

Teaching unit 02

MECHANISMS OF CELL DEATH





Apoptosis

- mechanism, role and significance
- the difference between necrosis and apoptosis.
- basic principles of cell death induced by death receptors (external signal)
- basic principles of cell death as a result of loss of survival stimulus (internal signal)

Autophagy

- mechanism, role and significance

Necrosis

- mechanism, role and significance

"There is a time for everything in the world. There is a time to live and a time to die..."

The only certainty of life is his end, which us today's people unaccustomed to living with death, always surprises.





As far as we know today cells die in three ways:

- Necrosis- which is a consequence of significant external damage to the cell by physico-chemical agents (hypoxia, extreme temperatures, action of complement). A cell uses energy to survive.
- Apoptosis- which is a consequence of the activation of the internal program of cellular suicide. A cell uses energy to die.
- Autophagy

APOPTOSIS...

-programmed cell death-

... is a highly regulated process that occurs in one cell independently from the surrounding cells.



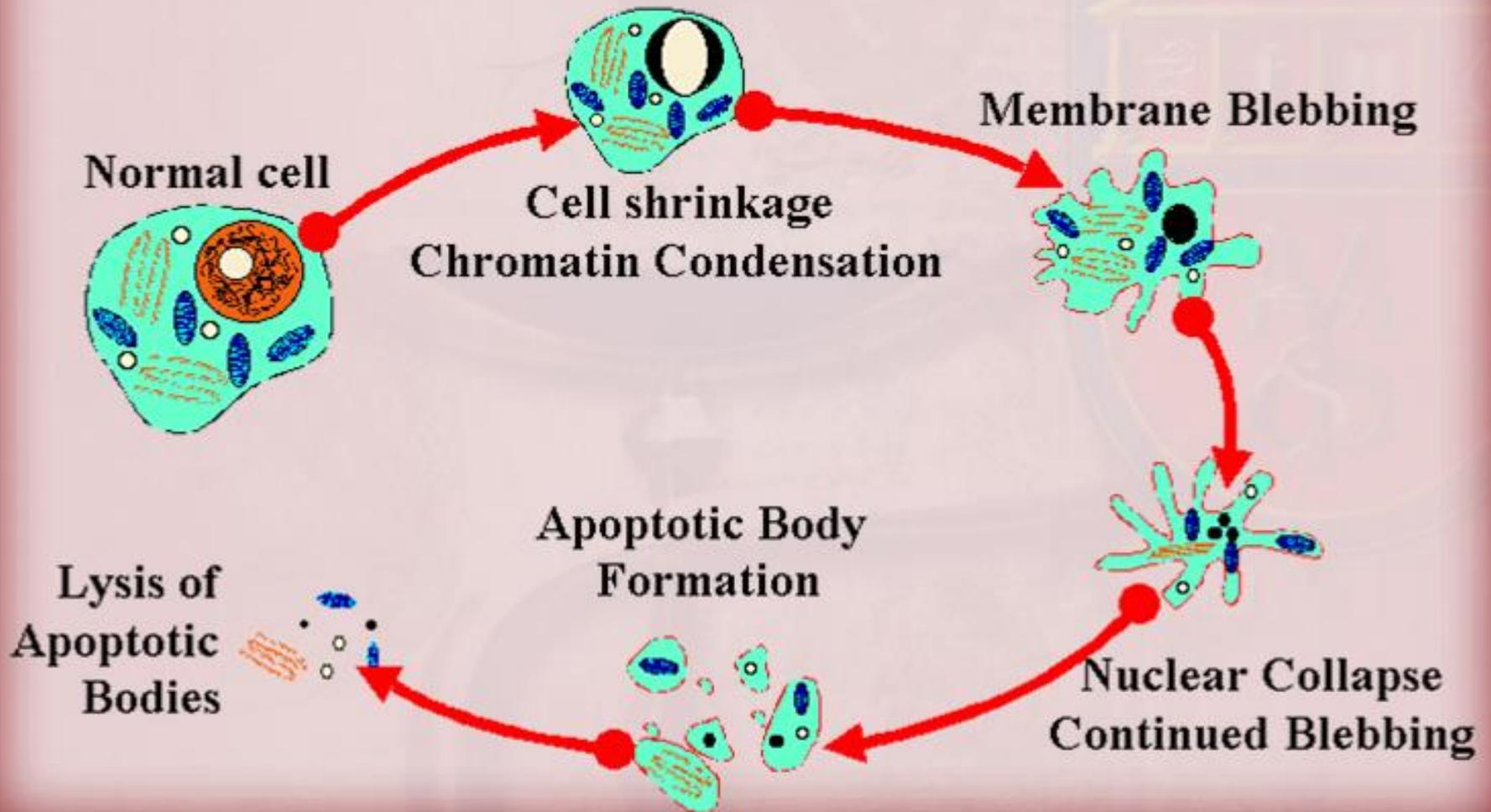
APOPTOSIS

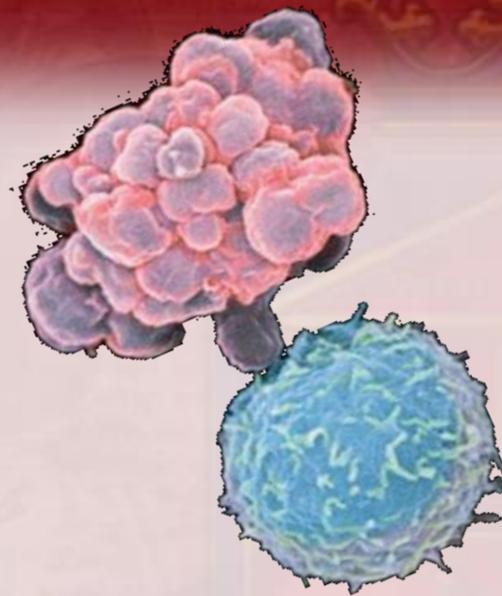
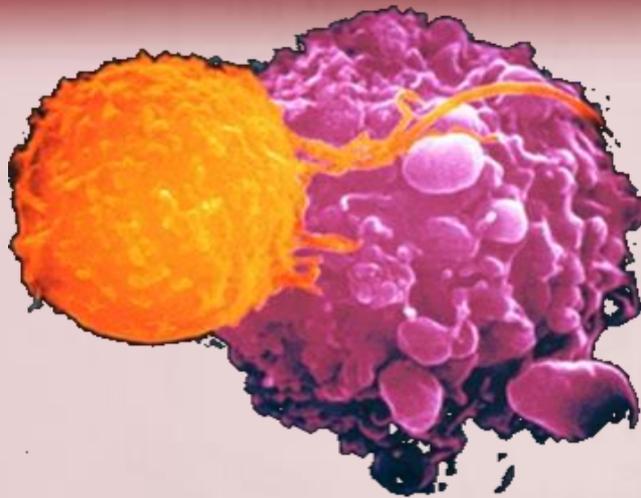
-basics of program morphology-

- chromatin condensation - nuclear pyknosis;
- destruction of laminin and actin filaments - shriveling of the cell;
- thickening of the cytoplasm;
- swelling of the cell membrane - the cell becomes rounded;
- membrane inversion - exposure of phosphatidylserine and calreticulin ("*eat me*" signal);
- destruction of the cell matrix, fragmentation of the nucleus and DNA;
- damage to mitochondria and release of cytochrome-C;
- formation of apoptotic bodies containing cytoplasm and densely packed organelles, as well as nuclear fragments;
- these bodies are phagocytosed by tissue macrophages, which secrete anti-inflammatory cytokines (IL-10, TGF- β).



Apoptosis (Programmed Cell Death)





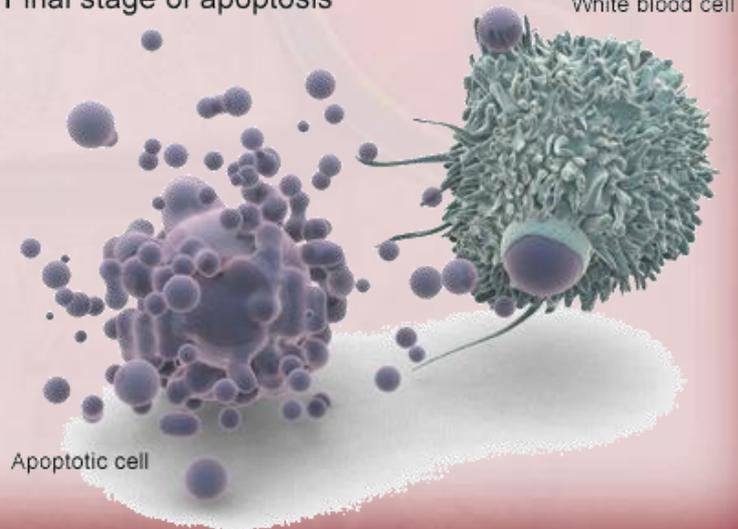
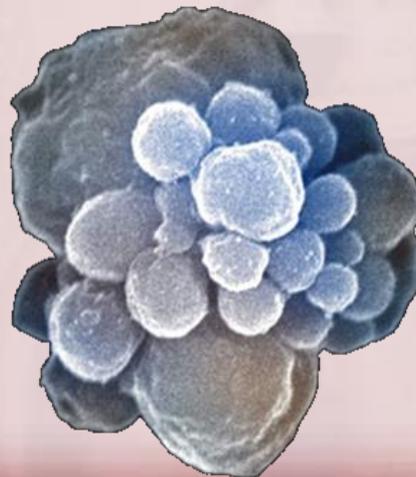
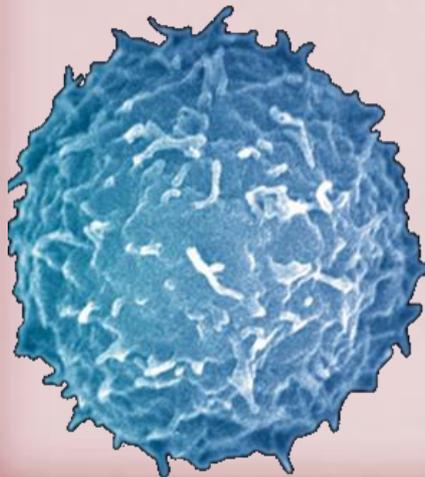
APOPTOTIC CELLS

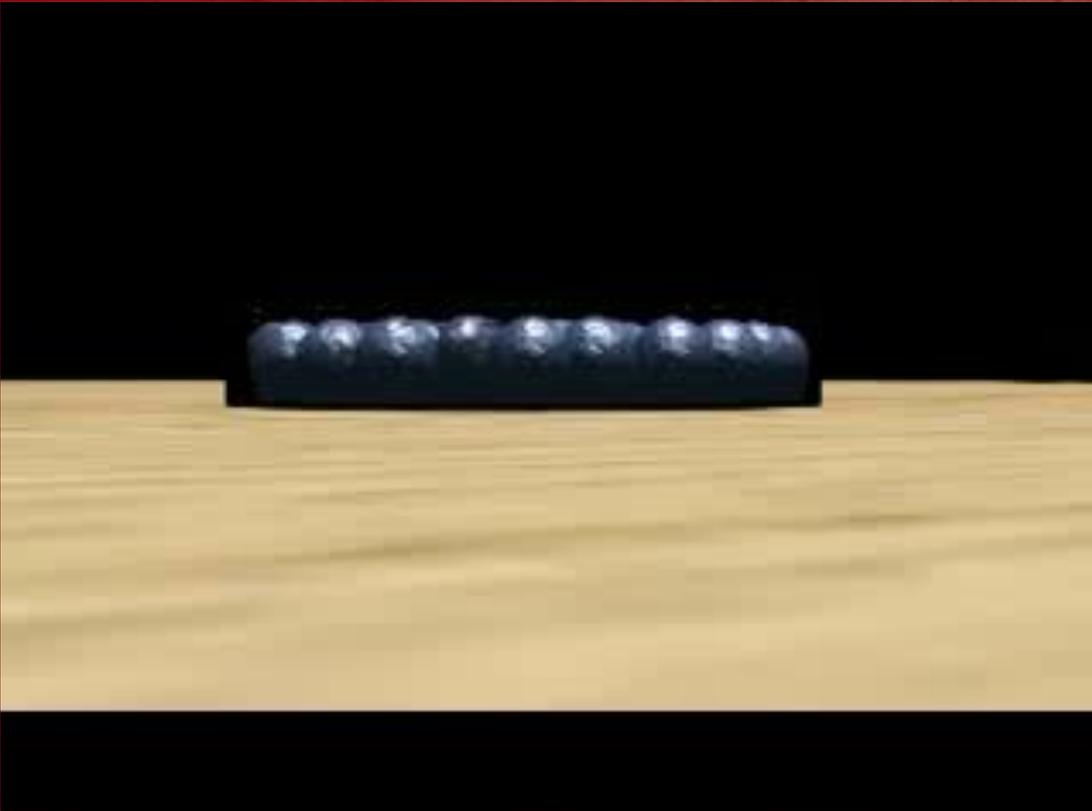
normal WBC

apoptotic WBC

Final stage of apoptosis

White blood cell





THE SIGNIFICANCE OF APOPTOSIS

For development of organism, apoptosis is as important as mitosis, because:

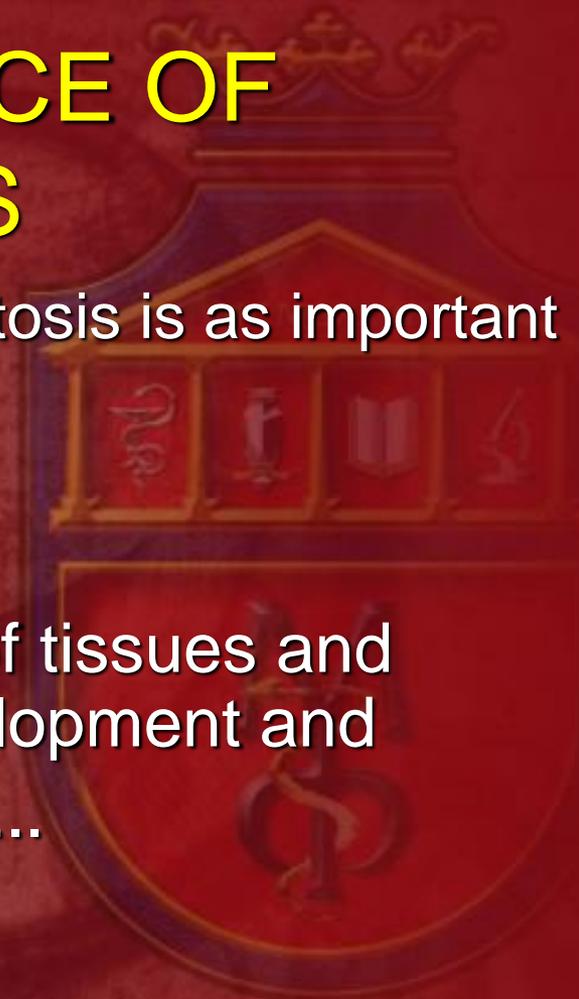
Daily, 10 billion cells die this way...

...which is decisive for formation of tissues and organs during intrauterine development and

...formation of neuronal synapses...

...of the lymphocyte repertoire

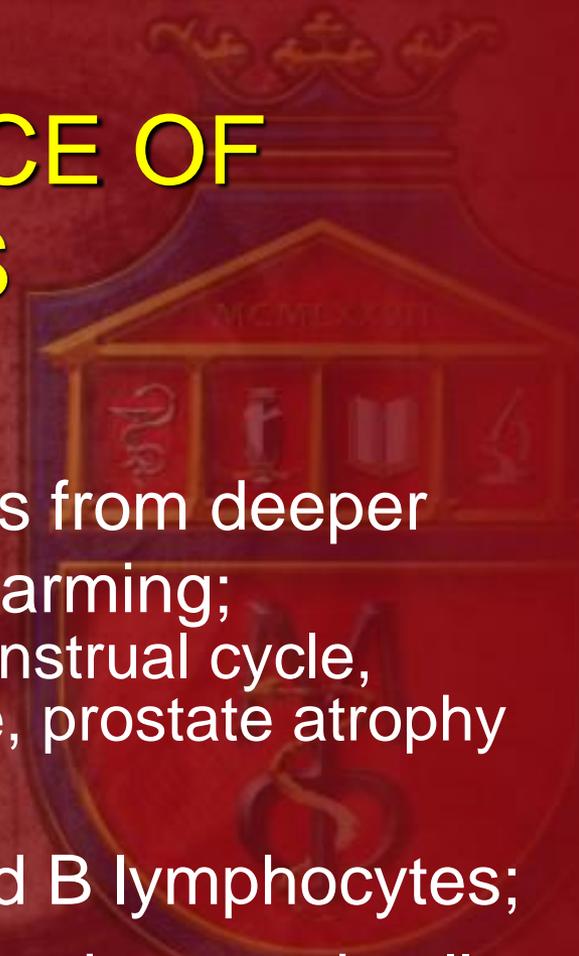
***Reasons sufficient for the life of a cell
there are enough reasons for her death.***



THE SIGNIFICANCE OF APOPTOSIS

after birth:

- During migration of keratinocytes from deeper parts skin towards the surface - arming;
- hormone-dependent cell death (menstrual cycle, ovarian atrophy during menopause, prostate atrophy after castration);
- Elimination of autoreactive T and B lymphocytes;
- Elimination of virus infected cells, damaged cells or cells with irreparable genetic errors.



HISTORY OF APOPTOSIS

Apoptosis has been discovered many times and forgotten just as many times:

- 1842. Vogt-cell death in amphibians;
- 1885. Flemming- cell death of the rabbit de Graafian follicle (physiological function, death due to lysis of chromosomes);
- 1972 John Kerr, hepatocytes - apoptosis vs shrinkage necrosis.

(Kerr JF, et al. Br J Cancer 1972;26:239–57).



CASPASES

induction of apoptosis includes the activation of cytosolic enzymes-**caspase**, and these are endoproteases that destroy essential structural components including the genetic material of the cell.

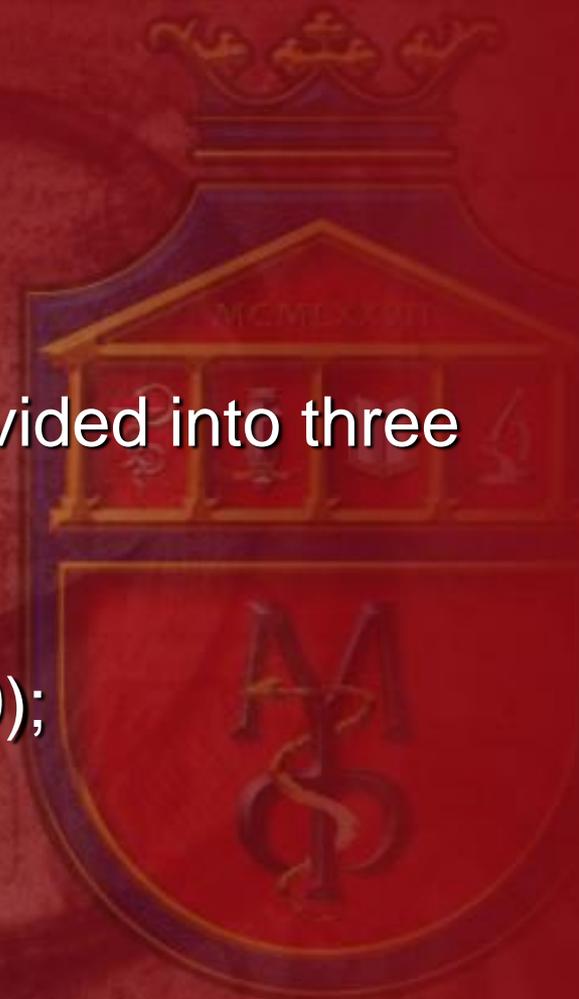
Caspases are present in all cells in the form of proenzymes that are activated by a cascade of proteolytic cleavage, and the sequence of their activation depends on the way of initiation of apoptosis



CASPASES

Today, 14 caspases are known, divided into three functional groups:

- initiator caspases (2, 8, 9 and 10);
- effector caspases (3, 6 and 7);
- inflammatory caspases (1, 4 and 6).



MECHANISMS OF APOPTOSIS

two main pathways of inducing apoptosis:

- **the outer path** (death receptors);
- **inner path**(mitochondria);

today it is known that two mentioned pathways interconnected and that molecules engaged in one can start other signaling pathway

- **cytotoxicity**(perforins and granzymes A or B).



APOPTOSIS DUE TO LOSS OF SURVIVAL STIMULUS:

INTERNAL SIGNAL

when the cell is deprived of survival stimuli
or if it makes a mistake, apoptosis occurs:

- loss of constant stimulation or adhesion (**anoikis**);
- the role of cytokines, growth factors and some hormones;
- DNA damage also triggers apoptosis from the cell itself (error in replication, action of ionizing radiation, chemotherapeutics, drugs like nucleoside analogues...)
- reactive oxygen radicals can activate apoptosis - a change in mitochondrial membrane permeability

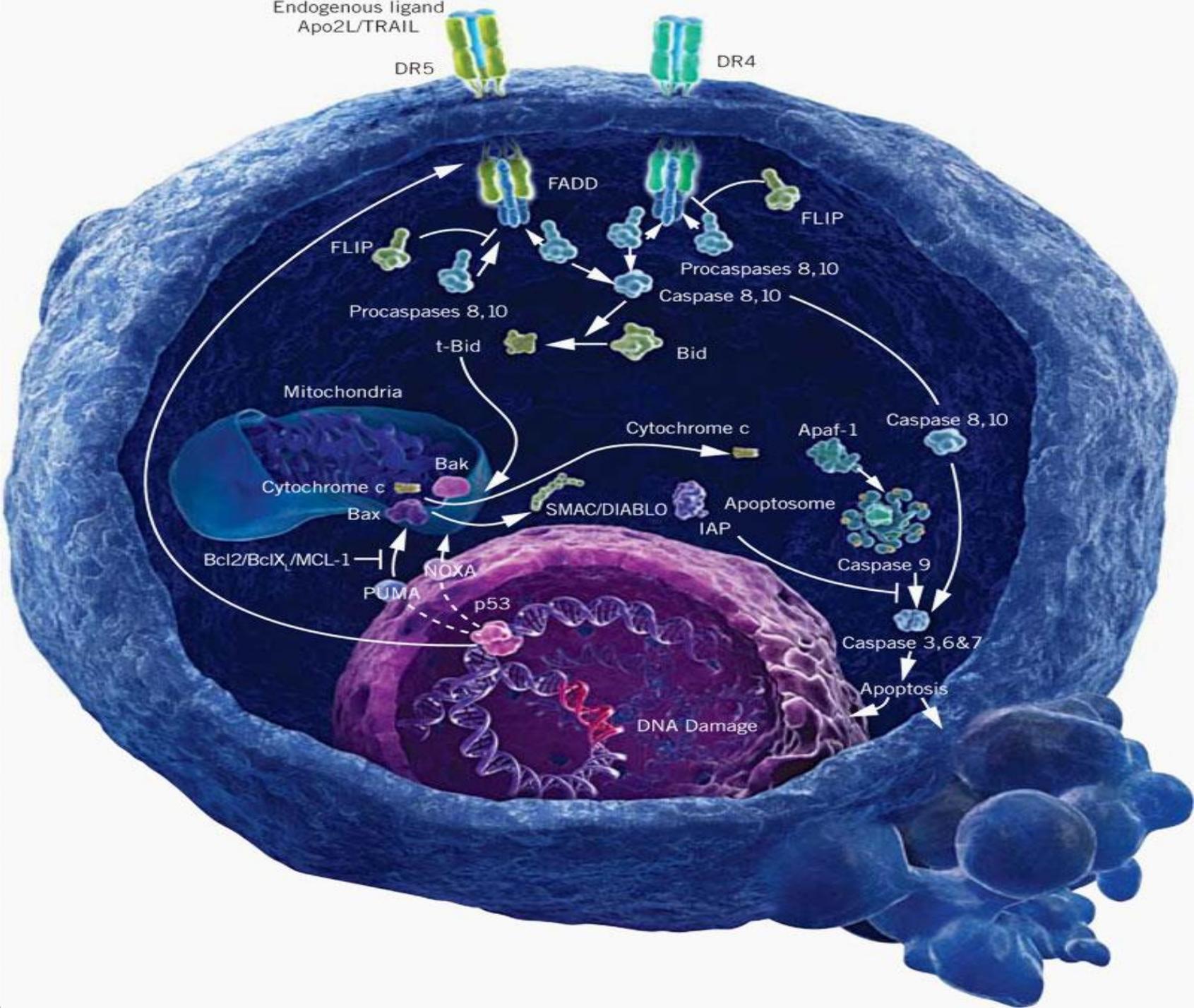


APOPTOSIS DUE TO LOSS OF SURVIVAL STIMULUS: INTERNAL SIGNAL

A cell will die by apoptosis if it is not protected by pro-survival stimuli.

The internal pathways of apoptosis are also called **ipassive** cell death, because this type of apoptosis does not require active signals from death receptors.

This method of apoptosis activation is also designated as **death by neglect**.





Bcl-2 proteins
& apoptosis

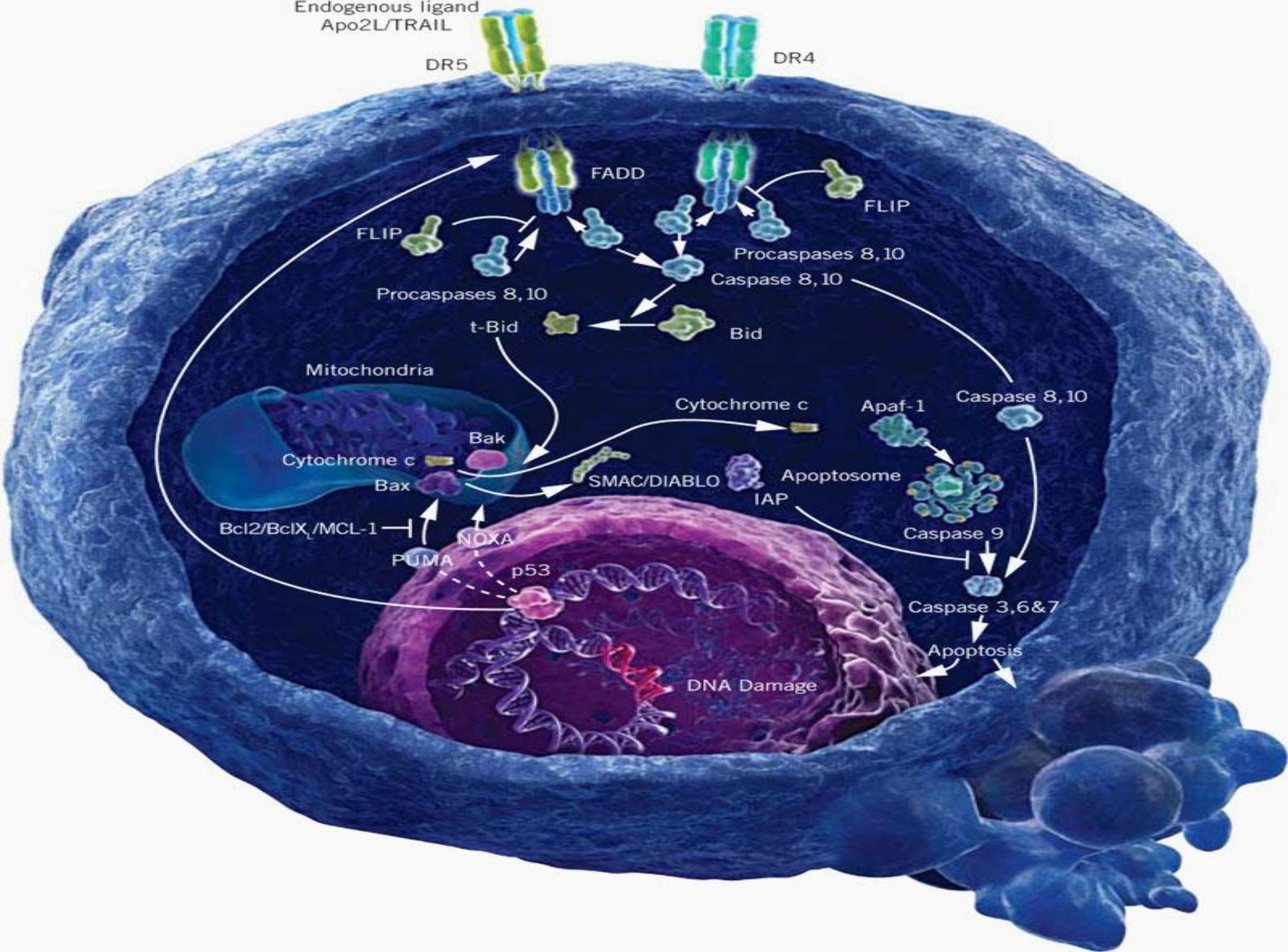


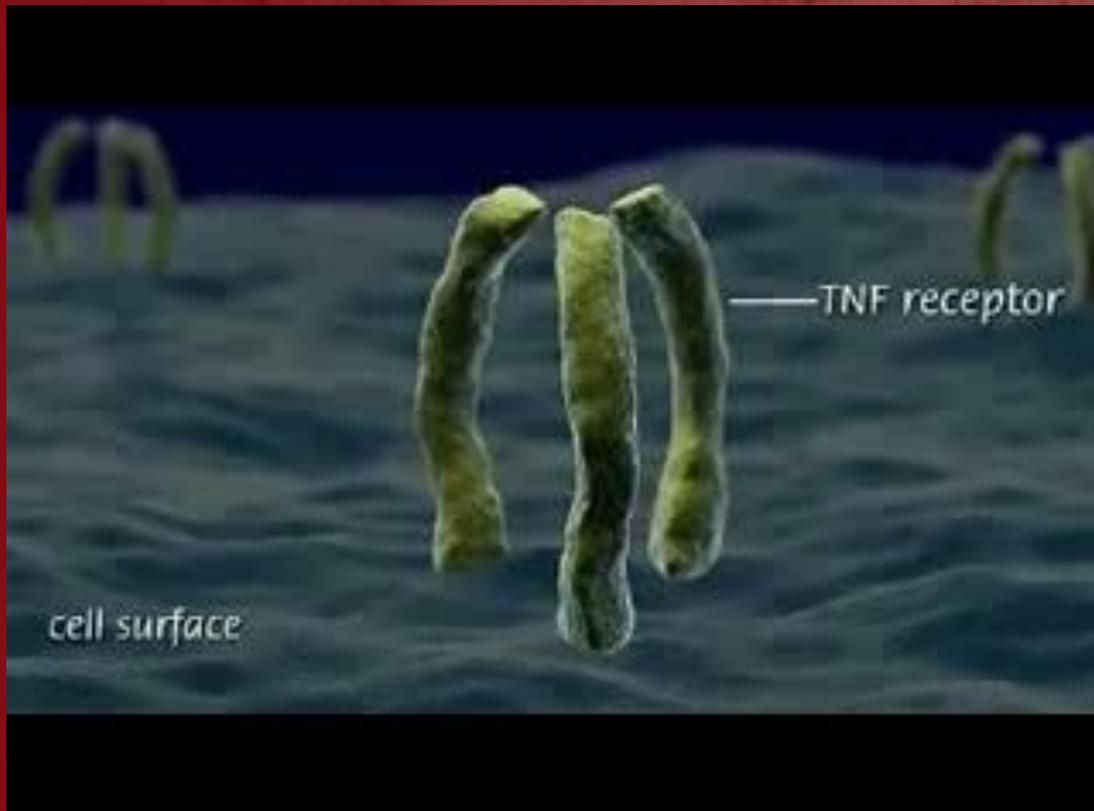
DEATH RECEPTOR INDUCED APOPTOSIS: EXTERNAL SIGNAL

apoptosis as a result of the binding of signaling molecules (ligands) to transmembrane death receptors:

- TNFfamily (TNFR,Fas...);
- homotrimeric molecules whose cytoplasmic parts contain death domains;
- Fas ligand, TNF- α , lymphotoxin (TNF- β) and TNF-related apoptosis inducing ligand (TRAIL).







<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SyvOPXeg4ig>



CELL DEATH INDUCED BY PERFORINS AND GRANZYMES

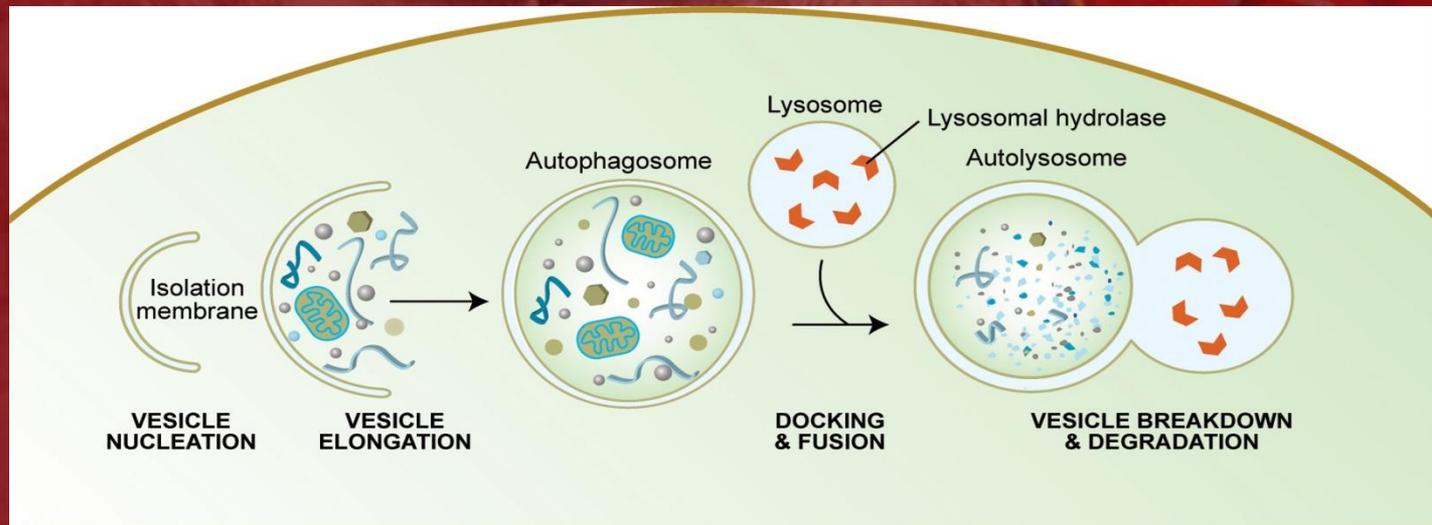
- cytotoxicity – lymphocytes **CTL** and **NK** cells
- **Perforins**: they break down the cell membrane, which allows the entry of granzyme A and B enzymes
- **granzyme B**: serine esterase
 - directly activates caspases 3, 7, 8 and 10, triggering apoptosis
 - activation of pro-apoptotic Bid protein
- **granzyme A**: caspase- independent apoptosis

AUTOPHAGY

Autophagy (autophagocytosis) - evolutionarily conserved catabolic process of degradation of cellular components by lysosomal machinery

Formation of **autophagosomes**, a vacuole with a double membrane, in the cytosol that surrounds and engulfs cell organelles and cytoplasm

Fusion with lysosomes – **autolysosomes** in which ingested cellular components are degraded and recycled for protein and ATP synthesis.

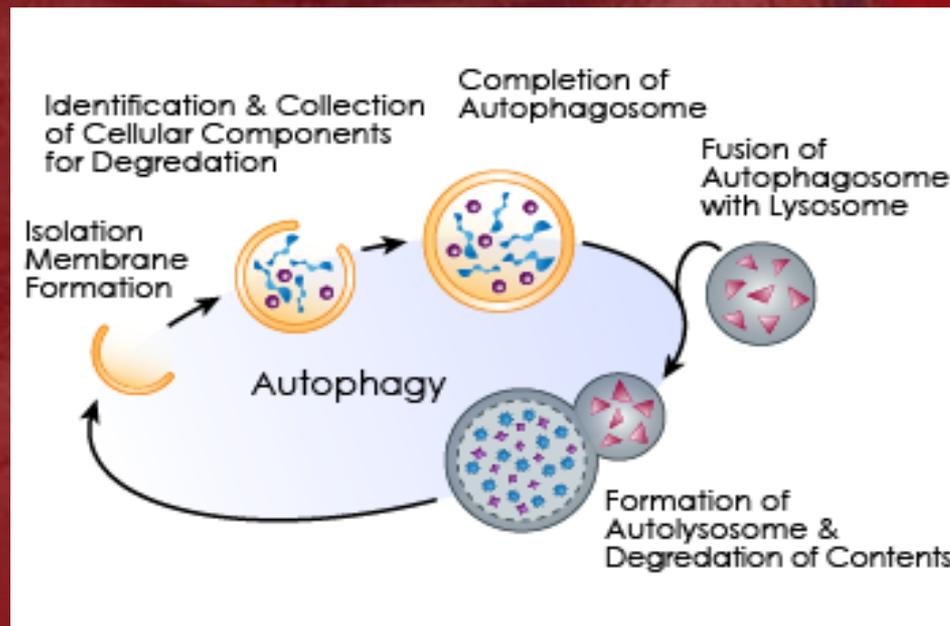


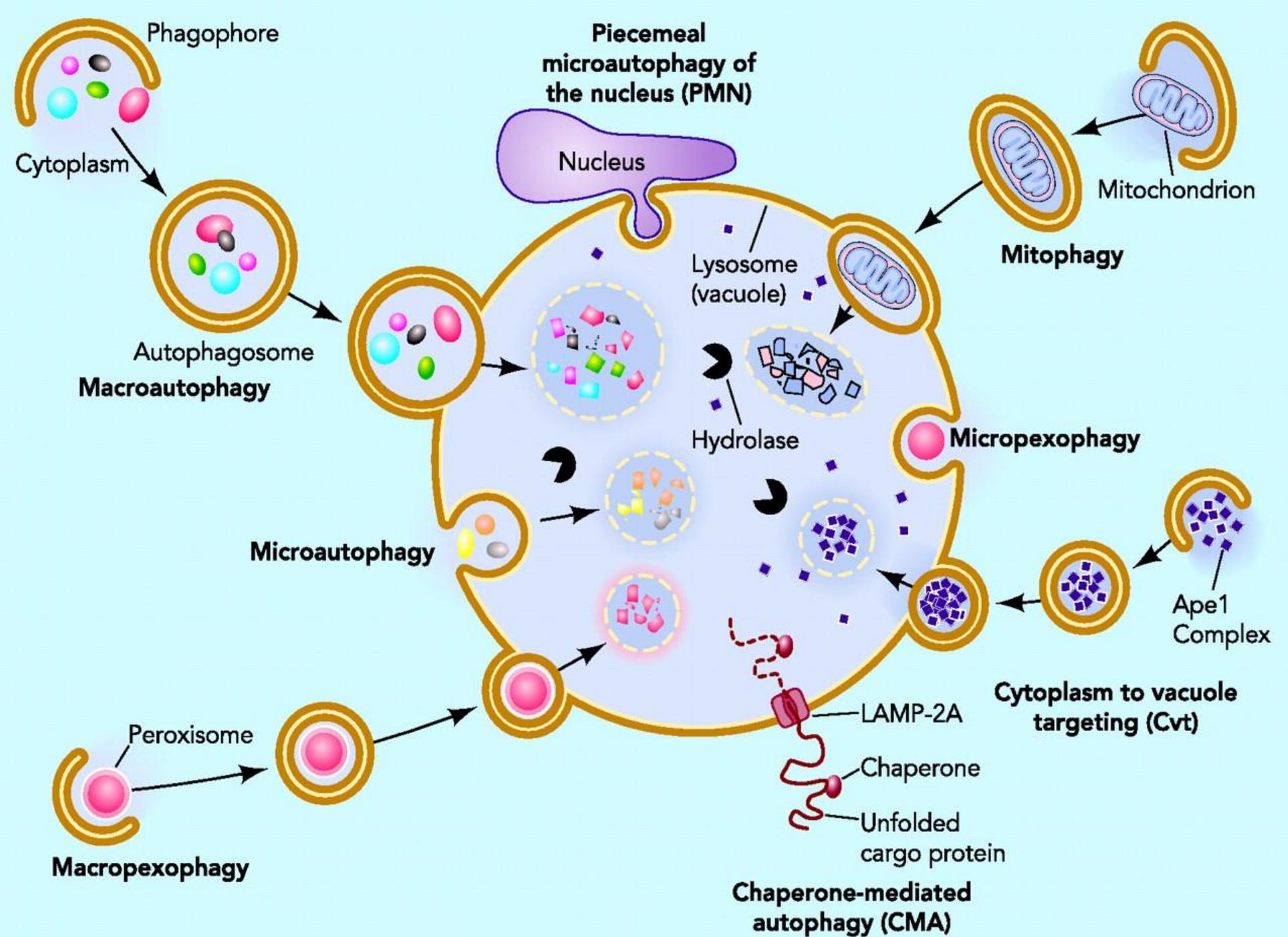
AUTOPHAGY

Microautophagy - cytosolic structures are directly taken over through invaginations on the lysosomal membrane

Macroautophagy - formation of vacuole and then subsequent fusion with lysosome in a structure called autolysosome

"Schaperones-mediated" autophagy requires presence of Hsc-70 protein.



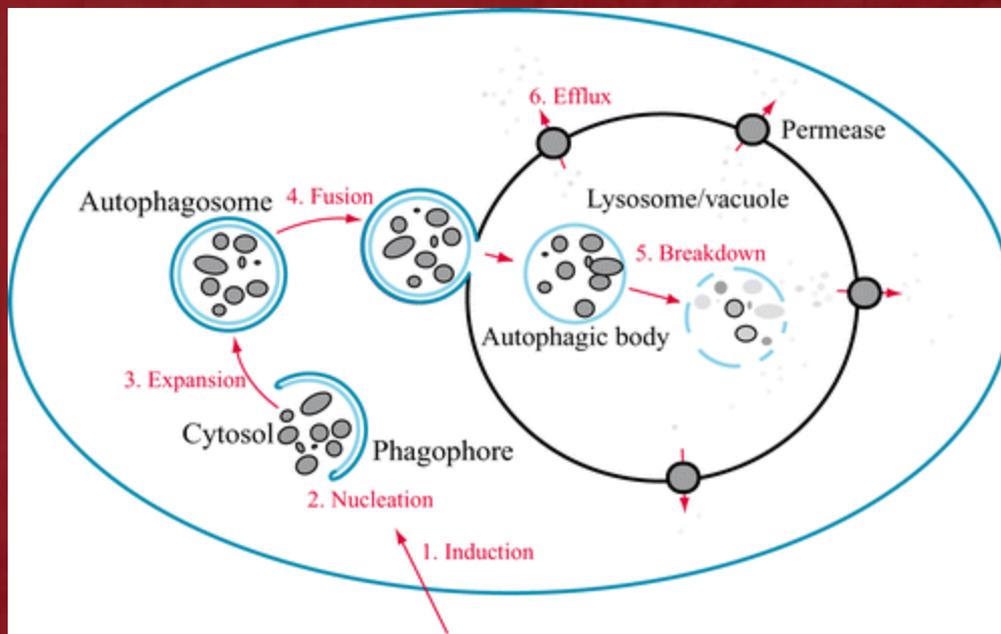


AUTOPHAGY

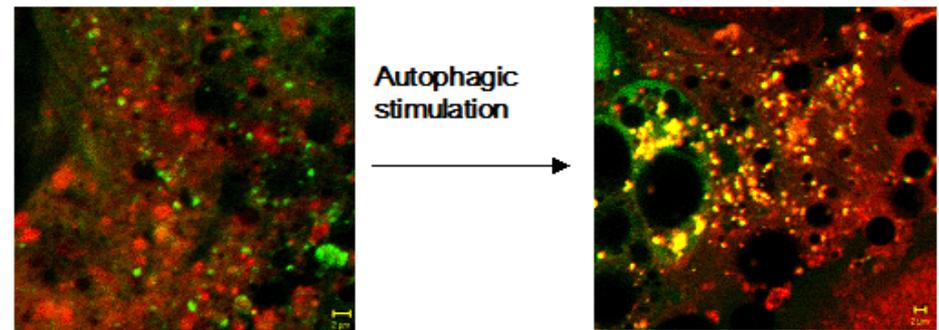
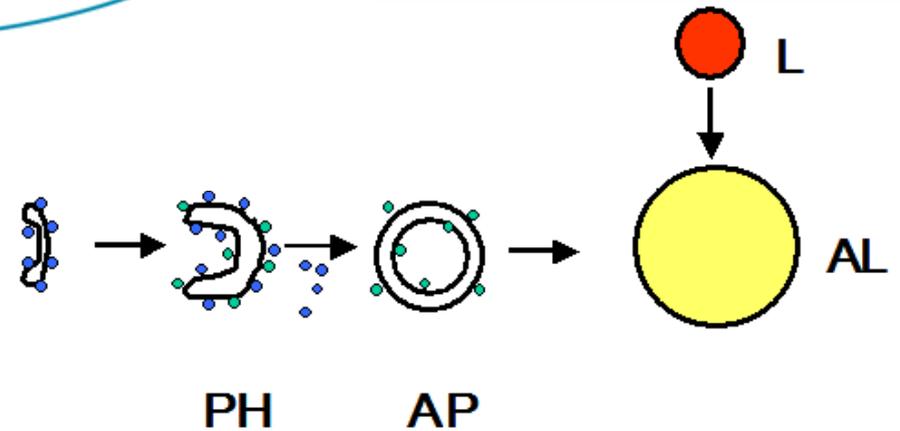
Autophagy is regulated via the R13-kinase/AKT signaling pathway, which is a link between the availability of nutrients to the cell and cellular metabolism. In the absence of nutrients in normal cells, the R13-kinase/AKT signaling pathway is activated, which stops protein synthesis and at the same time activates the catabolic processes of autophagy.

Both normal and tumor cells “use” autophagy to survive **metabolic stress** (lack of nutrients and building materials).





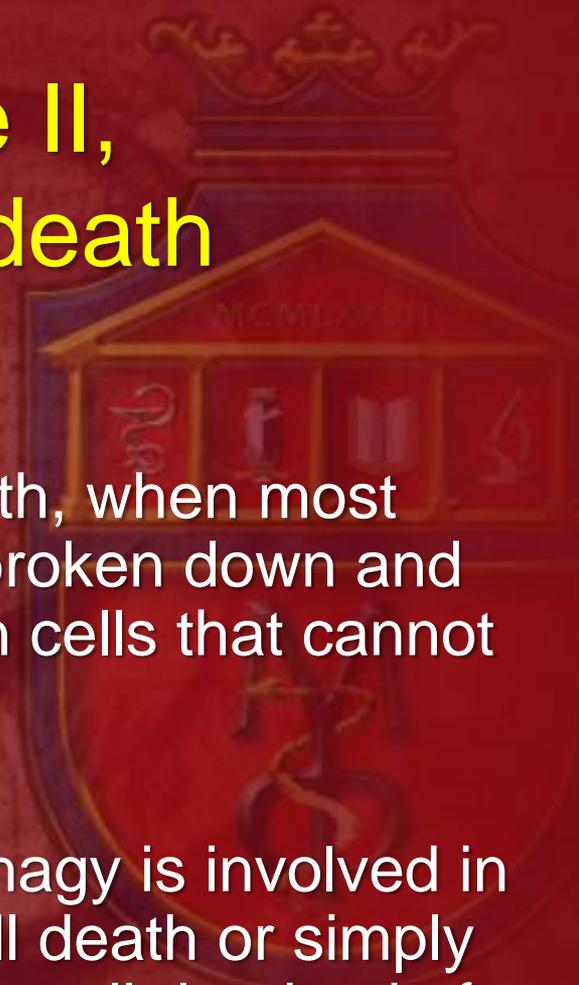
A Mizushima N, Klionsky DJ. 2007.
R Annu. Rev. Nutr. 27:19–40

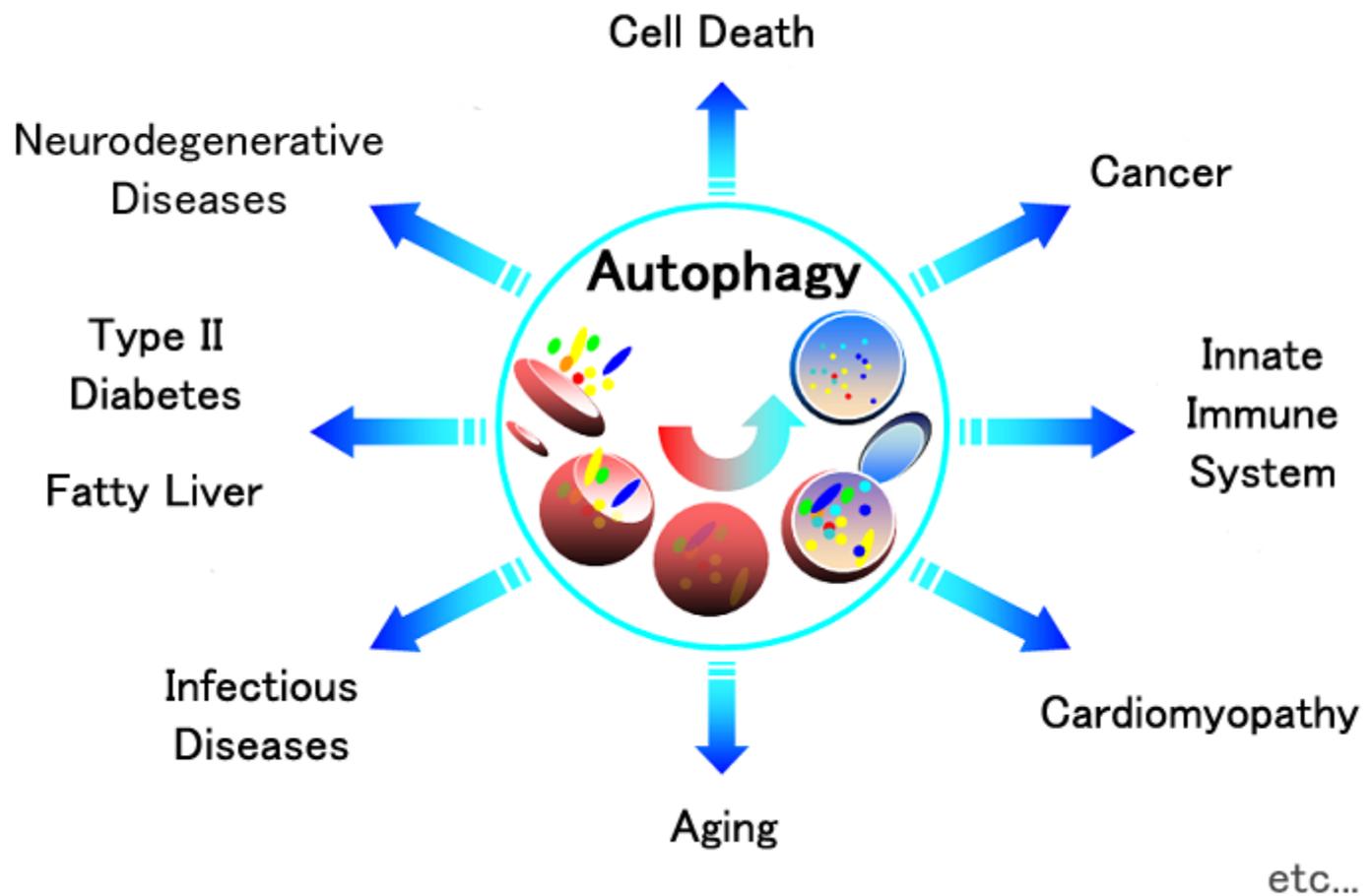


Cell death type II, cytoplasmic cell death

Autophagy is also a form of cell death, when most cellular components in the cell are broken down and programmed cell death is induced in cells that cannot "enter apoptosis".

It is not always clear whether autophagy is involved in the initiation or effector stages of cell death or simply represents a failed survival case of a cell deprived of nutrients/building blocks.





NECROSIS

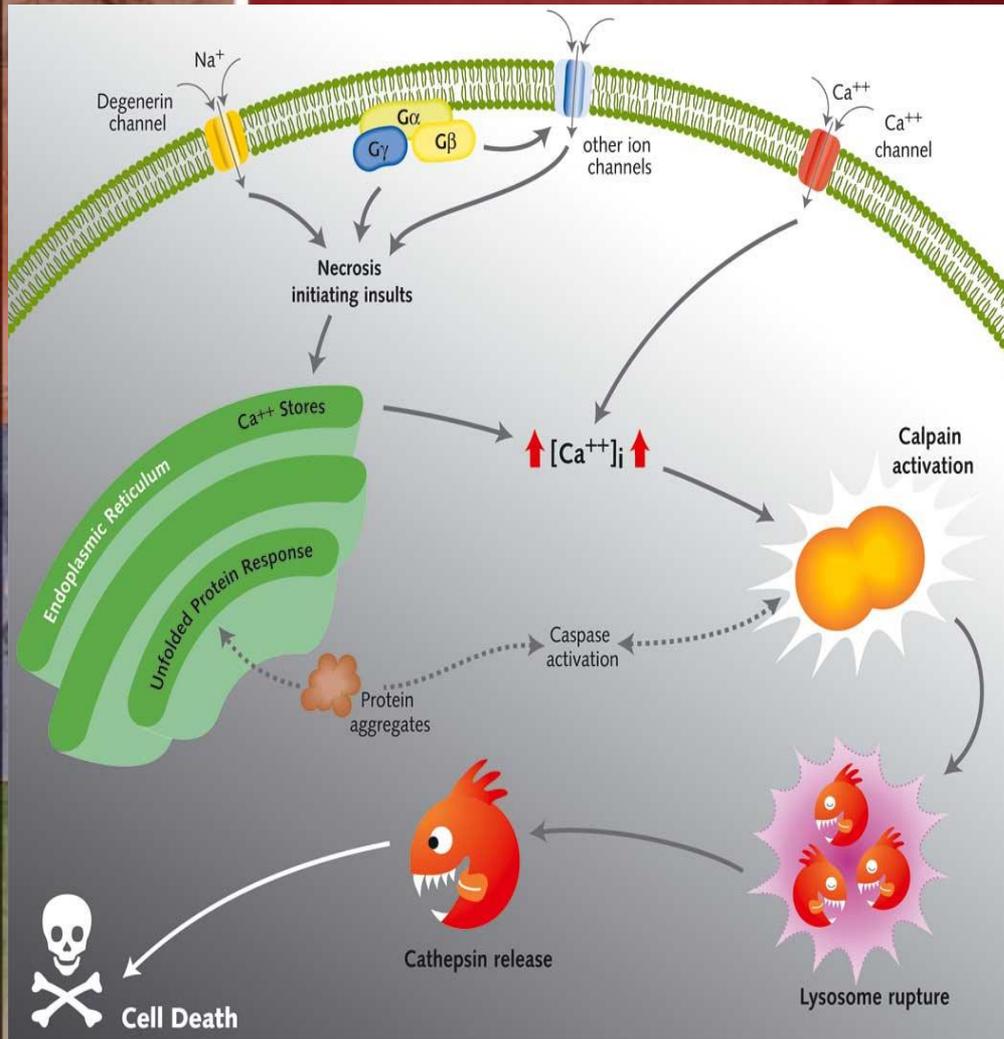
Greek word necros – corpse

Unregulated/unprogrammed cell death

Rapid cell swelling, release of cell contents, acute inflammatory reaction

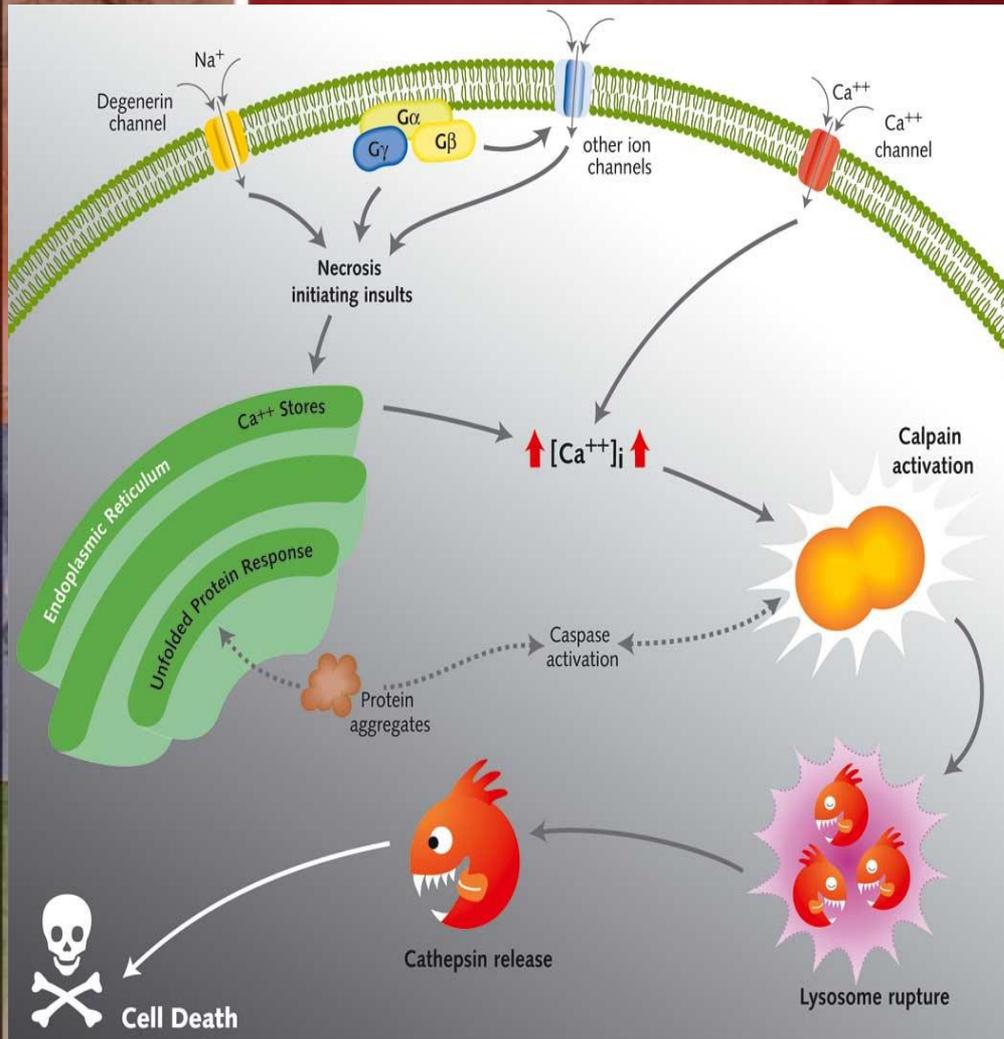


NECROSIS



- Consequence of significant cell damage caused by various physical and chemical agents (hypoxia, extreme temperatures, action of complement).
- Rupture of the cell membrane, which results in cell swelling (osmotic pressure).

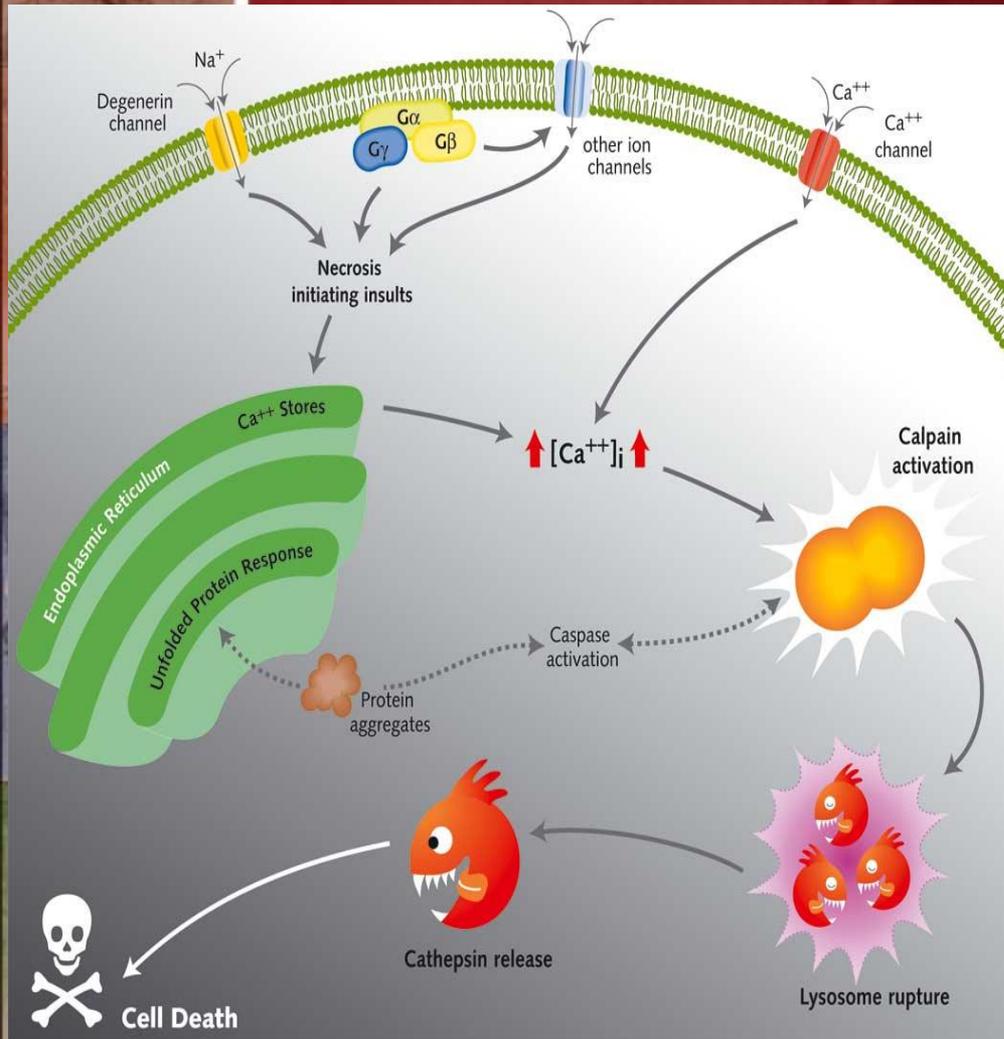
NECROSIS



A severely damaged cell cannot maintain fluid and electrolyte balance (Na and K ions enter the cell uncontrollably).

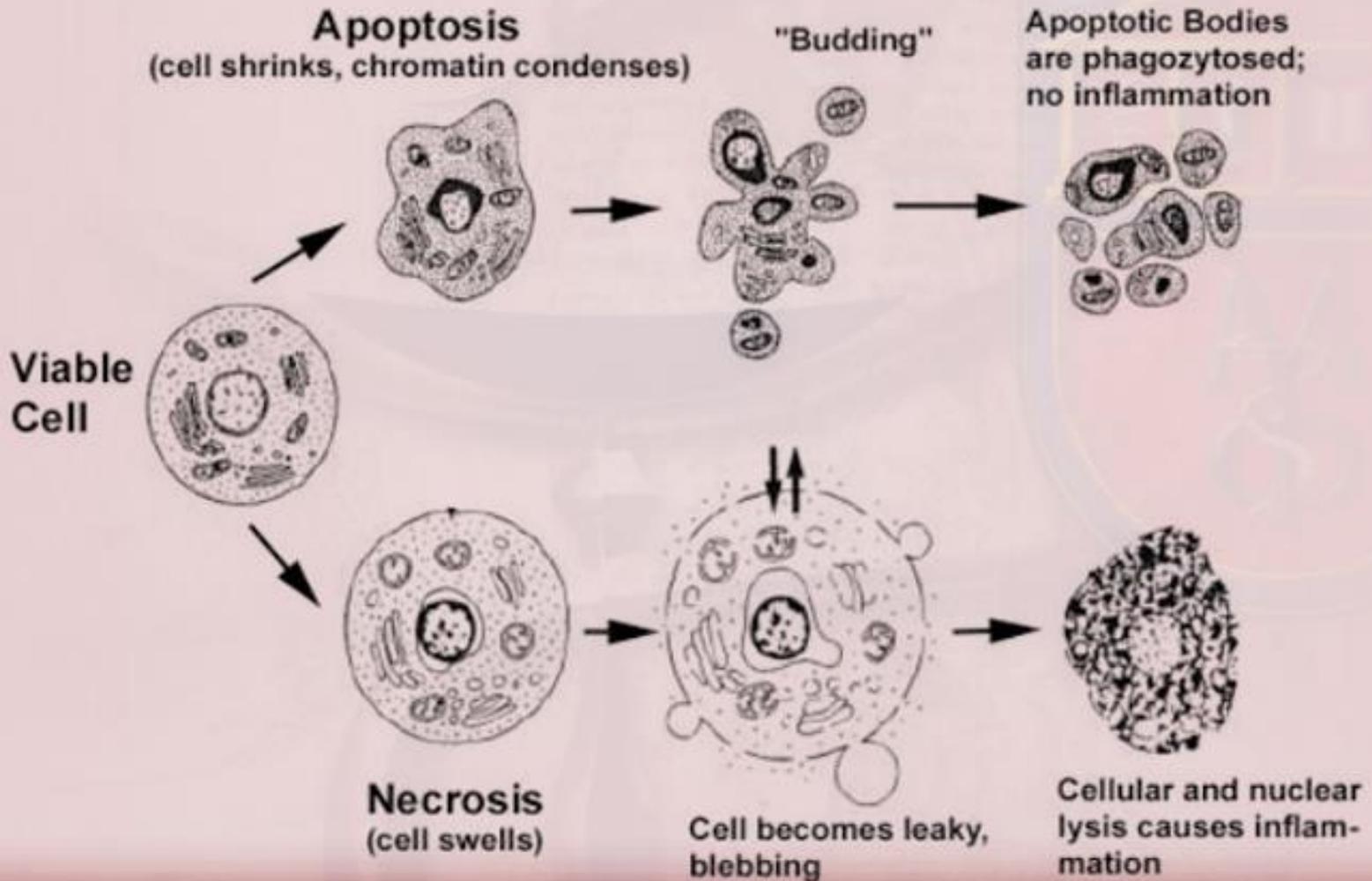
Random destruction of cellular structures. Loss of cell membrane integrity results in the release of cytoplasmic contents into the surrounding tissue.

NECROSIS



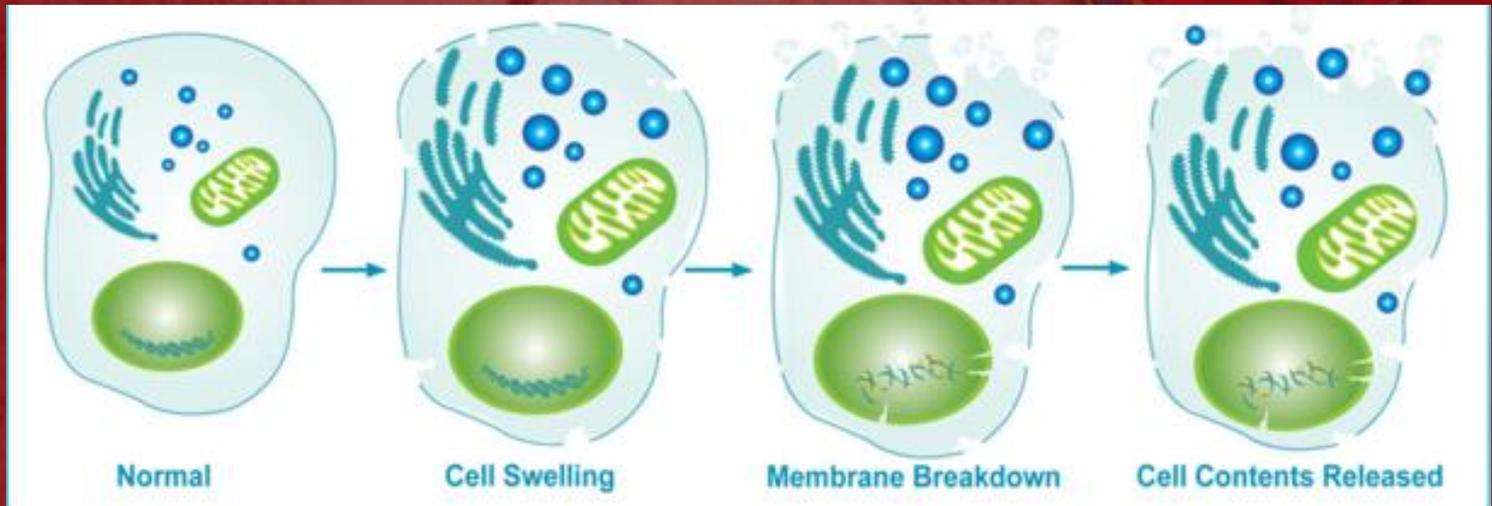
- Cellular proteins (enzymes) that are released and reach the intercellular space, trigger an inflammatory reaction.
- Inflammation makes it possible to limit possible infection, but also damage to the surrounding tissue.
- Necrosis usually involves a large number of cells.

APOPTOSIS VS. NECROSIS



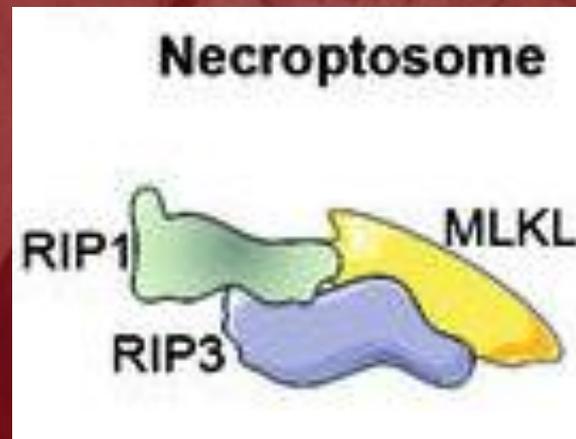
NECROPTOSIS

- Necroptosis is a form of programmed necrosis
- A mechanism to prevent infection with viruses that inhibit apoptosis
- It results in a change in the permeability of the plasma membrane and the release of cell contents and molecules - molecular patterns associated with cell damage



NECROPTOSIS

- RIPkinases (eng. Receptor-interacting protein kinase, RIP), serine-threonine kinases
- In the active form, they build necrosome, the initiation of necroptosis
- When caspases are active, necrosome does not form because caspase 8 cleaves active RIP kinases



NECROPTOSIS

- Embryonic growth and development
- Defense mechanism against intracellular pathogens
- Myocardial infarction
- Stroke
- Atherosclerosis
- Ischemia-reperfusion injury
- Pancreatitis
- Inflammatory bowel diseases

