**Differences between Unicellular and Multicellular Organisms**

The main differences between unicellular and multicellular organisms are:

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|                        **Unicellular Organisms** |                                **Multicellular Organisms** |
|  Body of the organism is made up of a single cell.  |  The body of multicellular organism is made up of numerous cells. |
|  Body organization is simple. |  Organization is complex. |
|  The function of the whole organism is carried out by a single cell.  |  Specialized functions are performed by different cells, tissues, organs or organ systems.  |
|  Division of labor in the organism is at organelle level.  |  Division of labor in the organism may be at cellular level, tissue level, organs and organ system level.  |
|  Usually prokaryotic in nature. |  They are mostly eukaryotic in nature. |
|  The body of the cell is exposed to the environment on all sides.  |  Outer cells face the environment.  |
|  Any injury to cell can cause death of the organism.  |  Injury or death of some cells does not affect the organisms, the affected cells are replaced. |
|  A limit is imposed to the size of the cell by the surface area to volume ratio and hence it can attain large size.  |  Due to multicellularity the organism can attain large size. |
|  Lifespan of the organism is usually short.  |  Organisms have a longer lifespan. |
|  Reproduction is by vegetative/asexual methods. |  Reproduction is sexual type. |
|  Has good capacity of regeneration and power of division.  |  Capacity of regeneration decreases with increase in specialization and certain cells that are specialized loose the power of division.  |
|  There is no cell differentiation process.  |  Cell differentiation is evident. |
|  Nutrition is by engulfing food.  |  Nutrition is by specific organs or by food production. They can be autotrophs or heterotrophs. |
|  They are microscopic in nature.  |  They are macroscopic in nature. |