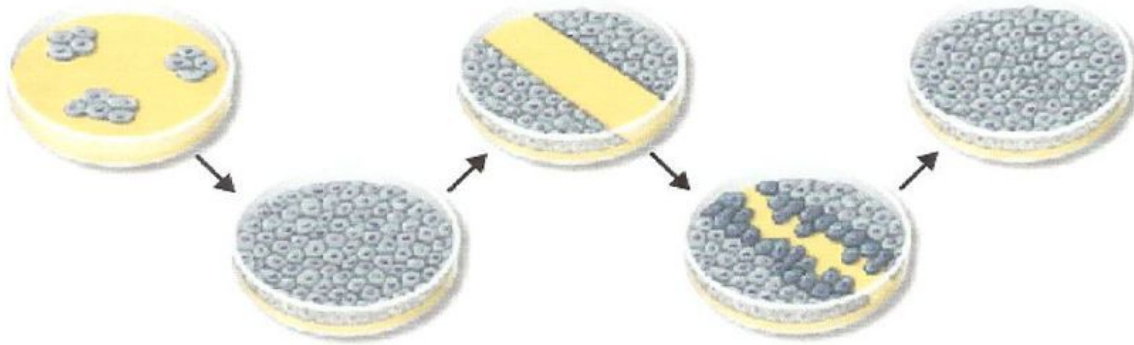


10.3 Controls on Cell Division



In the early 1980's, biologists were able to identify the substance in cells that regulates cell growth.

Cyclin: a protein which regulates the timing of the cell cycle in eukaryotic cells.

Internal regulators- proteins that respond to events happening inside the cells

External regulators- proteins that respond to events happening outside the cells

The health of an organism depends on cells not exceeding their life span.

This is especially true if it is a cell that divides rapidly.

What happens when a cell loses the ability to control its growth?

Cancer: a disorder in which the body's own cells lose the ability to control growth creating tumors.

| Life Spans of Various Human Cells | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Cell Type | Life Span | Cell Division |
| Lining of esophagus | 2–3 days | Can divide |
| Lining of small intestine | 1–2 days | Can divide |
| Lining of large intestine | 6 days | Can divide |
| Red blood cells | Less than 120 days | Cannot divide |
| White blood cells | 10 hours to decades | Many do not divide |
| Smooth muscle | Long-lived | Can divide |
| Cardiac (heart) muscle | Long-lived | Cannot divide |
| Skeletal muscle | Long-lived | Cannot divide |
| Neuron (nerve cell) | Long-lived | Most do not divide |