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# MUTATIONS

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- •In biology, a **mutation** is an alteration of the nucleotide sequence of the genome of an organism
- •May occur in somatic cells (aren't passed to offspring)
- •May occur in gametes (eggs & sperm) and be passed to offspring

#### Mutations can:

- be bad, leading to <u>cancer</u>, <u>aging</u>, <u>birth</u> <u>defects</u>, <u>self-aborted embryos</u>



#### CACGTGGACTGAGGACTCCTC

Codon for CTC =

glutamate



#### CACGTGGACTGAGGACACCTC Codon for CAC = valine



Sickled Red Blood Cell What does it matter???

- be good, making an organism survive better in its environment
  - Example: <u>bacteria becoming antibiotic-resistant</u>





The ability to drink milk as an adult is a helpful mutation.

#### Not red hair

#### Red hair

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My red hair gives me super powers.

## **Types of Mutations**

#### **Gene Mutations**

- Change in the nucleotide sequence of a gene
- May only involve a single nucleotide

# **Types of Gene Mutations**

- -Point Mutations
- a. Missense
- b. Nonsense
- c. Silent
- -Frameshift
- a. Insertions
- b. Deletions

#### **Point Mutations**

 A point mutation or substitution is a genetic mutation where a single nucleotide base is changed.

#### a. Missense Mutation

This type of mutation is a change in one DNA base pair that results in the substitution of one amino acid for another in the protein made by a gene. Example is Sickle cell anemia



#### **b.** Nonsense Mutation

 A nonsense mutation is also a change in one **DNA base pair**. Instead of substituting one amino acid for another, however, the altered DNA sequence prematurely signals the cell to stop building a protein. This type of mutation results in a shortened protein that may function improperly or not at all. **Examples include Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and Thalassemia** 

## Normal condition



#### Nonsense mutation



#### c. Silent Mutations

• **Silent mutations** are mutations in DNA that do not have an observable effect on the organism's phenotype.

 For example, if the codon AAA is altered to become AAG, the same amino acid – <u>lysine</u> – will be incorporated into the <u>peptide</u> chain

## Frame Shift Mutations

#### 1. Insertion Mutations

- An insertion changes the number of DNA bases in a gene by adding a piece of DNA. As a result, the protein made by the gene may not function properly.
- Example
- UUU UUA UCU Phe-Leu-Ser UUU UUA UUU UCU Phe-Leu-Phe-Ser

#### 2. Deletion

- A deletion changes the number of DNA bases by removing a piece of DNA. Small deletions may remove one or a few base pairs within a gene, while larger deletions can remove an entire gene or several neighboring genes. The deleted DNA may alter the function of the resulting protein(s).
- UUU UUA <mark>UUU</mark> UCU
- UUU UUA UCU

Phe-Leu-Phe-Ser

Phe-Leu-Ser

## Types of Mutations

 <u>Chromosomal</u> mutation – may affect more than one gene

Examples: nondisjunction, translocation



# Thank you