

Tab. 1 Endogenous DNA damages in mammalian cells.

<i>Type of damage</i>	<i>Approximate average incidence (DNA damages/cell/day)</i>
Oxidative	500,000 (young mouse brain) 2,000,000 (old mouse brain) 86,000 (rats, all tissues) 10,000 (humans, all tissues)
Depurinations	9,000 (humans and rats)
Single-strand break	7,200 (<i>in vitro</i>)
O ⁶ -methylguanine	2,000 (<i>in vitro</i>)
Double-strand break	>40 (rats) ^a >3 (humans) ^a
DNA cross-link	>37 (rats) ^a >3 (humans) ^a
Glucose 6-phosphate adduct	3 (humans)

^aThese numbers were calculated from the values in the references by methods indicated in the literature.