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Sommario/riassunto

TGF-beta, originally identified as a transforming growth factor with similar properties, is now known to exist as a family of factors with similar properties. These factors promote cell proliferation in some tissue types or conditions and induce cell differentiation in others. Features the latest information on the TGF-beta family and its receptors. Describes correlations between TGF-beta and certain cancers, including glioblastomas. Also contains reports of preliminary investigations of clinical applications for TGF-beta in many diseases, including leukemia and its use to accelerate wound healing.