

L

# MITOSIS

Suppose your hand, arm, or foot were made of only one cell. What would happen if that cell stopped working or died?



## How many cells are really in our bodies?



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There are approximately 100 trillion (100,000,000,000,000) cells in a human



What does the body do to replace cells that die, whether in our hand or foot or elsewhere in out bodies?



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#### What is this process called?



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Mitosis





Explain what is happening to the chromosomes at each phase.

### What is mitosis?

Mitosis is the name given to cell division, where a cell divides into two genetically identical copies of itself. The process is broken down into a series of different phases.





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#### Interphase

A cell spends the most time in this phase. The DNA in the chromosomes copies itself ready for cell division. The chromosomes then become thicker and start to coil.



#### Early Prophase

Cylindrical organelles called centrioles divide into two. They move apart and form asters. Asters help align and group chromosomes in cell division. The nuclear membrane then starts to disintegrate.



#### Late

Prophase The asters and centrioles are

now on different poles. The

nuclear membrane has

disappeared.



#### Metaphase

Microscopic protein structures called spindle fibers, pull the chromosomes by their centromeres (the centre of a chromosome) so they line up in the middle.



#### Anaphase

The centromeres split and half of the chromatids (chromatids are divided chromosomes) move to one pole and half to the other. The cell membrane begins to pinch at the center.



#### Telophase

The cell membrane constricts

further and two nuclear membranes form around the separated groups.



#### Cytokinesis

The cell membrane pinches in completely and mitosis is complete. Two daughter cells now exist. They both are genetically identical with the same number of chromosomes.





