

Cytokeratin

Cytokeratins are [keratin proteins](#) found in the intracytoplasmic [cytoskeleton](#) of [epithelial tissue](#). They are an important component of [intermediate filaments](#), which help cells resist mechanical stress.

Expression of these cytokeratins within epithelial cells is largely specific to particular organs or tissues. Thus they are used clinically to identify the cell of origin of various human tumors.

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