

- The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2015 was awarded jointly to
  - Tomas Lindahl,
  - Paul Modrich and
  - Aziz Sancar
- "for mechanistic studies of DNA repair"

- **Lindahl** demonstrated that DNA is an inherently unstable molecule, subject to decay even under physiological conditions.
- Guided by this observation, Lindahl identified a completely new group of DNA glycosylases and described their role in **base excision repair**.

Fatto!

- Sancar has transformed the field of **nucleotide excision** repair, from genetics and phenomena in cell extracts, to a detailed molecular description of the mechanisms involved, first in bacteria, and later also in eukaryotic cells.
- Sancar also explained the molecular mechanisms underlying photoreactivation, the first form of DNA repair described

- Modrich transformed the field of **mismatch repair** from genetic observations to a detailed biochemical understanding, first in bacteria, and later in eukaryotic cells.

# Riparazione degli errori di appaiamento (MMR)

Elimina le singole basi misappaiate ed i loop di inserzione-delezione che si formano durante la replicazione in presenza di brevi sequenze ripetute

Ripara il DNA con un'efficienza pari al 99,9%

Riconosce e ripara solo l'elica neosintetizzata che contiene i nucleotidi errati

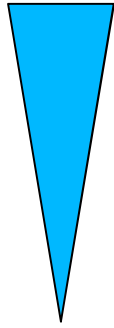
E' compiuta da complessi multiproteici

# Mechanisms in *E. coli* and Human Mismatch Repair (Nobel Lecture)

## A) MutS binds mismatched base pairs

*Apparent affinities of mutS protein for base pair mismatches*

Mismatch	Apparent dissociation constant
	<i>nM</i>
G-T	39 ± 4
A-C	53 ± 4
A-A	110 ± 7
T-T	140 ± 9
G-G	150 ± 10
A-G	270 ± 30
C-T	370 ± 40
C-C	480 ± 50

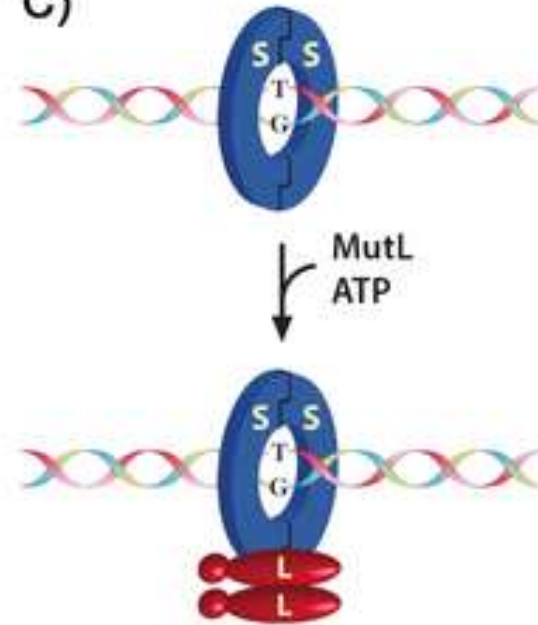


AFFINITA'

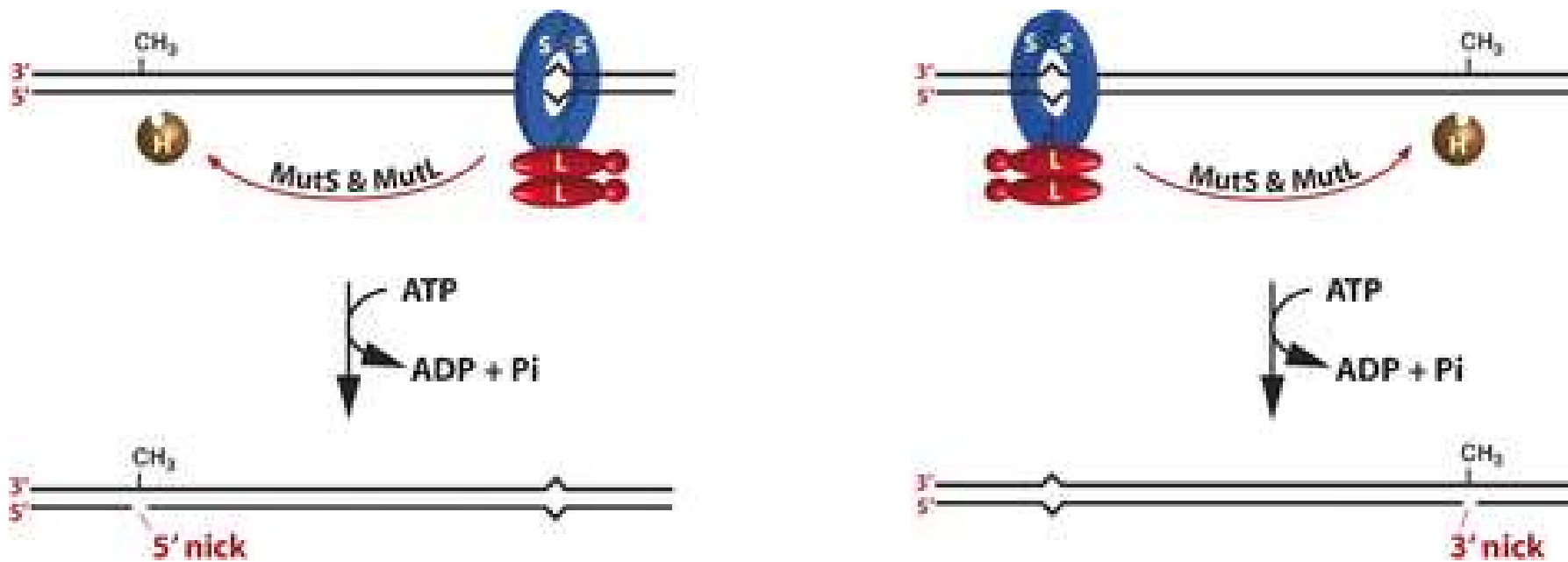
## B)



## C)

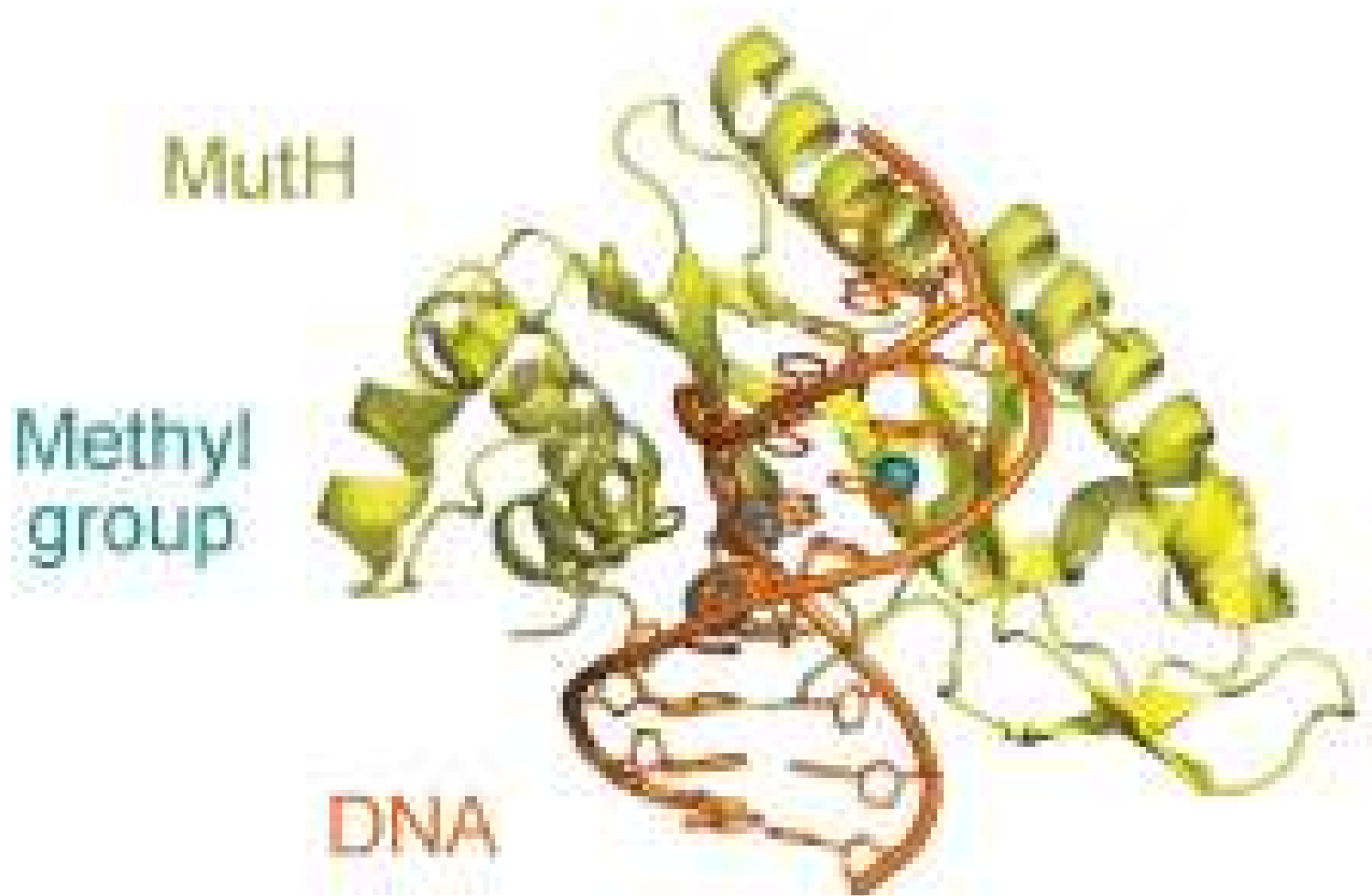


## Mechanisms in *E. coli* and Human Mismatch Repair (Nobel Lecture)



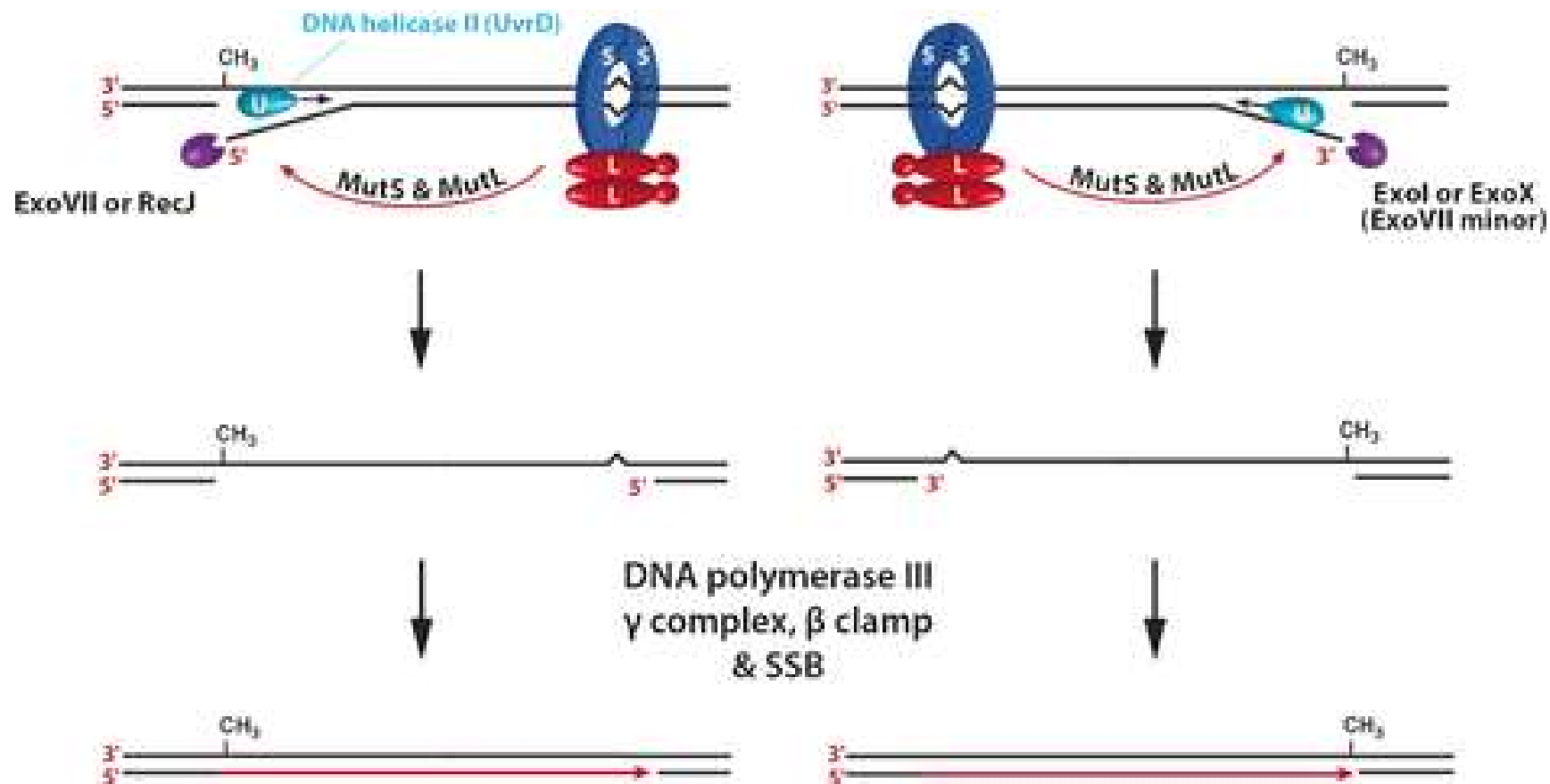
**A**

MutH protein (yellow) bound to hemimethylated DNA  
(methyl group shown as sphere)

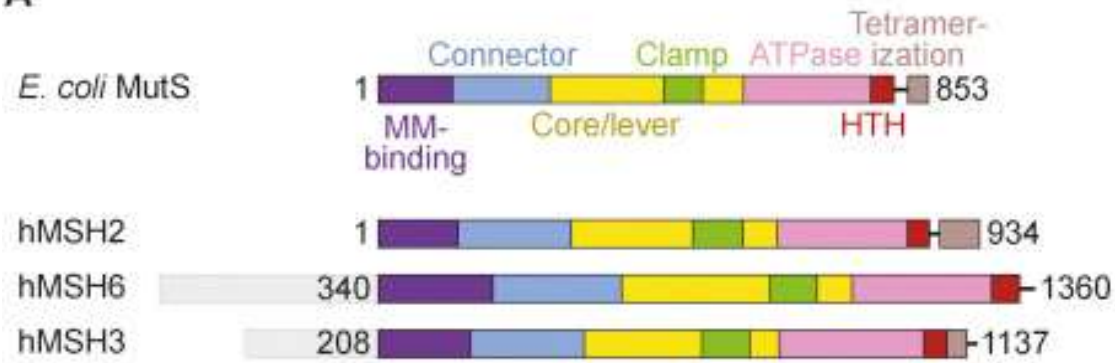




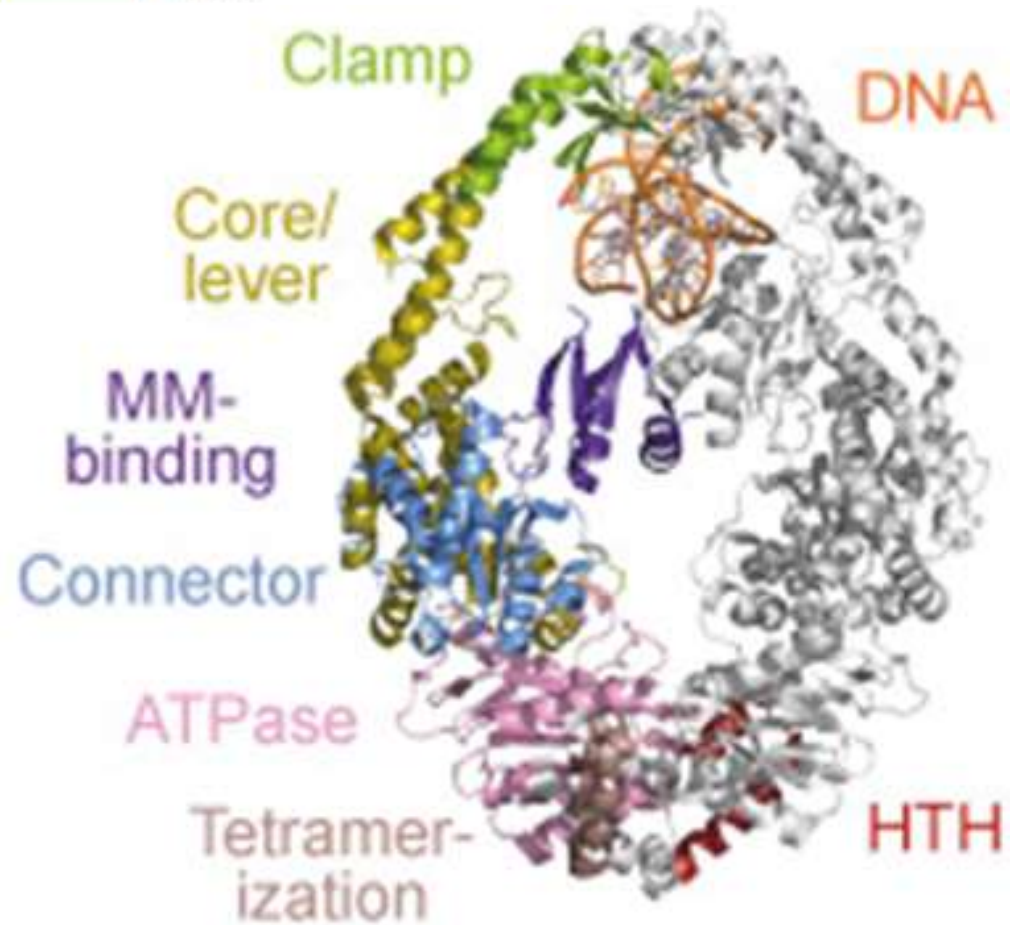
## Mechanisms in *E. coli* and Human Mismatch Repair (Nobel Lecture)



A



MutS proteins



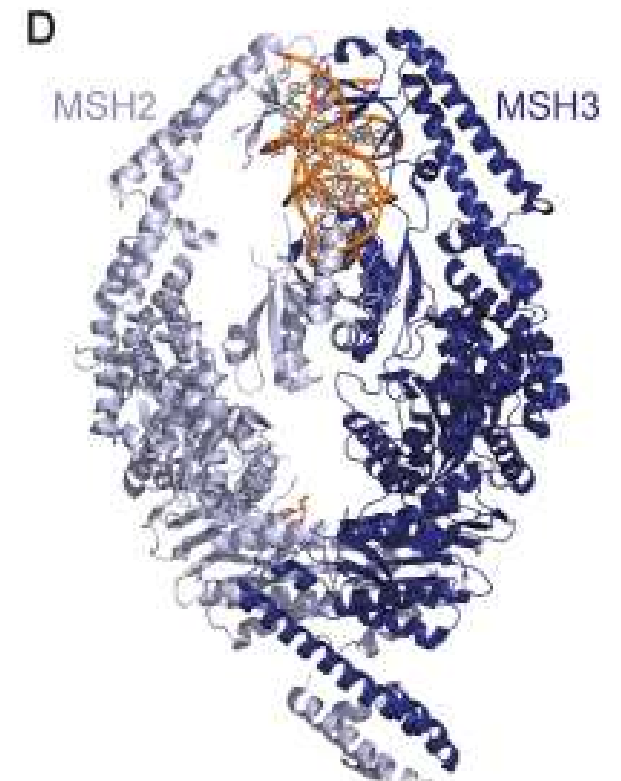
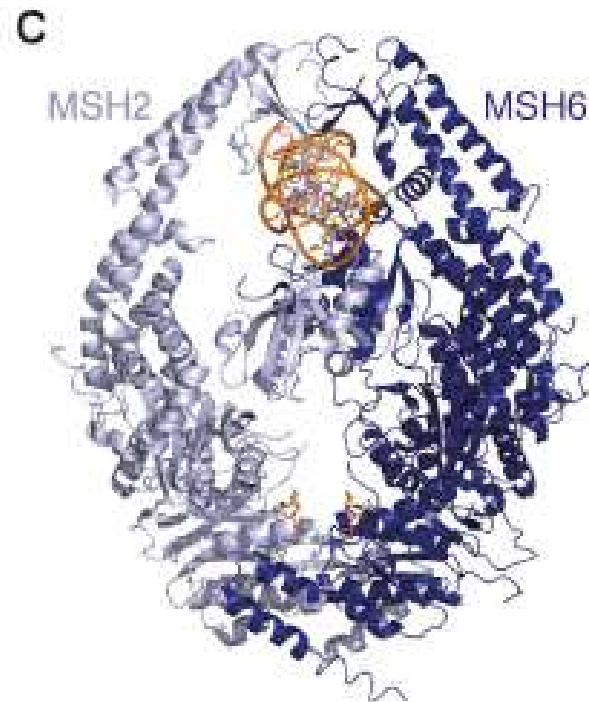
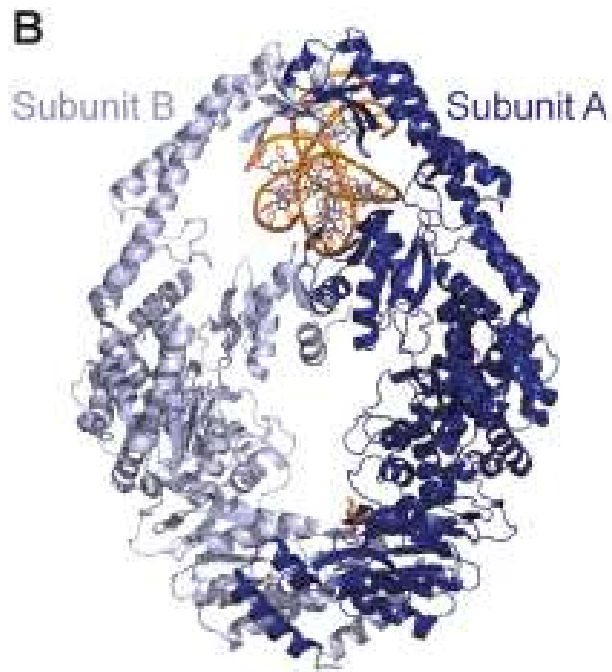
## MutS proteins

E.Coli MutS

bound to a GT mismatch

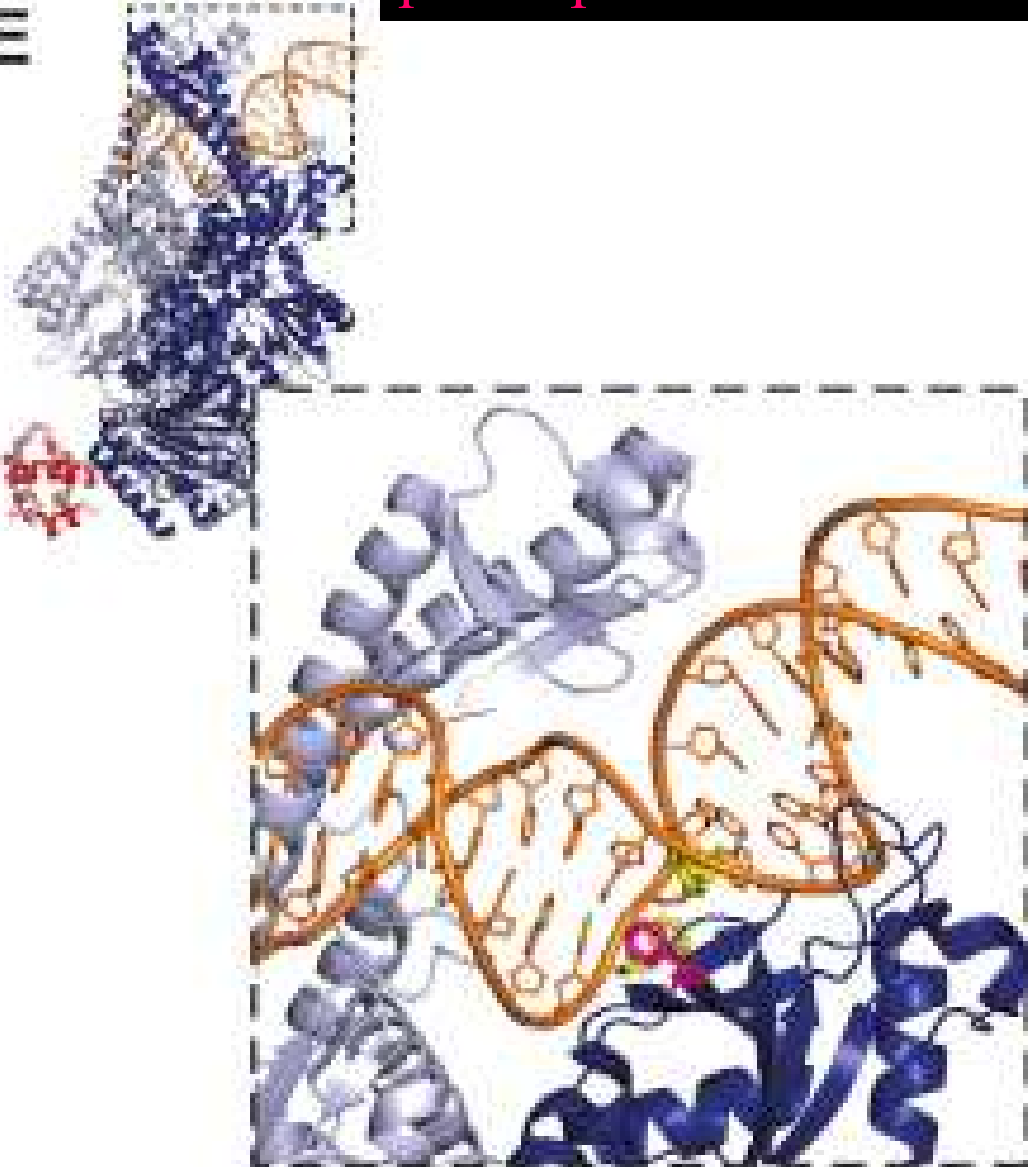
human MutS $\alpha$

MutS $\beta$  bound to a 3-base del



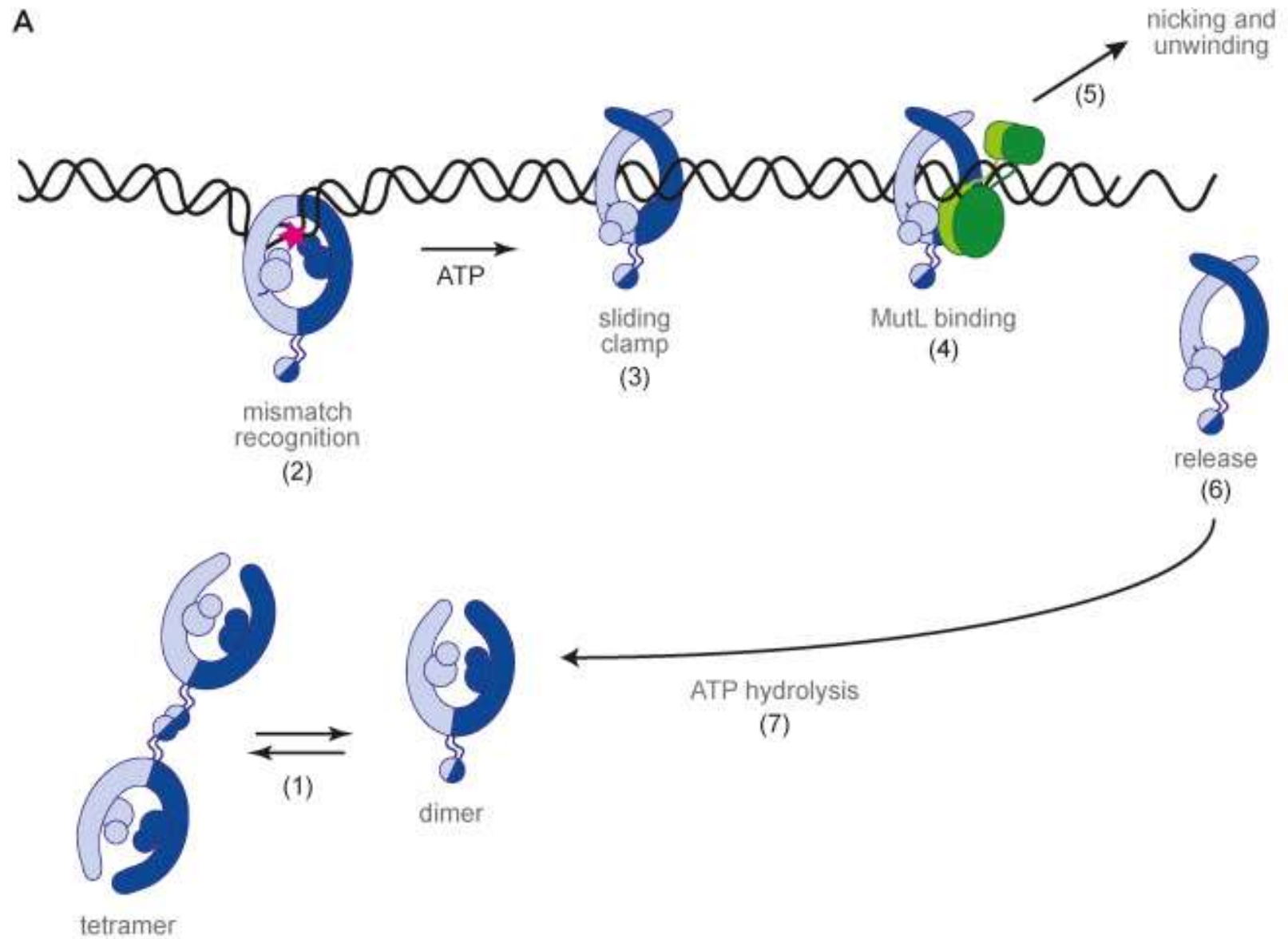
Mismatch yellow;  
phe36 pink

E

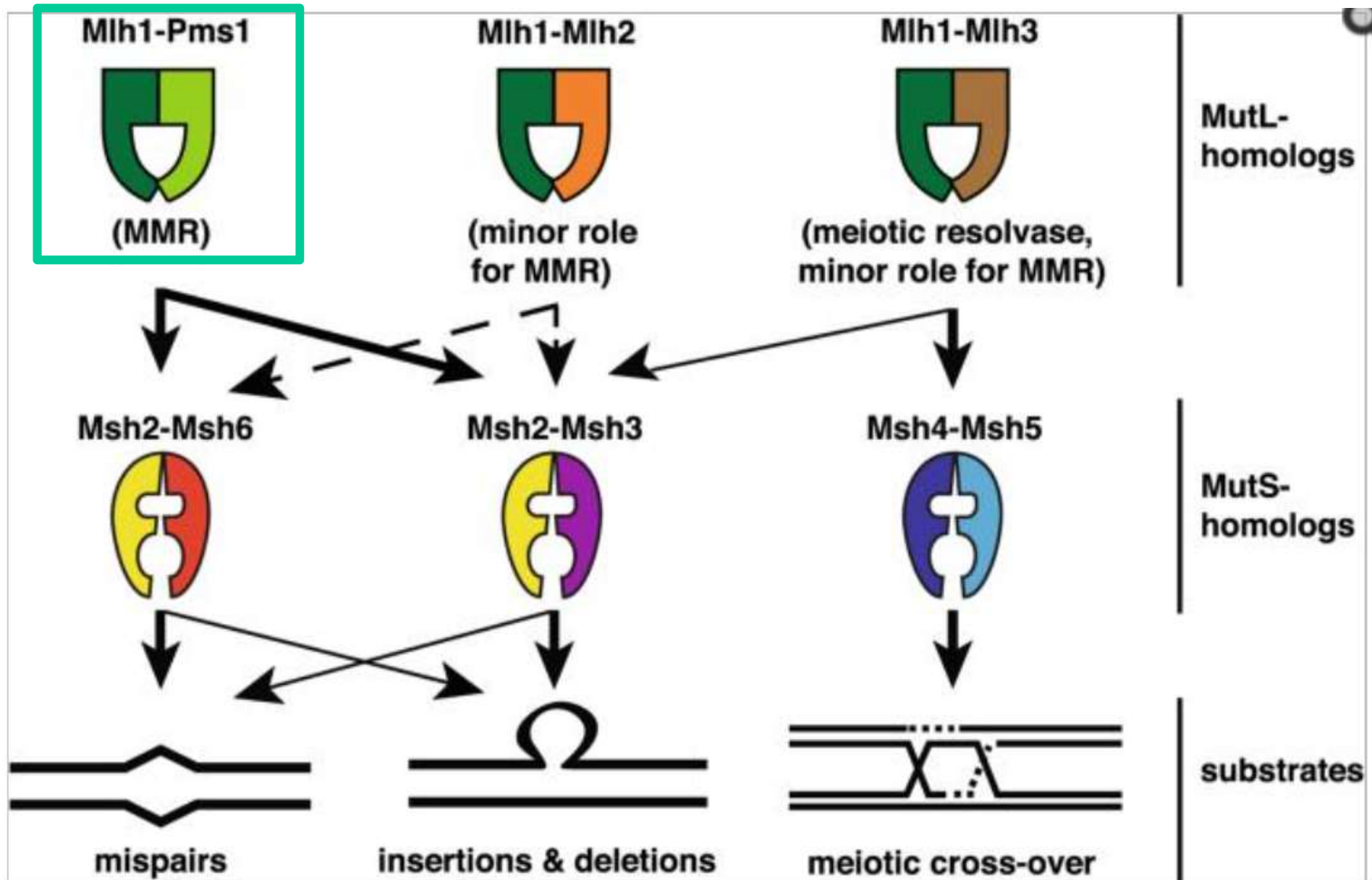


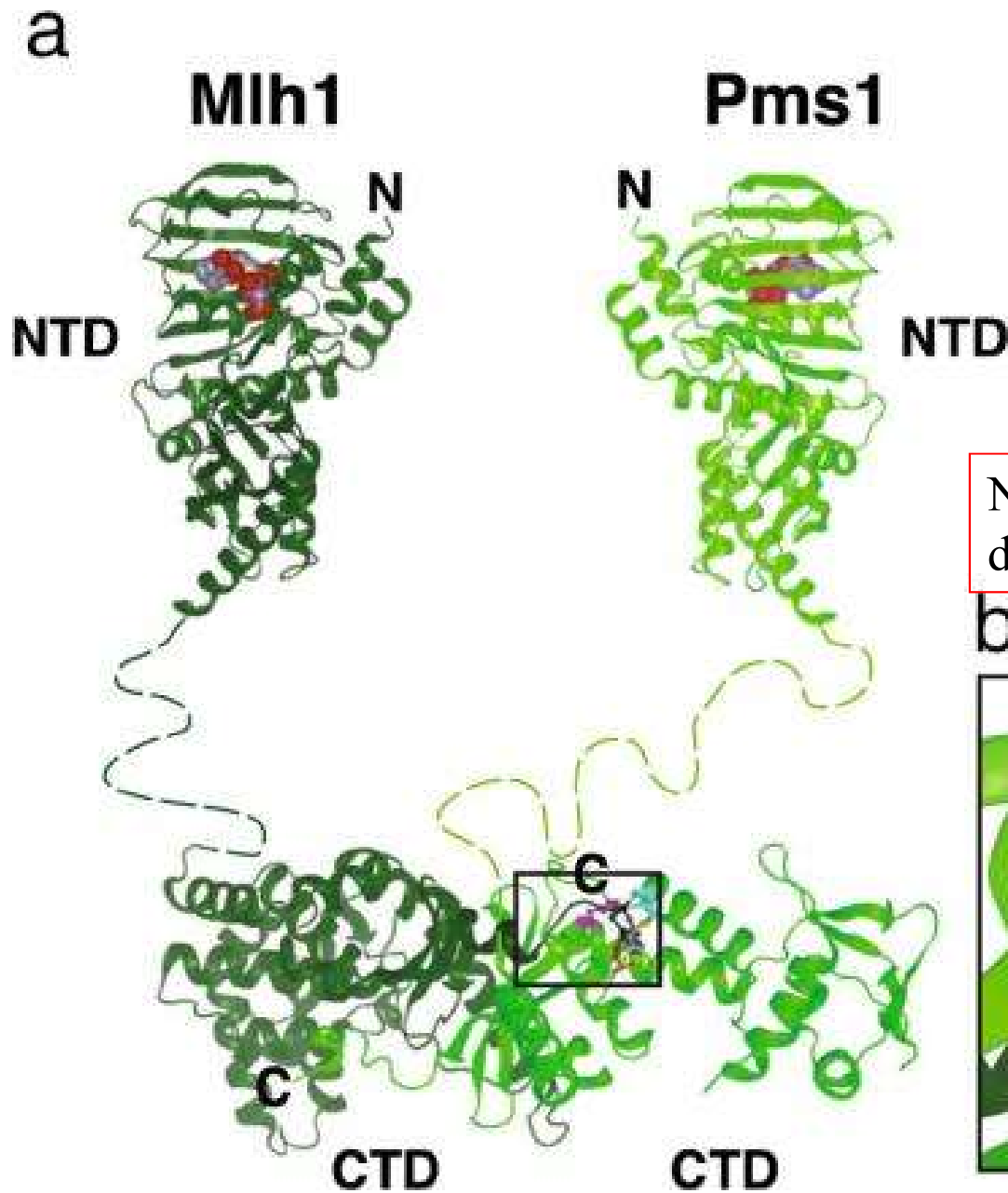
The conserved molecular machinery in DNA mismatch repair enzyme structures

# predominant states of the MutS cycle

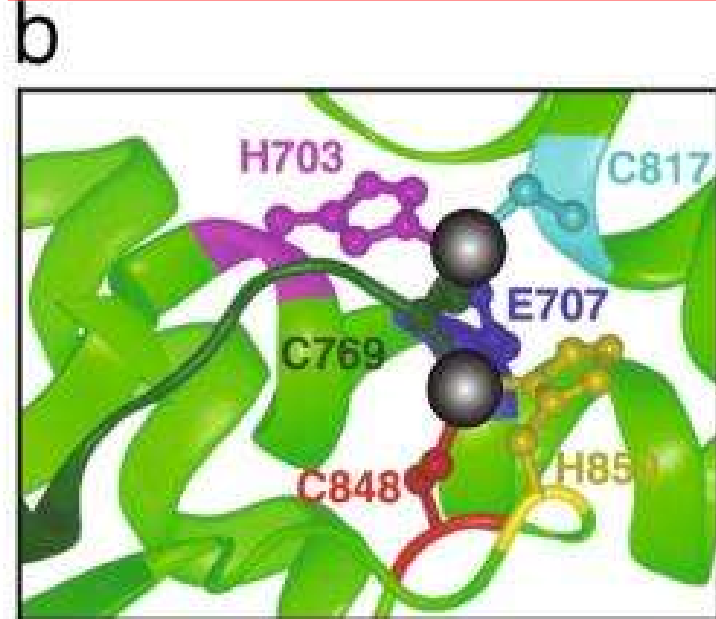


# Omologia di MutS/MutL negli eucarioti





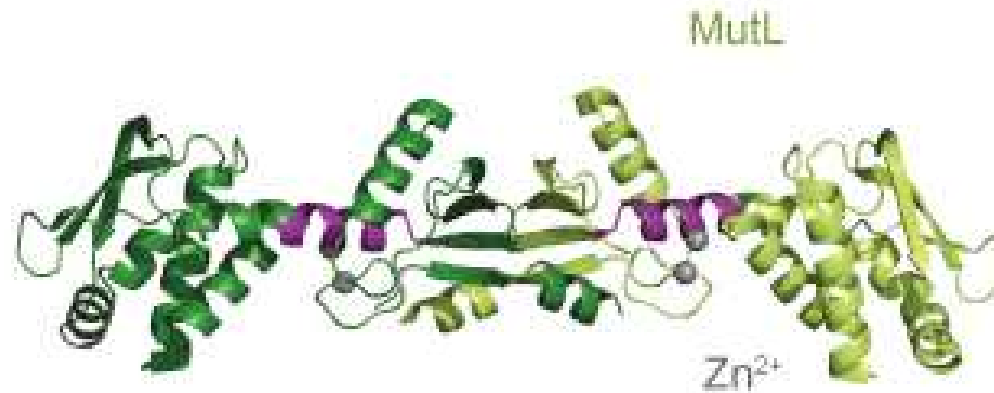
Negli eucarioti gli omologhi di MutL hanno attività di taglio



endonuclease site  
metal binding pocket (metal ions in black)

## endonucleases in MMR

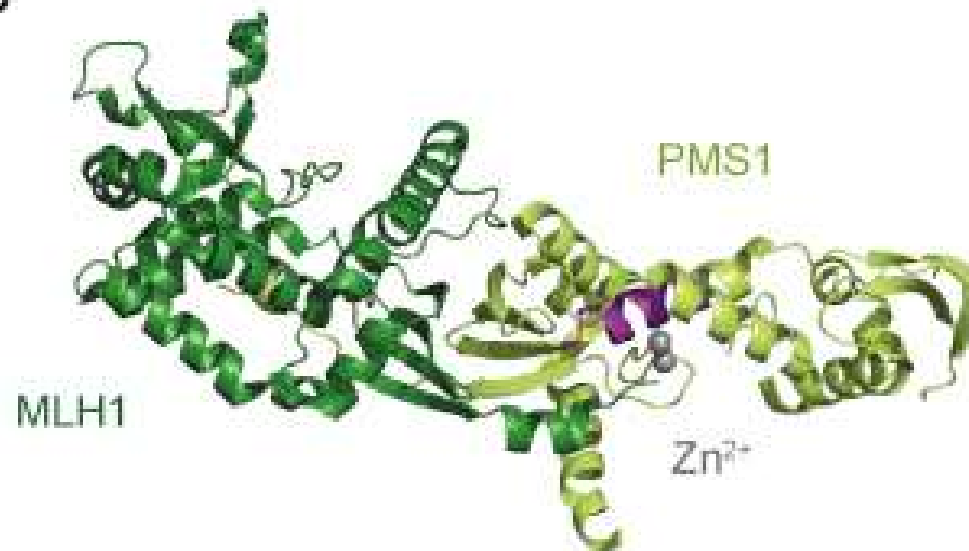
B



*B. subtilis*

## endonuclease motif

C

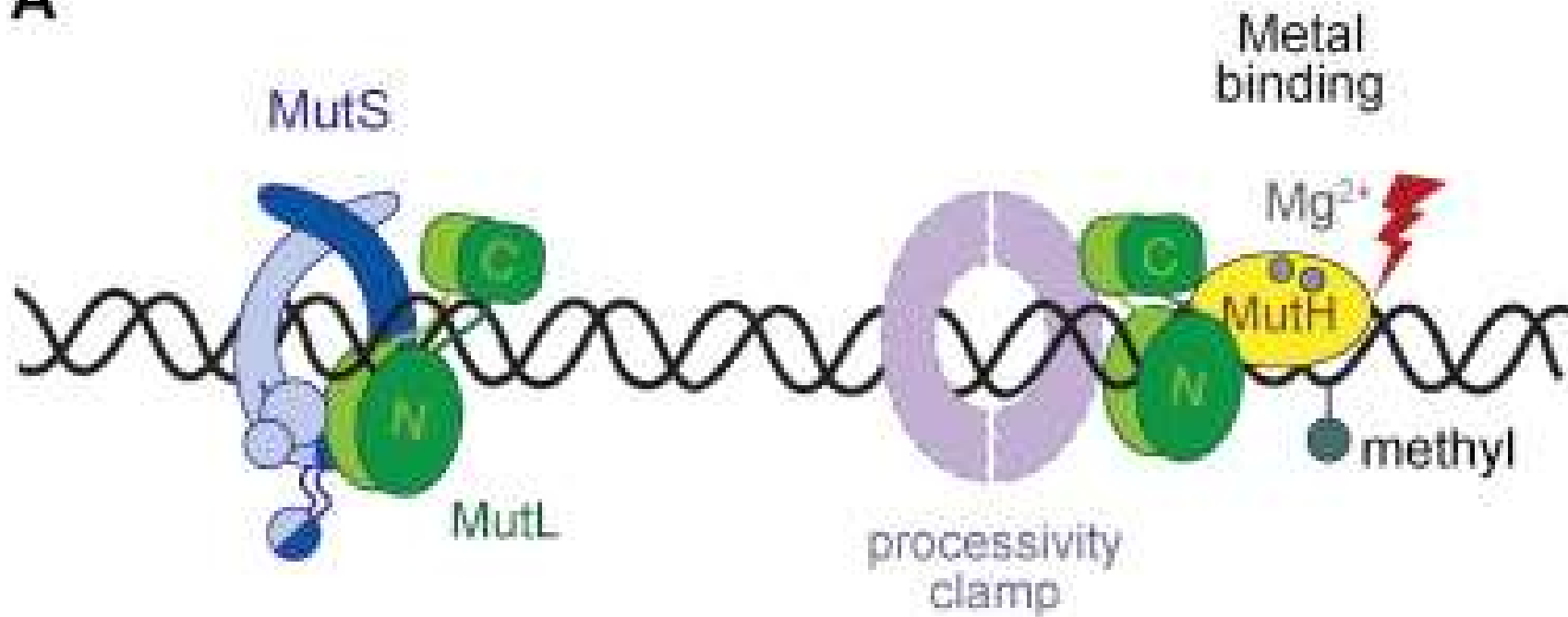


yeast



## Procarioti

A

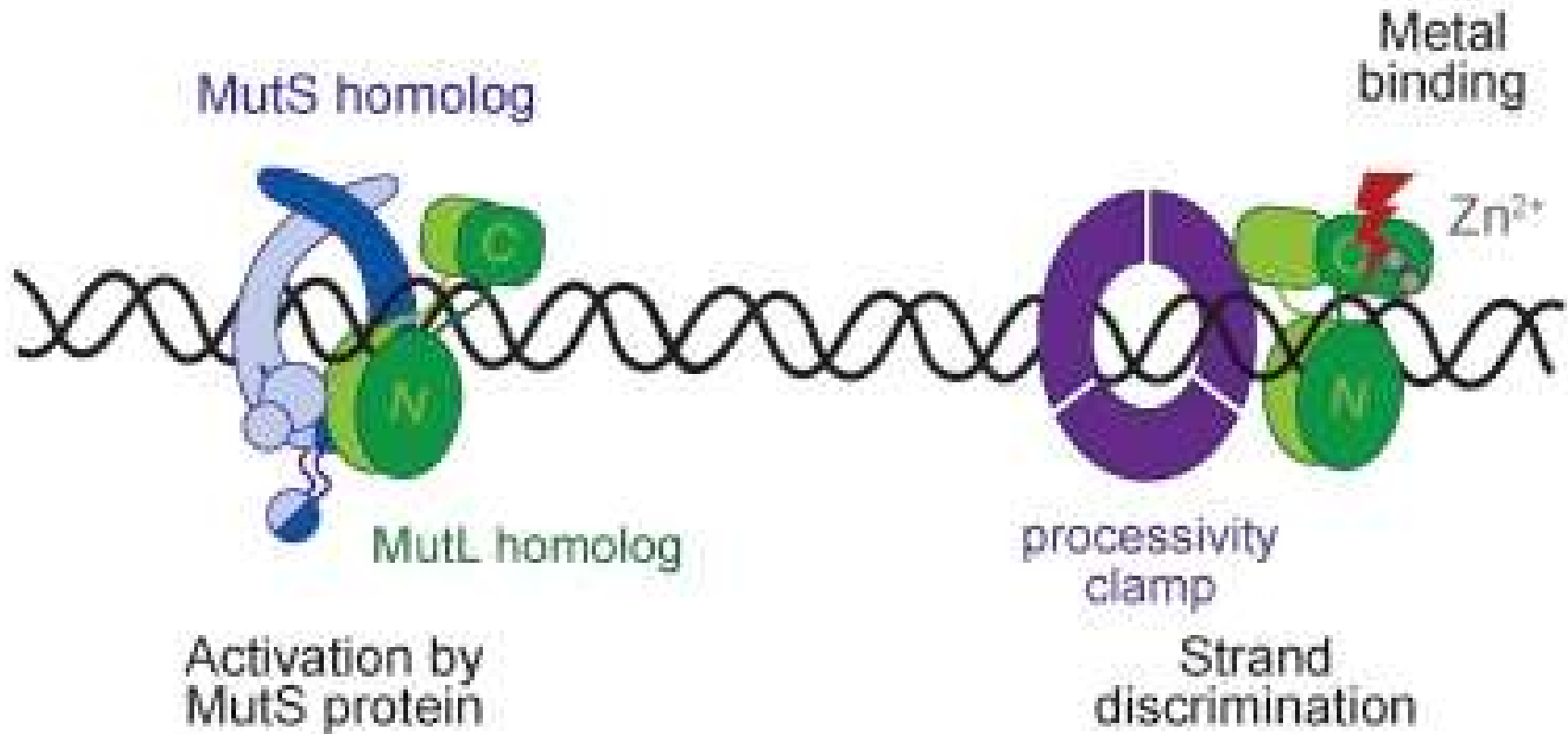


activation of endonuclease  
activities in MMR

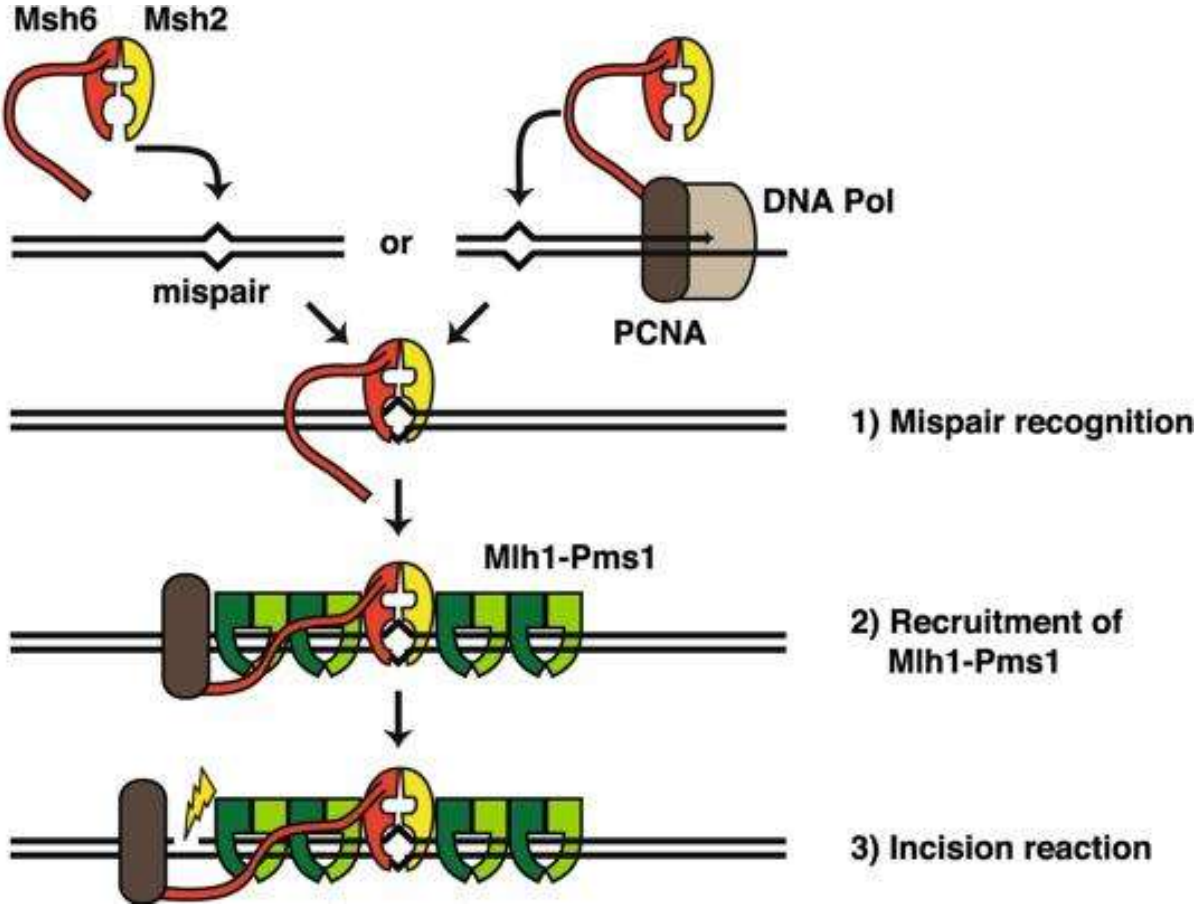
Eucarioti

activation of endonuclease activities in MMR

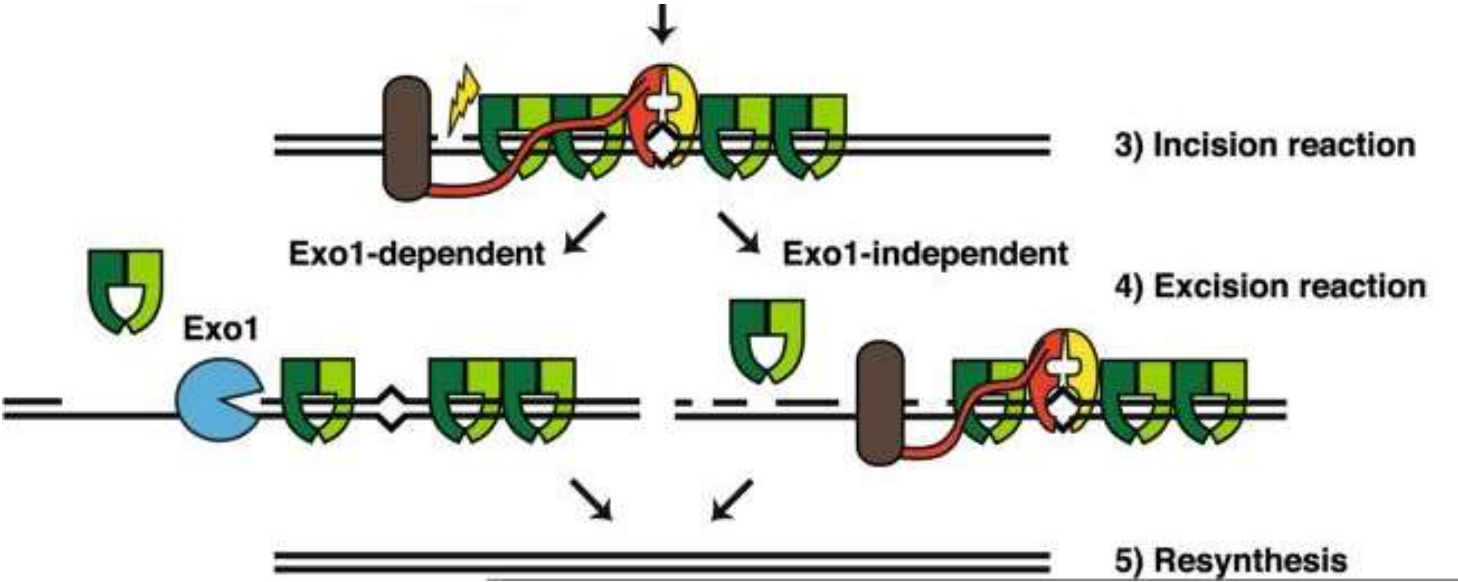
B



# alternative excision pathways during MMR



# alternative excision pathways during MMR



**MSH2** forma un eterodimero con **MSH6** (misappaiamento) o **MSH3** (loop di inserzione-delezione) e si lega al DNA segnalando l'elica templato

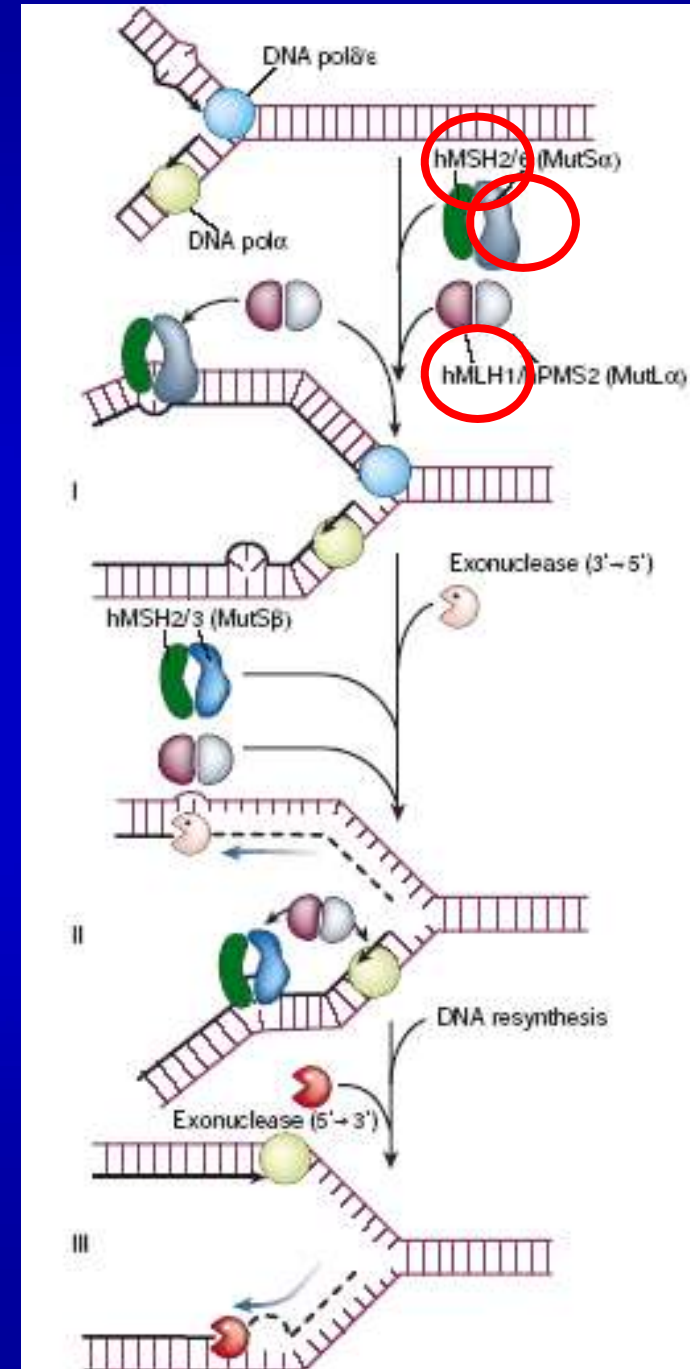


L'eterodimero **MLH1-PMS2**, talvolta legato anche a **PMS1**, coordina il legame con l'esonucleasi **EXO1** 3'-5' ed una o più elicasi

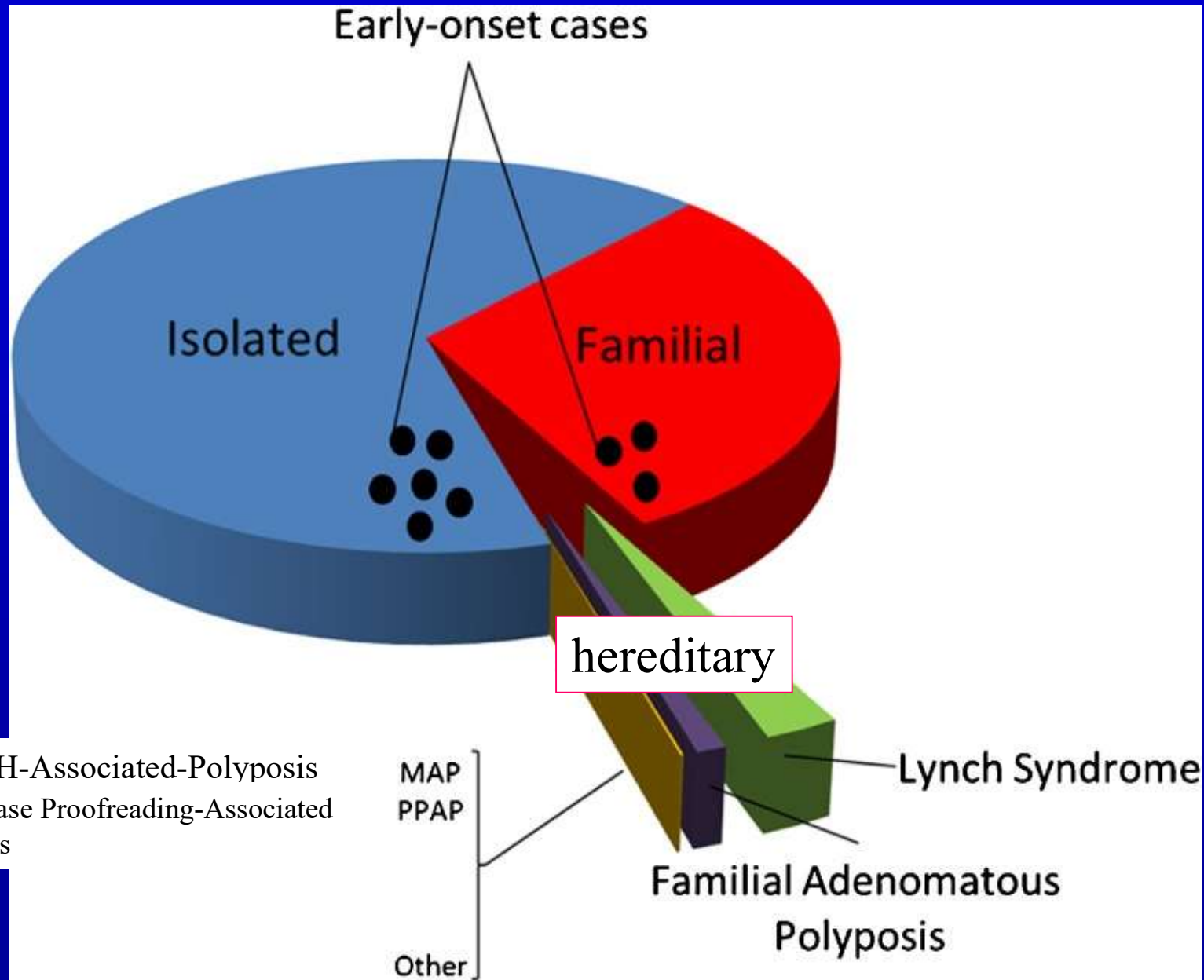


**EXO1** rimuove le basi errate e il gap è riempito da **DNA polimerasi** e **ligasi**

**MSH2, MSH3 e MSH6** sono omologhi a **mutS** di E.coli; **MLH1, PMS1 e PMS2** sono omologhi a **mutL** di E.coli



# Colorectal cancers

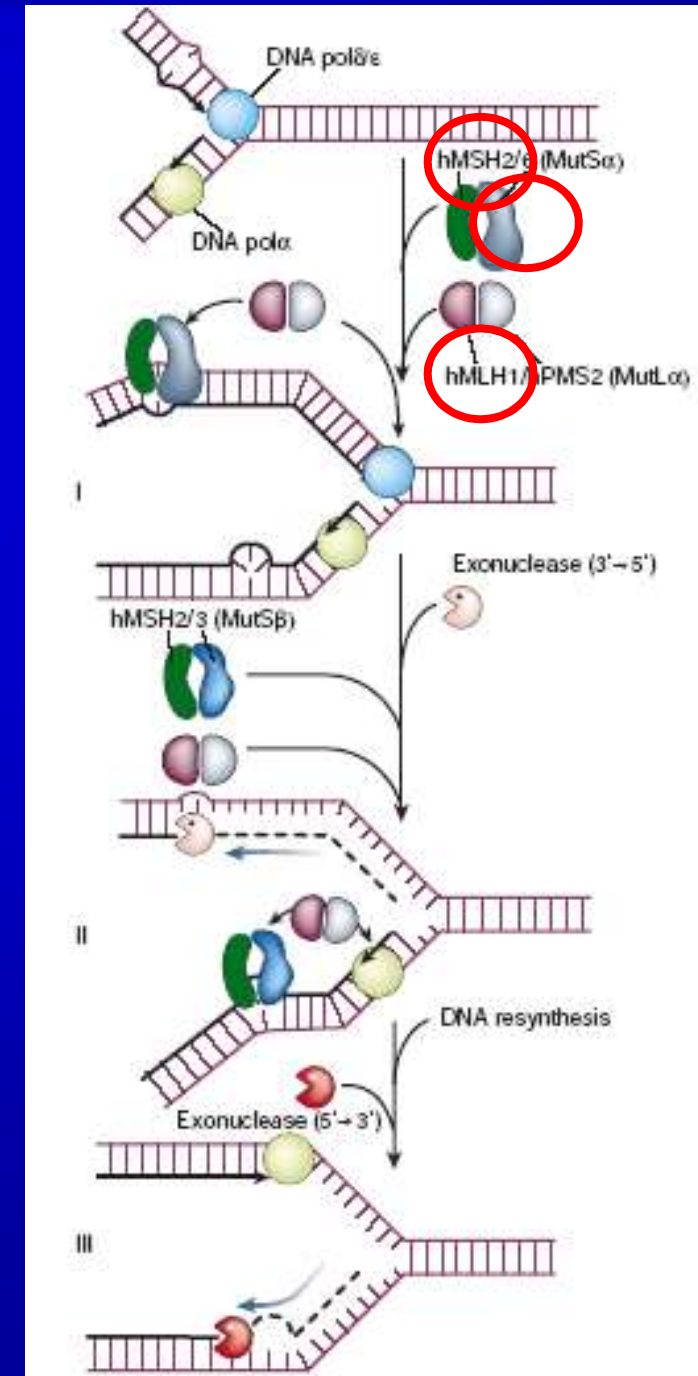


# HNPPC – Lynch syndrome cancro colon-rettale ereditario non poliposico

**hMLH1:** 50% delle mutazioni

**hMSH2:** 35%

**hMSH6:** 10%



Mutazioni in un gene del MMR → predisposizione a **HNPCC** (cancro colon-rettale ereditario non poliposico),

aumento 100-1000X del tasso generale di mutazione, rischio di tumori al colon-retto

**hMLH1:** 50% delle mutazioni in HNPCC

**hMSH2:** 35%

**hMSH6:** 10%

Le sostanze chimiche in grado di indurre mutazioni sono contenute soprattutto nel cibo o sono prodotte dal metabolismo alimentare → maggiori probabilità di colpire la mucosa della zona colon-rettale, dove il cibo permane 24-36 ore

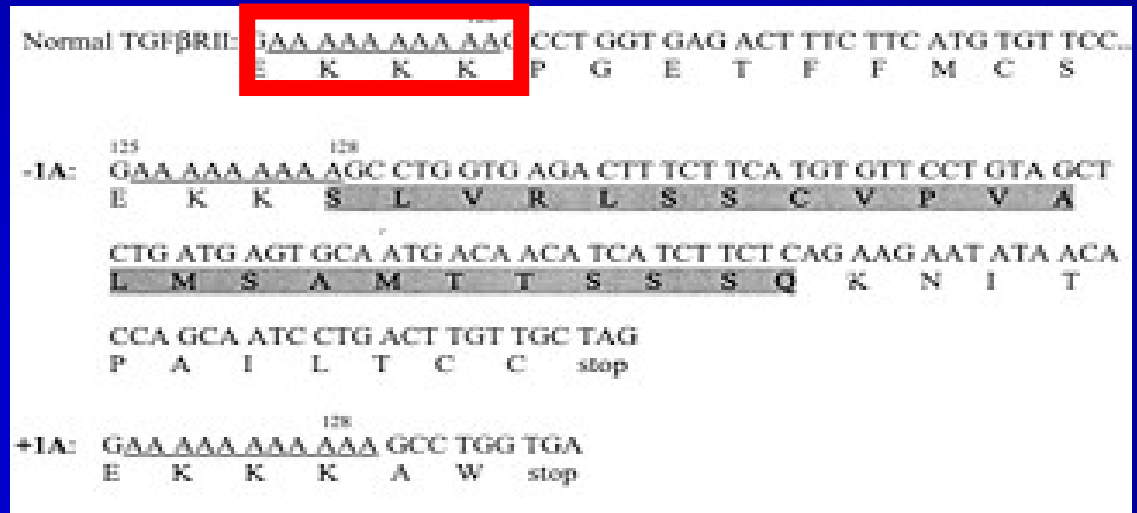


Gene	Total (%)
ACVR2A	70/77 (90.9)
TGFBR2	69/77 (89.6)
EGFR	68/76 <sup>a</sup> (88.3)
BMPR2 (A)11	57/76 <sup>a</sup> (75.0)
E2F4	40/75 <sup>b</sup> (53.3)
MSH3	38/77 (49.4)
BAX	34/77 (44.2)
TCF7L2	32/77 (41.6)
BMPR2 (A)7	27/77 (35.1)
PRDM2	22/77 (28.6)
MSH6	19/77 (24.7)
IGF2R	16/77 (20.8)
B2M	7/77 (9.1)
APC	6/77 (7.8)
PTEN	6/77 (7.8)
AXIN2	3/77 (3.9)

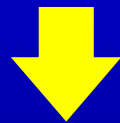
Mutational frequency of  
the target gene  
microsatellite sequences

L'alterazione del MMR aumenta l'insorgenza di mutazioni nel gene codificante per il recettore di tipo II per il TGF $\beta$  (TGF $\beta$  è un inibitore della proliferazione cellulare)

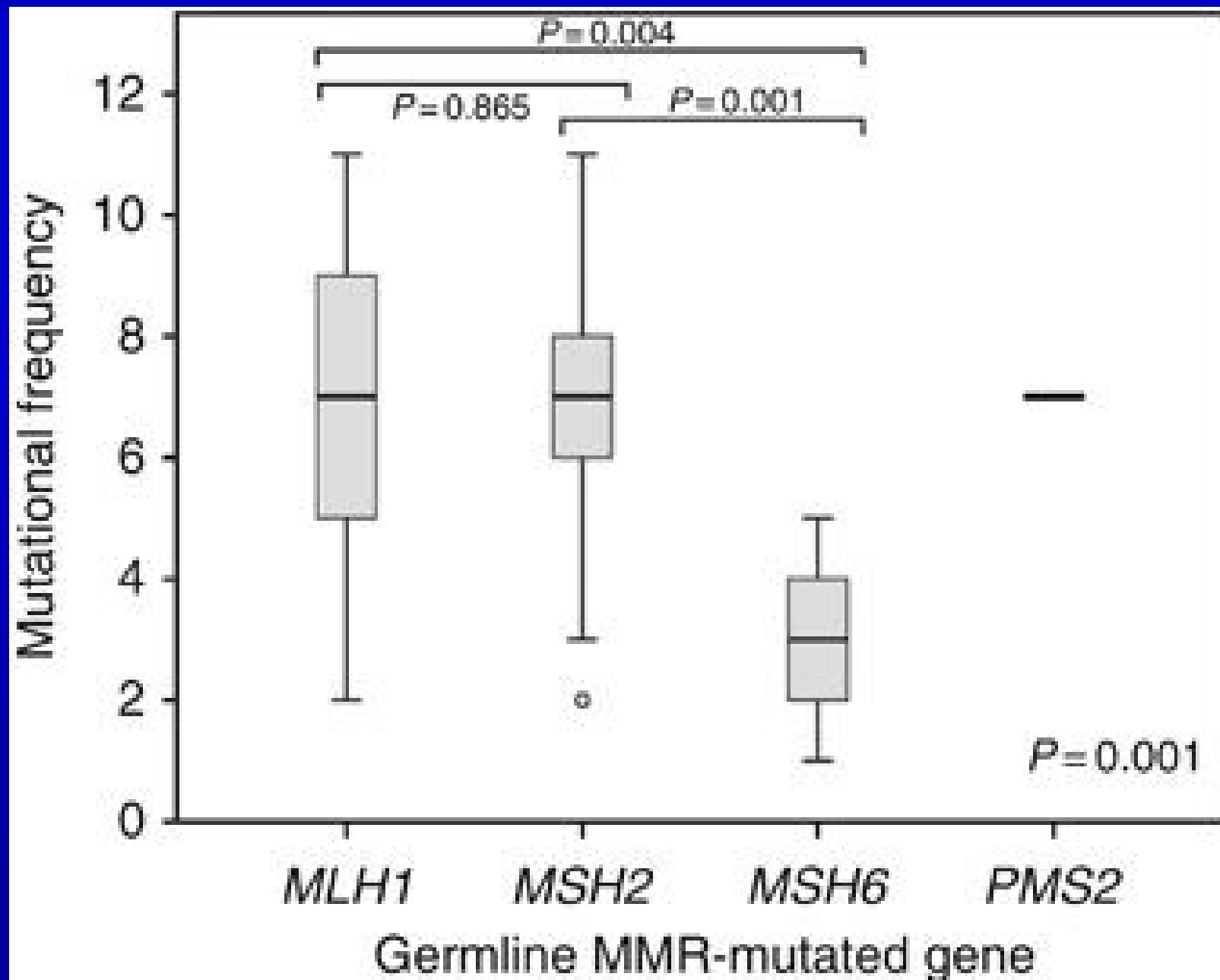
Tale gene contiene una fila di 10 Adenine dove si ha frequente "slittamento" della DNA polimerasi  $\rightarrow$  sequenze con 9 o 11 A, corrette da MMR



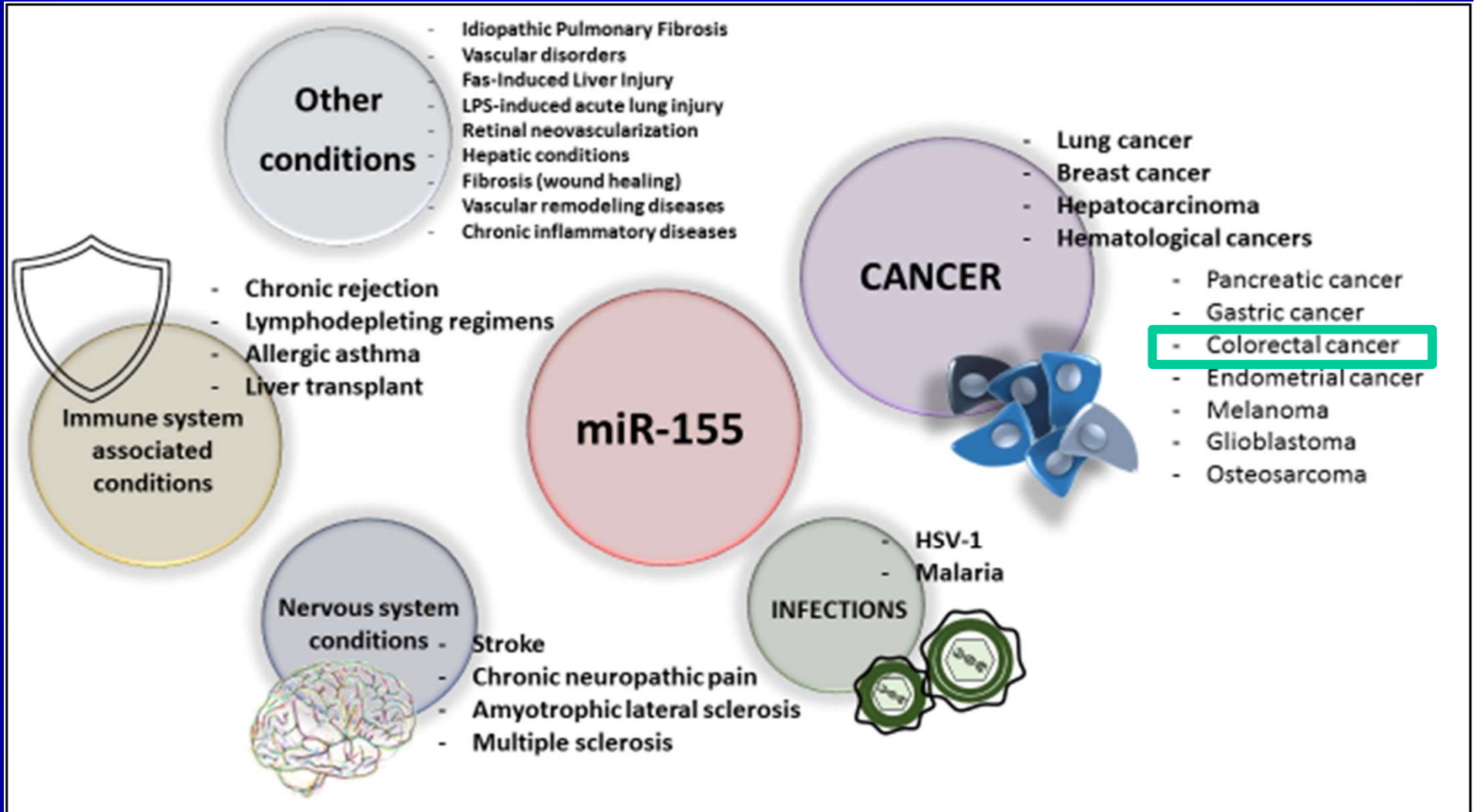
Pazienti con alterazioni del MMR: l'errore permane  $\rightarrow$  recettore per TGF $\beta$  non funzionale

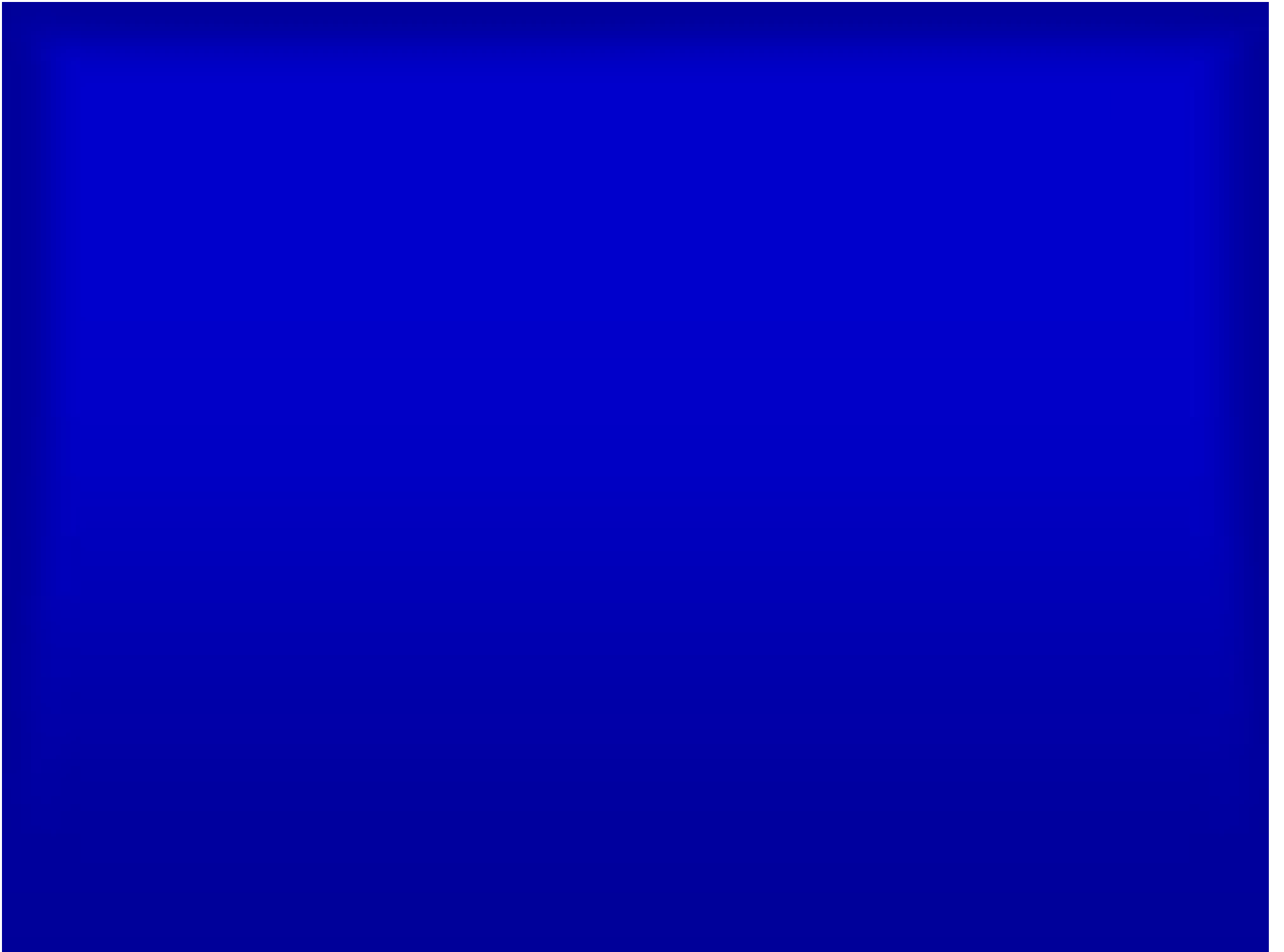


La mutazione rende le cellule insensibili alla inibizione della crescita indotta da TGF $\beta$   $\rightarrow$  sviluppo incontrollato caratteristico dei tumori



# MiR-155 is involved in a broad spectrum of disease states

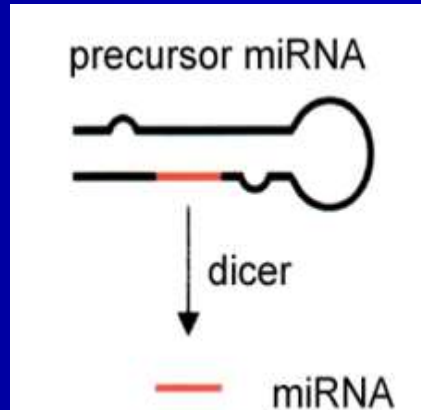




Overexpression of miR-155 decreases the expression of MLH1, MSH2, and MSH6

# Small RNAs

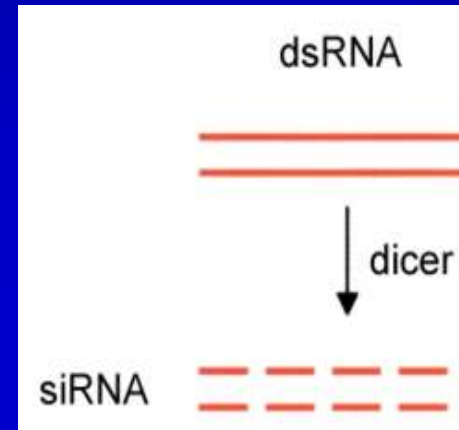
## miRNA



Prodotti in modo endogeno

Funzione: regolazione dell'espressione genica sopprimendo la traduzione o la trascrizione di geni target

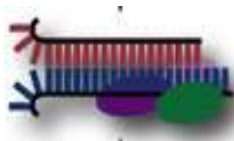
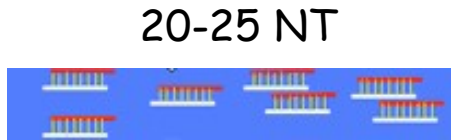
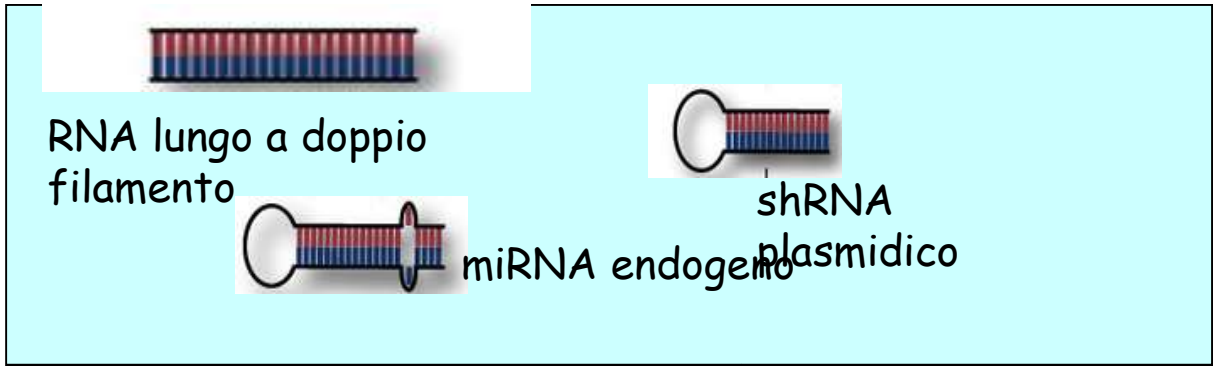
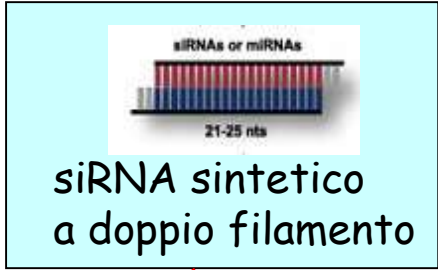
## siRNA



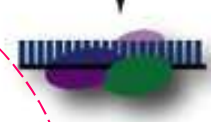
Exo-siRNA: Introdotti in modo esogeno (virus a dsRNA, transposoni, transgeni)

Endo-siRNA: derivati da loci genomici endogeni

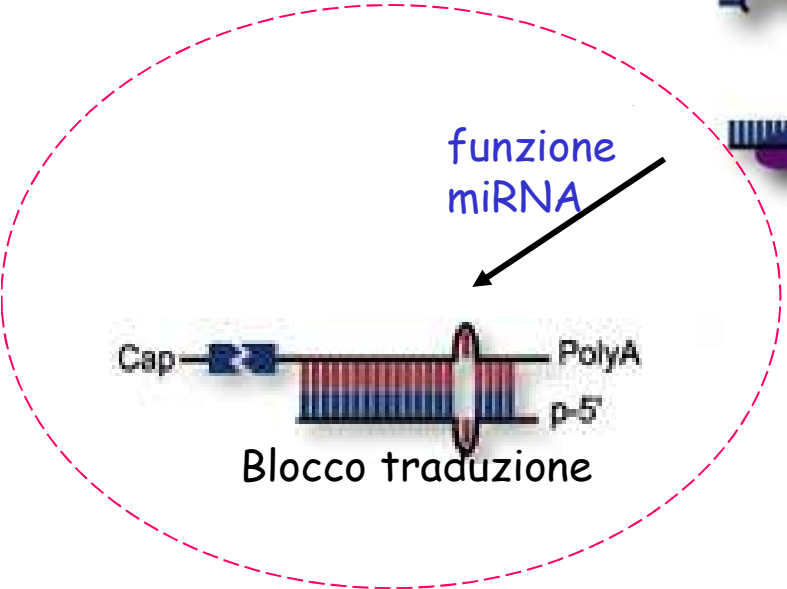
Funzione principale: rispondere alle minacce esterne sopprimendo la trascrizione genica dell'"invasore"



Formazione del complesso RISC (RNA induced silencing complex)



Complesso RISC attivato



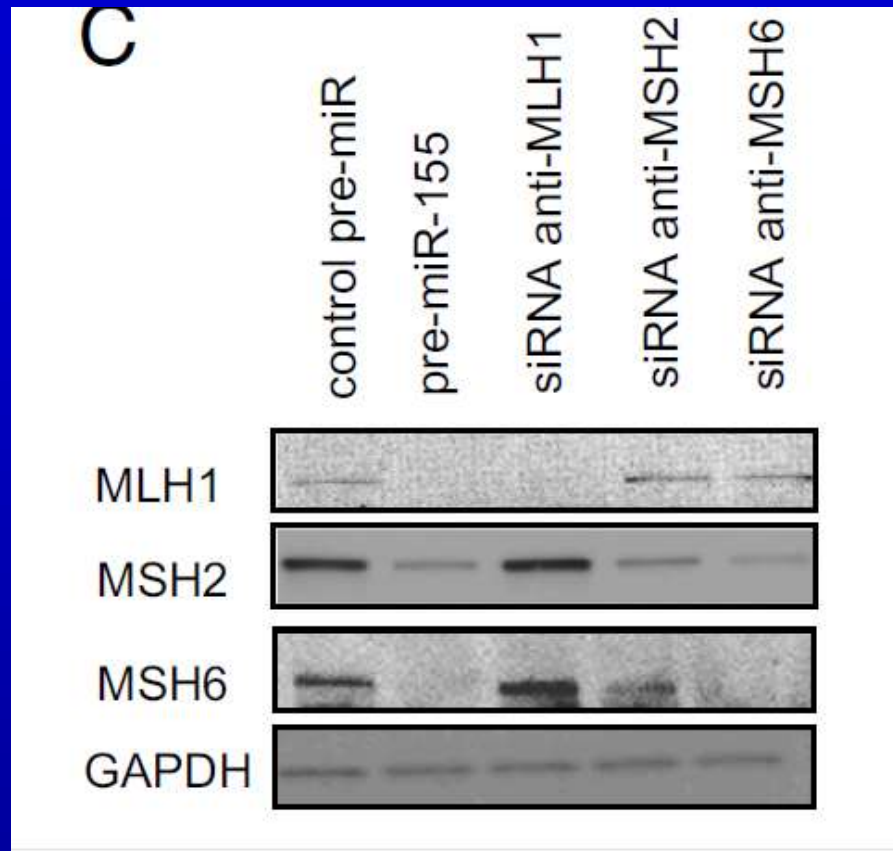
funzione siRNA



Formazione doppia elica con RNA complementare e attacco di endonucleasi

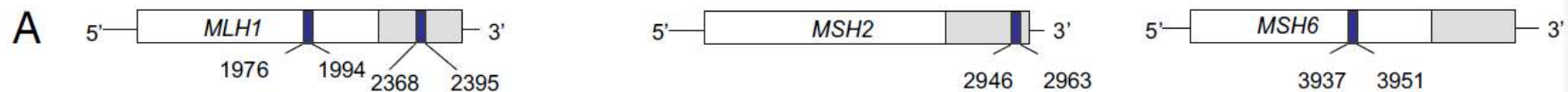


# Overexpression of miR-155 decreases the expression of MLH1, MSH2, and MSH6 in CRC cells



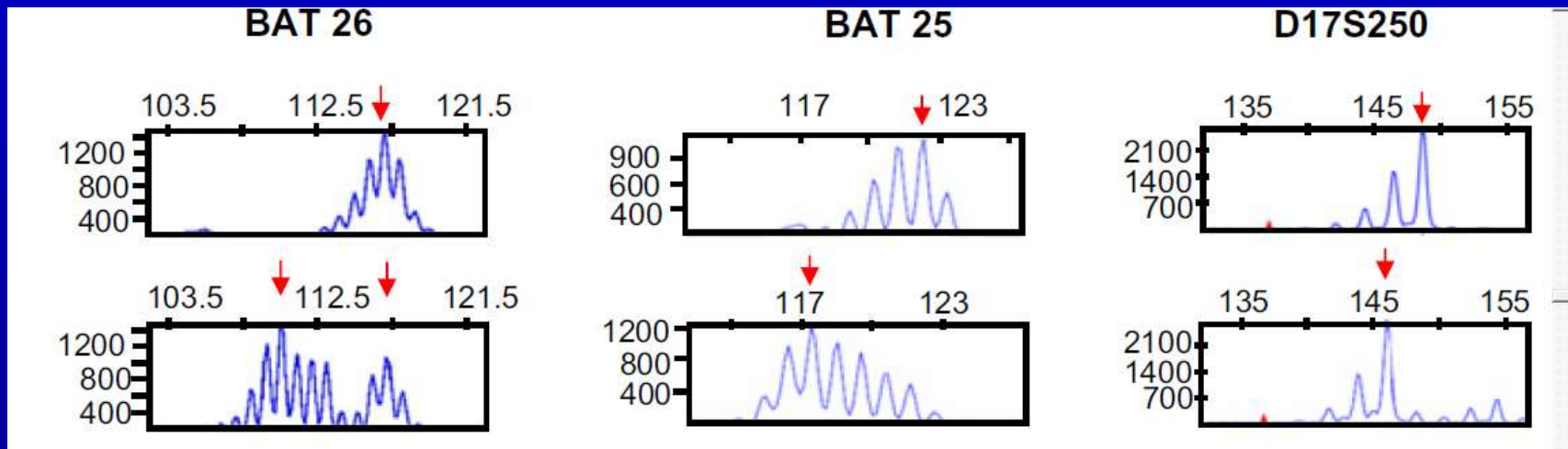
# Overexpression of miR-155 decreases the expression of MLH1, MSH2, and MSH6 in ColoRectal Cancer cells

- hMLH1, hMSH2, and hMSH6 are direct targets of miR-155. (A) Locations of the target sites of miR-155 in the 3' UTRs and/or the CDS of the indicated genes

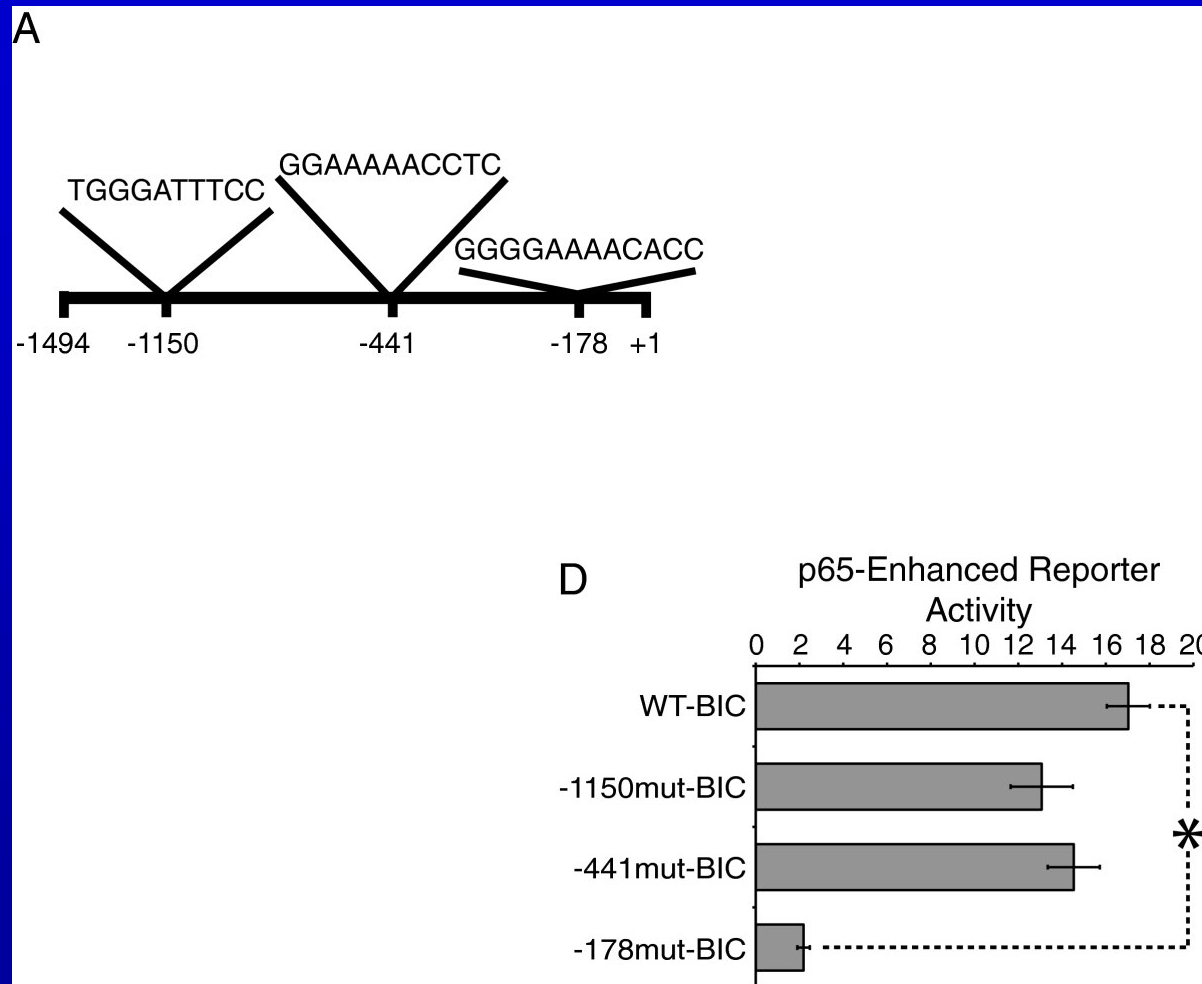


# Overexpression of miR-155 decreases the expression of MLH1, MSH2, and MSH6 in CRC cells

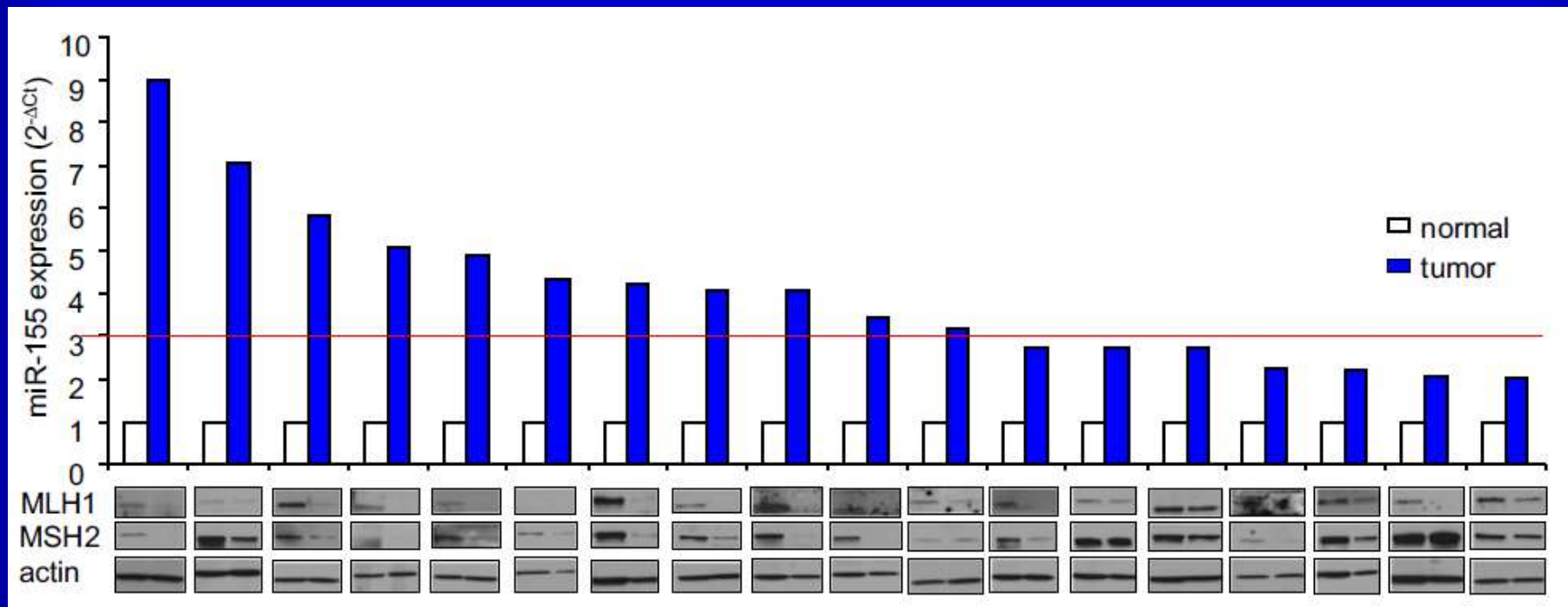
- Microsatellite analysis of Colo 155 (+) overexpression of miR-155) and (-) cells
- BAT-26 and BAT 25 (mononucleotide repeats)
- D17S250 (dinucleotide repeat)



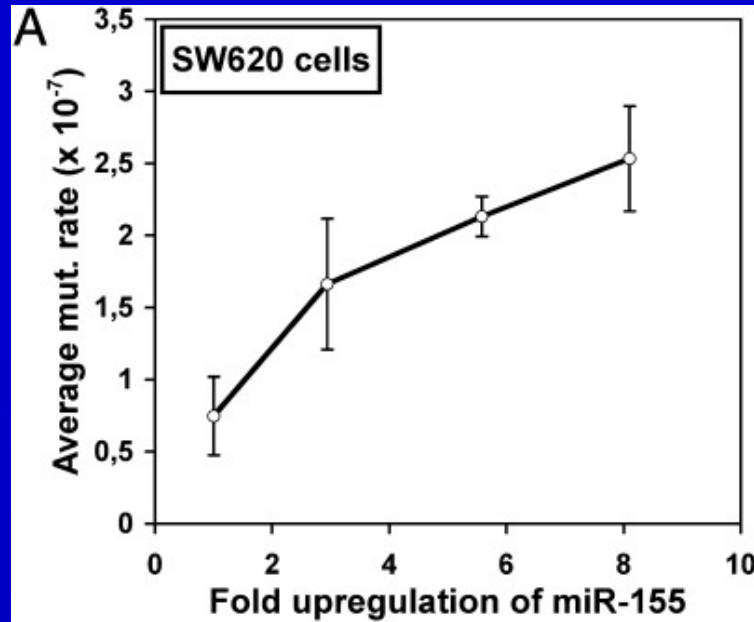
NF- $\kappa$ B p65 up-regulates expression from the MIR155HG promoter through an NF- $\kappa$ B binding site located upstream of the transcription start site BMC Molecular Biology 2013 14:24



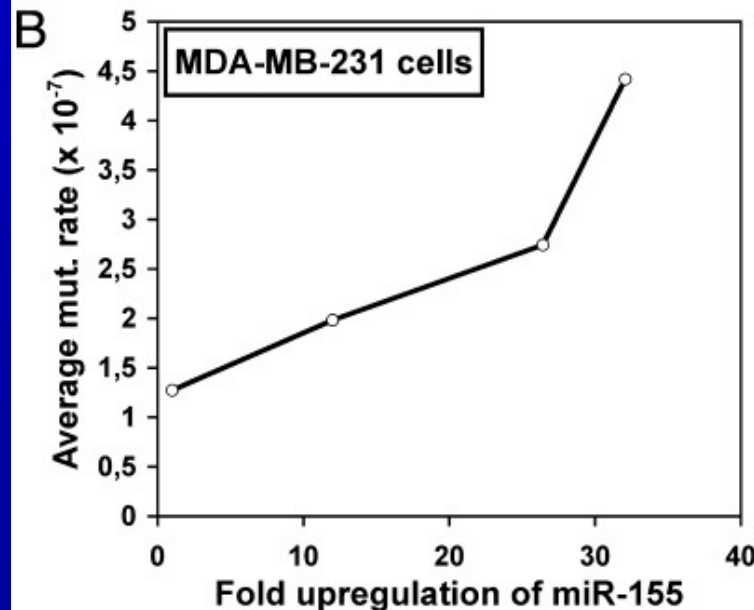
# miR-155 expression is inversely related to MLH1 and MSH2 in CRC tissues



colorectal adenocarcinoma cells

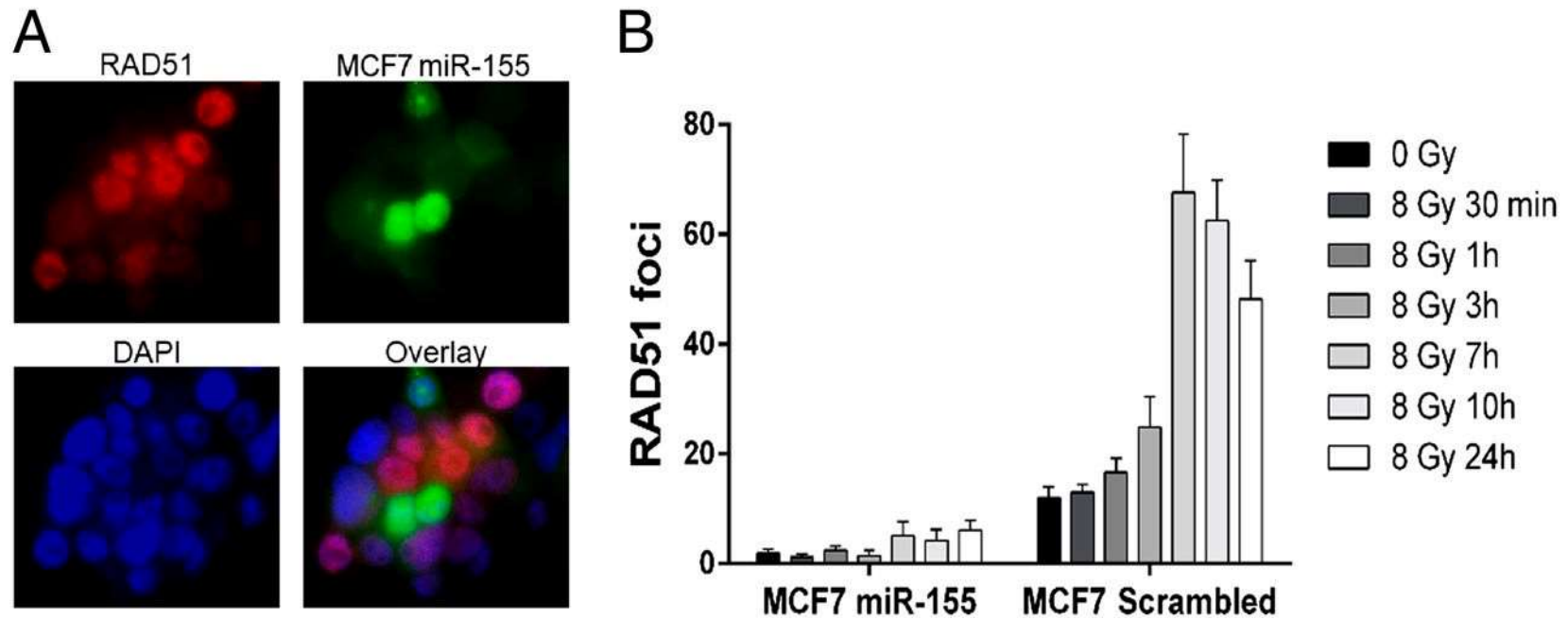


breast adenocarcinoma cells



*miR-155* under the control of an inducible system

## miR-155 inhibits gamma-rays-induced RAD51 foci formation.



miR-155–overexpressing MCF7 cells

Gasparini P et al. PNAS 2014;111:4536-4541