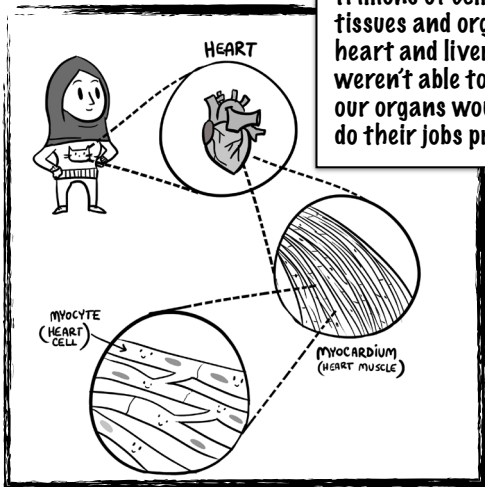


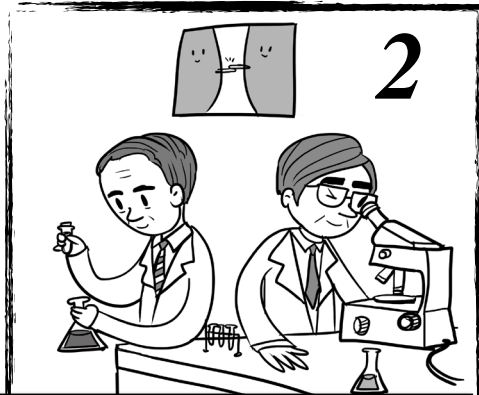
Cadherin and Catenin: A Sticky Situation

1



The human body is made up of trillions of cells that form tissues and organs like the heart and liver. If our cells weren't able to stick together, our organs wouldn't be able to do their jobs properly.

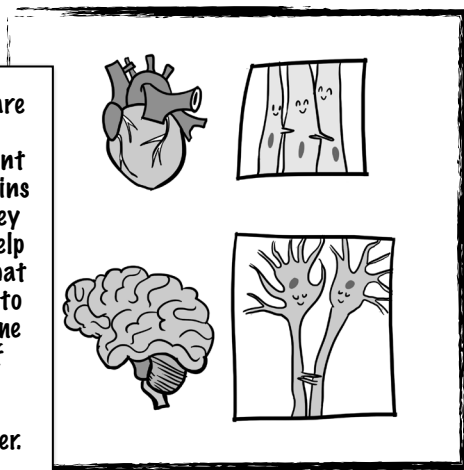
2



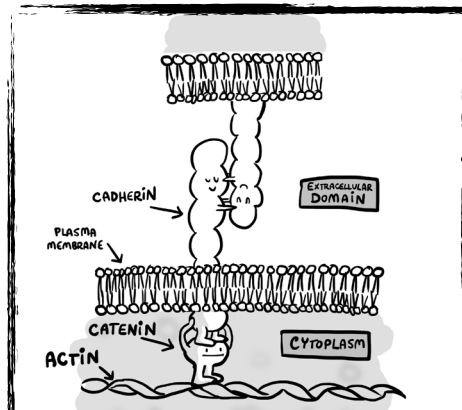
Two scientists named Takeichi Masatoshi and Rolf Kewler discovered that cells stick together by producing a protein called cadherin.

3

There are many different cadherins and they each help cells that belong to the same type of organ stick together.

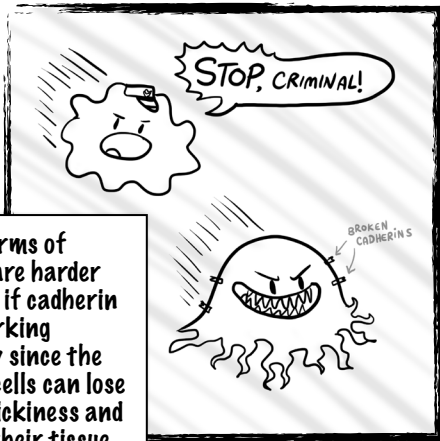


4



Cadherins make connections with the rigid inner part of a cell, called the cytoskeleton, to help stabilize their contacts. This is actually mediated by another family of proteins called catenins.

5



Some forms of cancer are harder to treat if cadherin isn't working properly since the cancer cells can lose their stickiness and escape their tissue of origin.

6



Continuing to study how cadherin works and how it is involved in cancer could help us develop treatment strategies to get people better, faster!