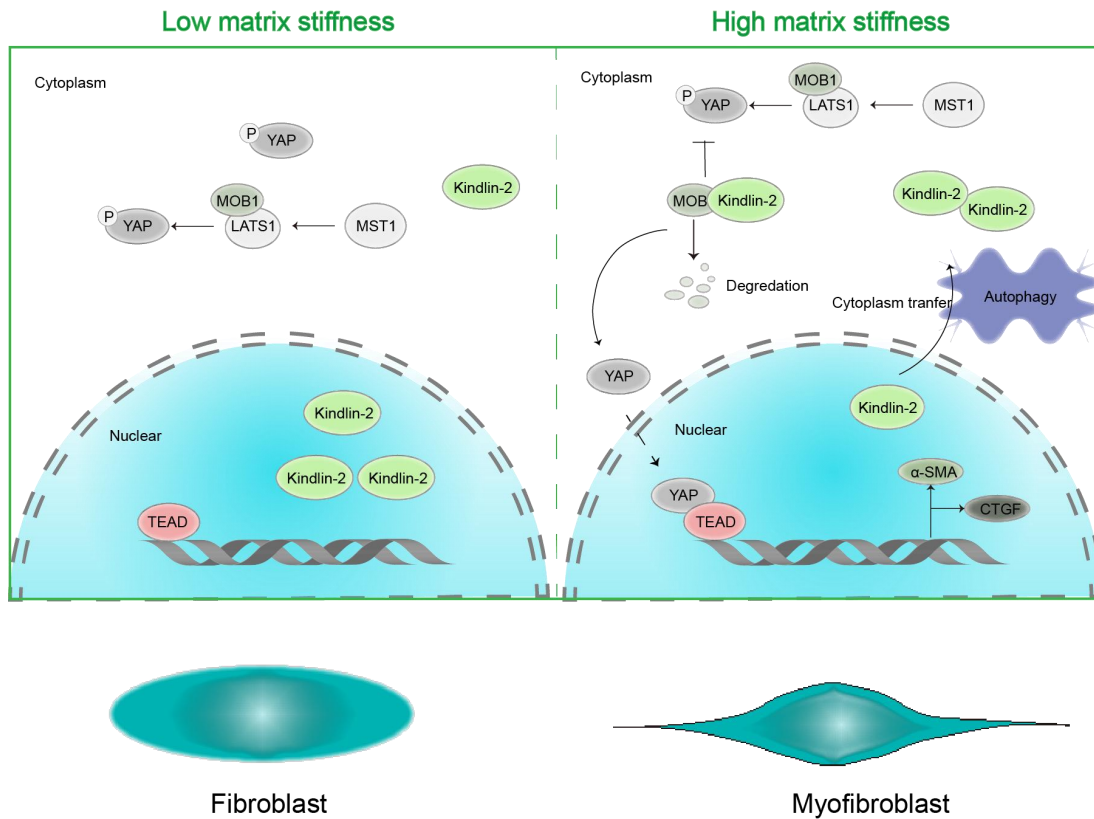




Under physiological conditions, fibroblasts are in a quiescent state. When extracellular matrix stiffness increases, kindlin-2 translocates to the cytoplasm, binds to MOB1 in the Hippo pathway and induces its degradation, leading to the translocation of YAP to the nucleus and the induction of subsequent myofibroblast transformation-related gene expression.