

The cell cycle

Once the cell reaches its limit, it stops growing and starts dividing because it is necessary for

- growth
- healing
- development

This process is called the cell cycle, consists of **Interphase and Mitosis**

- Cells can only be duplicated, the cell split is the same as the other cell

Cellular Interphase

- The cell grows, carries out cellular functions, makes copies of its DNA
- Split into 3 stages
- G stands for gap, S stands for synthesis

Steps of Cellular Interphase

1. G_1 - Gap 1

- Cell grows, carries out normal functions
- Prepares to replicate DNA
- Some cells may exit at this stage and never replicate (nerve cells and muscle cells...)
- Centrioles move to opposites of the cell

2. S - Synthesis

- DNA synthesis
- Cell copies DNA in preparation for cell division
- Chromatin is replicated

3. G_2 - Gap 2

- Cell prepares for nuclear division
- Makes microtubules needed for division
- Ensures everything is ready to divide

Cellular Mitotic Phase

Steps of the Mitotic Phase

1. Mitosis

- cell's nucleus and nuclear material divides
 - divided into at least 4 sub-stages
2. Cytokinesis
 - Division of the cell's cytoplasm

Mitosis

Steps (PMAT)

1. Prophase

1. Nucleus is still there
2. Chromosomes are condensing from the DNA
3. DNA gets **shorter** and **thicker**

2. Prometaphase (sometimes considered part of the metaphase)

1. Nucleus membrane disappears
2. Formation of microtubules
 1. Attach to the chromosomes (centromere of it)

3. Metaphase (Middle)

1. Chromosomes line up to the middle of the cell

4. Anaphase (Away)

1. Chromosomes split (chromatids separate)
2. The chromosomes move away from the center to the edges of the cell
3. The spindles (microtubules) help pull them to the edges

5. Telophase (Two)

1. Chromosomes reach the poles
2. Two new nuclei are formed
3. Microtubules disappear

Cytokinesis

- The cytoplasm splits and two cells are separated.
- This part is **not** considered part of Mitosis