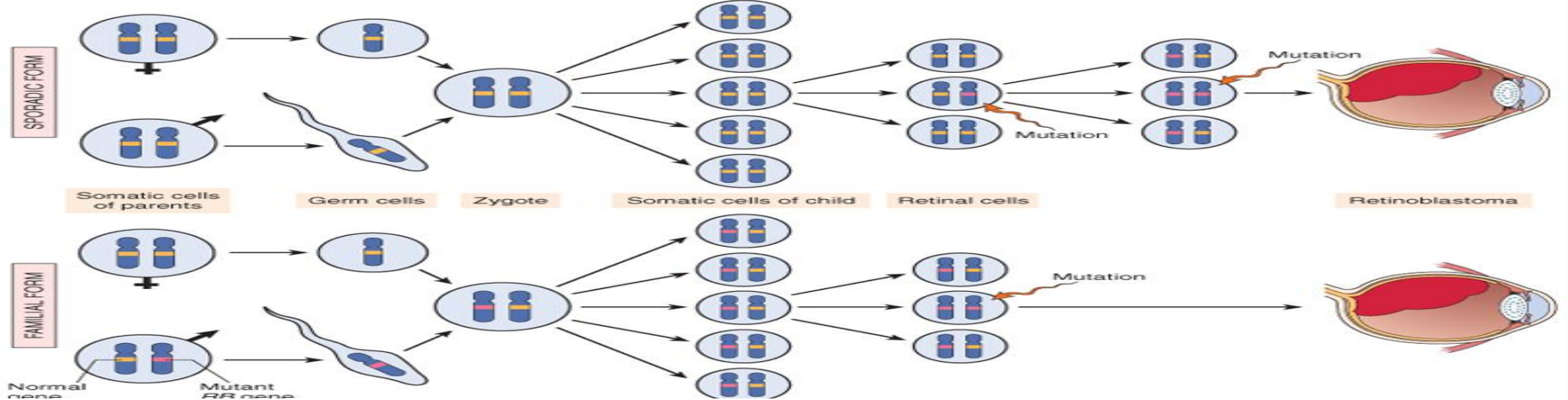
- 1) Tumor suppressor gene (anti-proliferative).
- 2) Regulates apoptosis.

- \* P53 senses DNA damage.
- \* stop G1 to give chance for DNA repair.
- \* If DNA cannot be repaired, P53 undergo apoptosis.
- \* Loss of P53, DNA damage.
- \* **Called "guardian of the genome"**.
- \* 70% of tumors.
- \* most cases, mutations are acquired, can be inherited, e.g : **Li-Fraumeni syndrome**

الرسم يوضح



**PATHOGENESIS OF RETINOBLASTOMA**



# Main changes in the cell physiology that lead to formation of the malignant phenotype

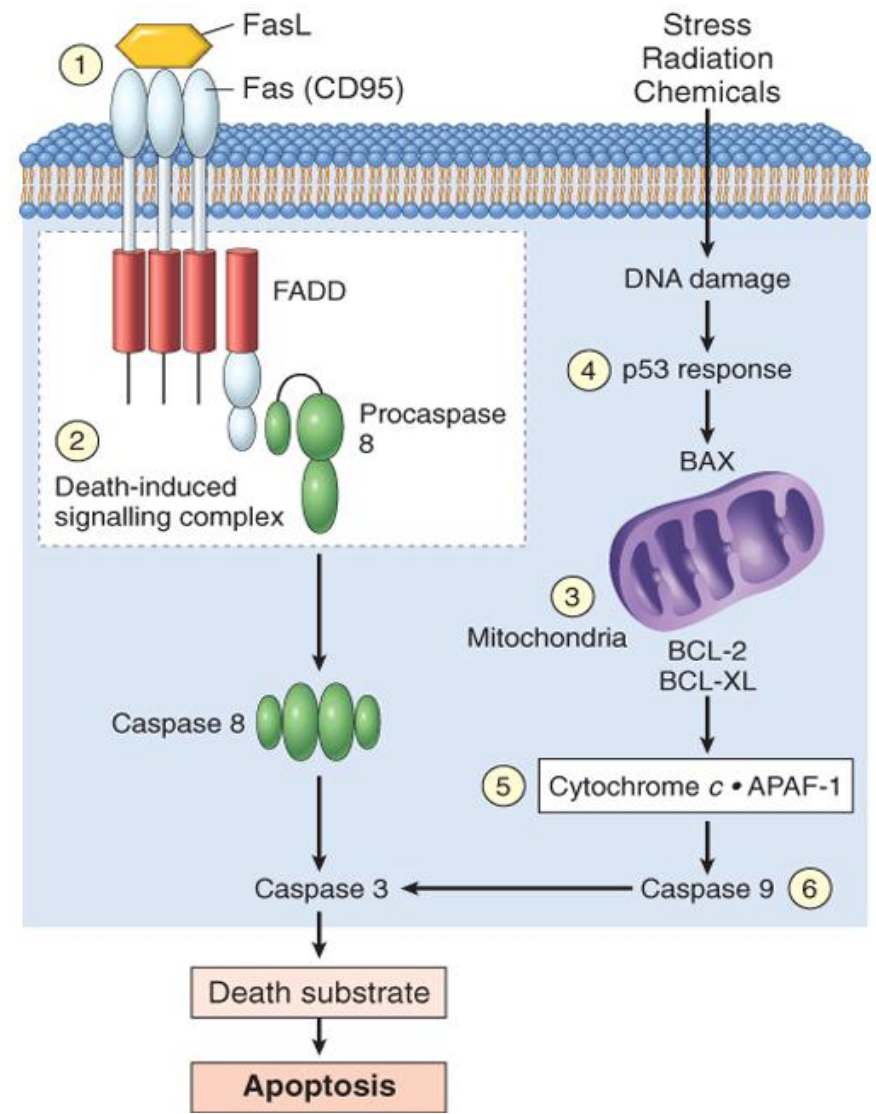
- Self-sufficiency in growth signals
- Insensitivity to growth-inhibitory signals
- Evasion of apoptosis
- Limitless replicative potential
- Sustained angiogenesis
- Ability to invade and metastasize

Cell survival is controlled by genes that promote and inhibit apoptosis

Reduced ↓ (CD95) inactivate death-induced signaling → tumor is less susceptible to apoptosis

DNA damage induced apoptosis (with the action of P53) can be blocked in tumors

Loss of P53 and up-regulation of BCL2 prevent apoptosis e.g. follicular lymphoma



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\*normally there a Progressive shortening of telomeres at the ends of chromosomes

\*Telomerase is **active** in normal stem cells but **absent** in somatic cells

\***In tumor cells: activation of telomerase, which can maintain normal telomere length**

**Neovascularization has two main effects:**

- 1) Perfusion supplies oxygen and nutrients
- 2) Newly formed endothelial cells stimulate the growth of adjacent tumor cells by secreting growth factors, e.g: PDGF, IL-1

**Angiogenesis is required for metastasis**

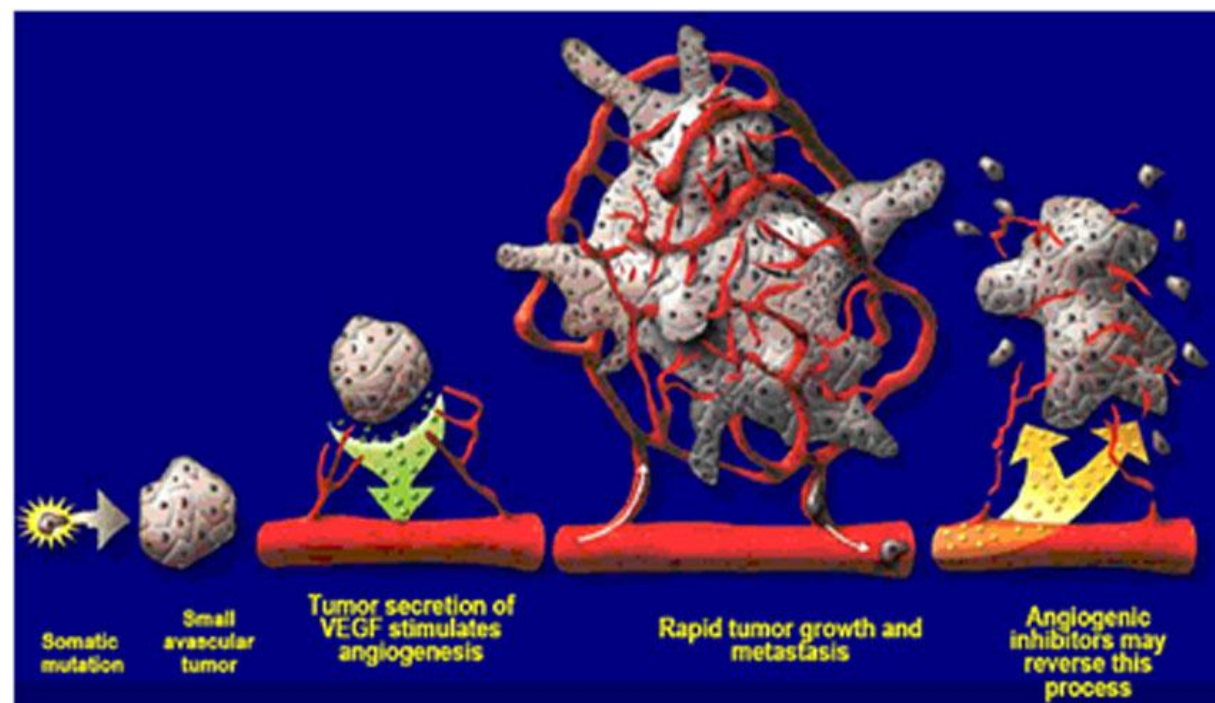
**How do tumors develop a blood supply?**

By tumor-associated angiogenic factors:

- 1) **Vascular endothelial growth factor( VEGF )**
- 2) **Fibroblast growth factor**

These factors may be produced by

a) Tumor cells b) or by inflammatory cells infiltrating the tumor e.g. macrophages



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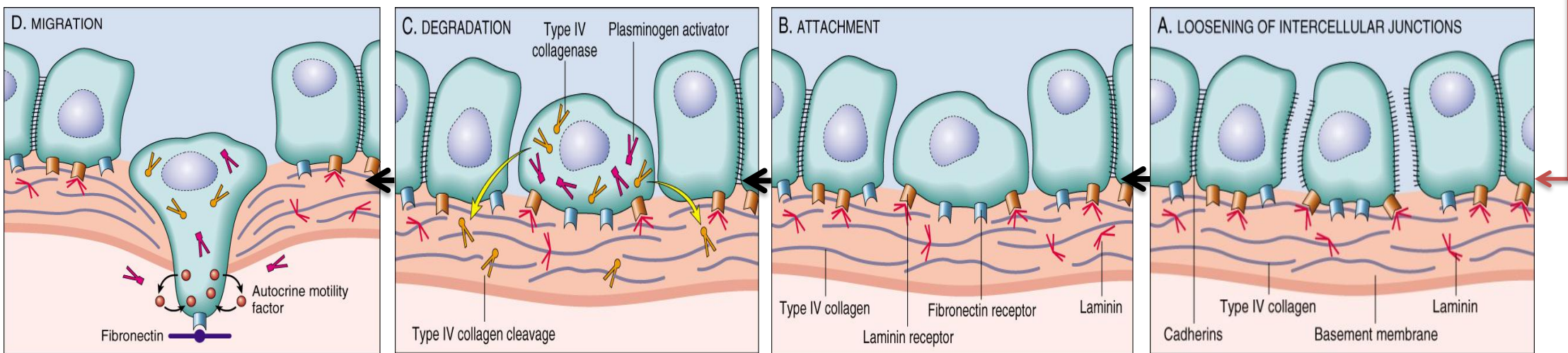
## 2) Vascular dissemination and homing of tumor cells

- May form emboli
- Most travel as single cells
- Adhesion to vascular endothelium
- Extravasation

## 1) Invasion of extracellular matrix (ECM)

- Malignant cells first breach the underlying basement membrane
- Traverse the interstitial tissue
- Penetrate the vascular basement membrane
- Gain access to the circulation

Invasion of the ECM has **4 steps**:



# Genomic Instability

(عدم الإتزان الجيني)

\*Enabler of malignancy, due to defect in DNA repair genes

Examples:

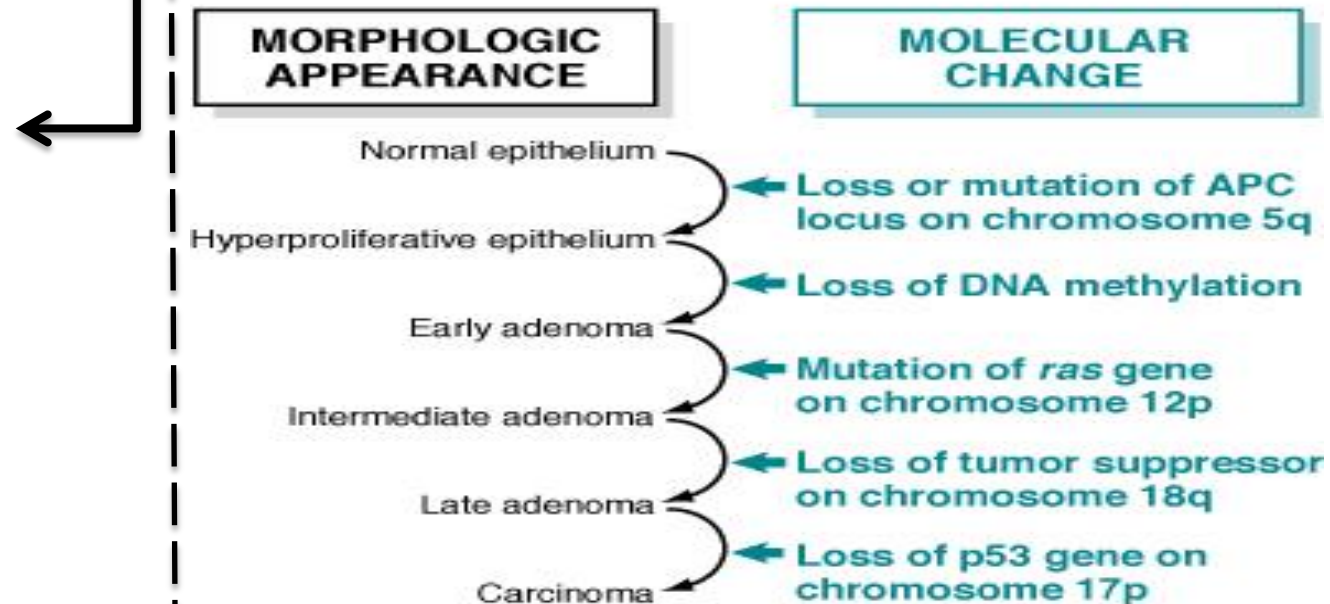
- Hereditary Non-polyposis colon carcinoma (HNPCC)
- Xeroderma pigmentosum
- Familial breast cancer

## Familial breast cancer:

- ✓ Due to mutations in **BRCA1** and **BRCA2** genes
- ✓ These genes regulate DNA repair
- ✓ 80% of familial breast cancer

# Molecular Basis of multistep Carcinogenesis

- ✓ Cancer results from **accumulation of multiple mutations**
- ✓ All cancers have multiple genetic alterations, involving **activation of several oncogenes** and **loss of two or more tumor suppressor genes**

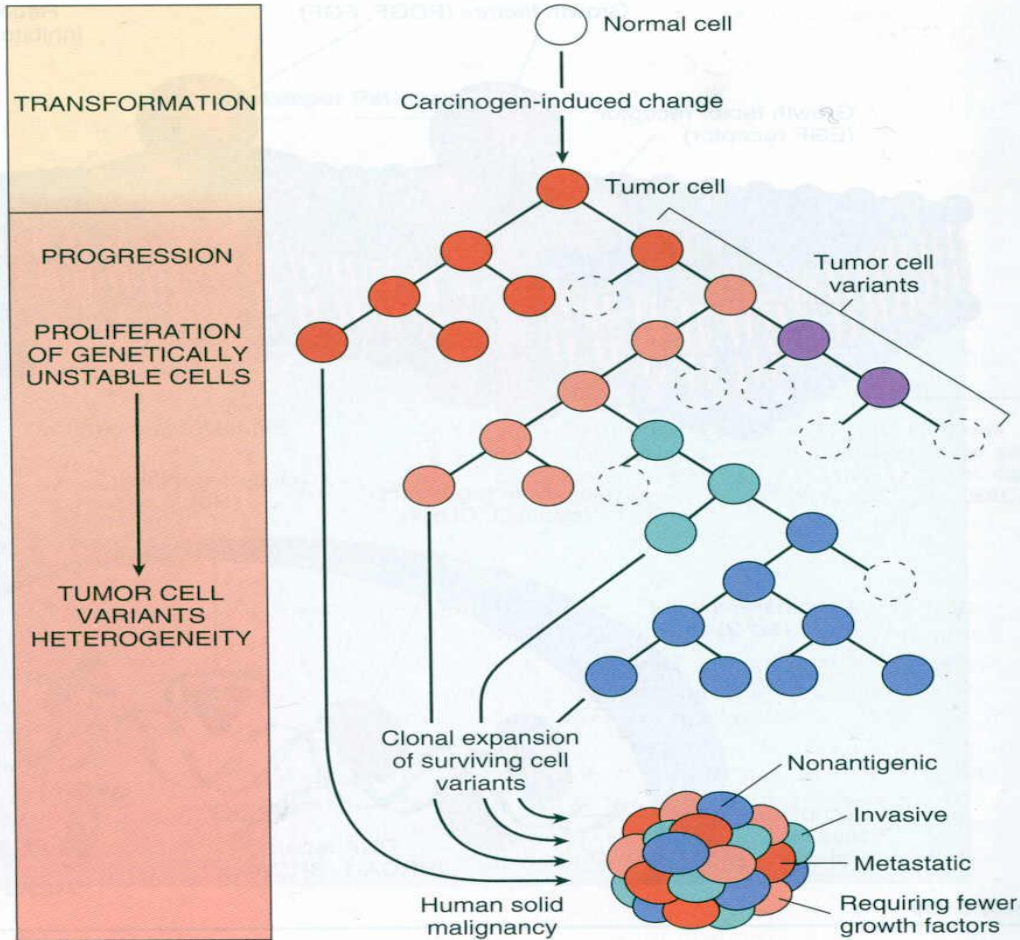




# Tumor progression

\*It means tumors become aggressive not increased in size.

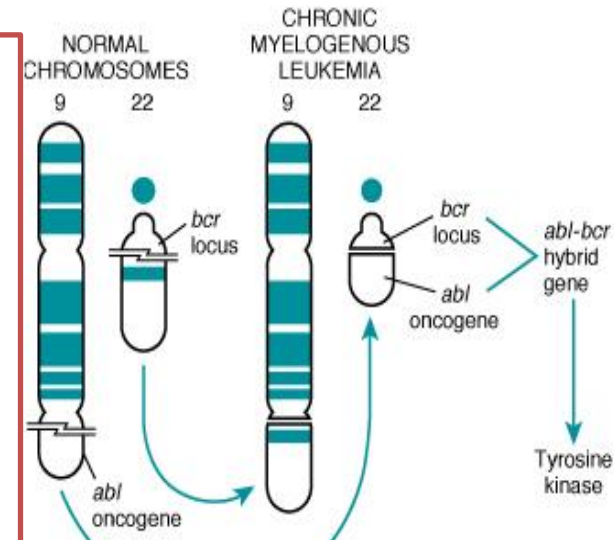
By the time, the tumor become clinically evident, their constituent cells are extremely heterogeneous



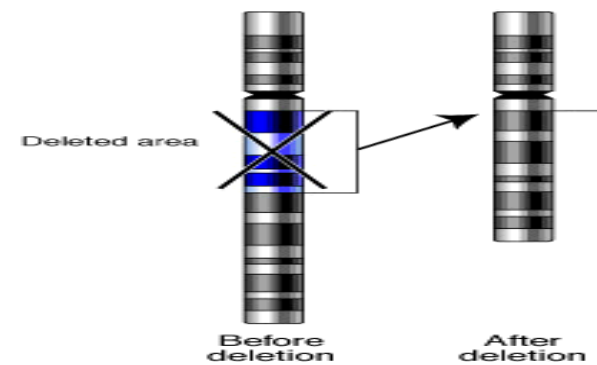
# Karyotype Changes in Tumors

## A) Translocations:

- In CML : t(9,22) ...” Philadelphia chromosome”
- In Burkitt Lymphoma : t(8,14)
- In Follicular Lymphoma : t(14,18)

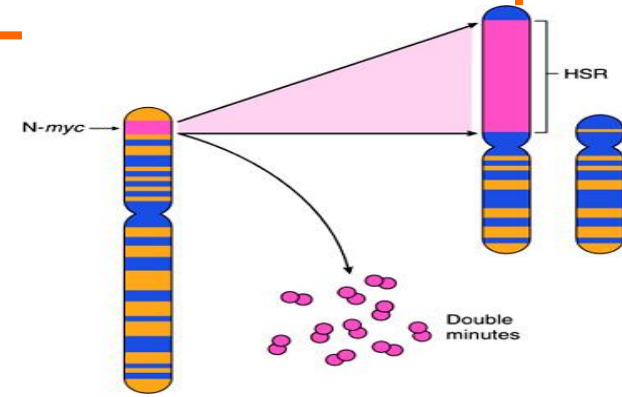


## B) Deletions



## C) Gene amplification:

Breast cancer : HER-2



Some questions from Dr. Maha's lecture :

1) At which site or part of cell cycle RB work to stop the cell cycle?

- A) G1 to S      B) S to G1      C) M to S

2) Which one of the following is tumor suppressor gene?

- A) RAS      B) MYC      C) TGF-B

3) Which of the following gene mutation is common in Adenomatous polyposis coli-B?

- A) P53      B) APC      C) TGF-B

4) In (CML) chronic myeloid leukemia, ABL gene trans chromosomes from:

- A) t(9,22)      B) t(14,18)      C) t(8,14)

5) What the mutated gene that causes CML?

- A) APC      B) MYC      C) ABL

6) The treatment of breast cancer is working on which gene receptors?

- A) HER2      B) P53      C) APC

**What is the Deference between sporadic and familial cancer?**

**Sporadic** => needs 1 allele affected and cell need 2 mutations to develop cancer

**Familial** => needs 2 allele affected and cell need 1 mutation to develop cancer

See RB development picture in page 4