

DNA DAMAGE AS A UNIFYING CAUSE OF AGING

Aging is a complex process involving a variety of features at the molecular, cellular and physiological level, such as genomic and [epigenomic alterations](#), loss of proteostasis, [declining overall cellular and subcellular function](#) and deregulation of signalling systems. The old question is: has ageing a unifying causal mechanism or is it grounded in multiple sources? Schumacher et al. ([Nature 592:695-703, 2021](#)) propose that “DNA damage affects most, if not all, aspects of the ageing phenotype, making it a potentially unifying cause of ageing”.