

# Transcription factor classification

**Table 1. Classification scheme for eukaryotic transcription factors**

Level	Pattern of classification no.	group designation	description	example
1	N	superclass	general topology of DBD	zinc-coordinating domains
2	N.N	class	structural blueprint of the DBD	zinc-finger nuclear receptors
3	N.N.N	family	functional criteria such as protein-DNA-complex formation (DNA-binding specificity, multimerization behaviour) or biological effect	T <sub>3</sub> R/RAR (in contrast to steroid hormone receptors)
4	N.N.N.N	subfamily	mainly according to sequence similarity of the DBDs	RAR (retinoic acid receptor)
5	N.N.N.N.N	genus	according to factor gene	RAR- $\alpha$ , RAR- $\beta$
6	N.N.N.N.N.N	factor "species"	initiation/ splice/ processing variants	RAR- $\alpha$ 1, RAR- $\alpha$ 2

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