

AQA GCSE Biology (Higher) For the Summer 2022 Exams

Flashcard Notes - 3.2.2 Uses of monoclonal antibodies

Copy the questions and answers below onto flashcards and use them to test yourself.

What are some uses of monoclonal antibodies?

Uses of monoclonal antibodies include:

- Pregnancy tests - using monoclonal antibodies that bind a hormone that is only found in the urine during pregnancy.
- Tests for specific pathogens - using monoclonal antibodies that bind to an antigen on the surface of the pathogen being tested for.
- Use in research to find out where a specific molecule is in a cell or tissue. This is done by binding a fluorescent dye to the monoclonal antibodies, making them easy to locate.
- To treat some diseases (e.g. some cancers) - for example, by binding a radioactive or toxic substance to the monoclonal antibodies in order to kill any cells that have the antigens that the antibodies bind to.