

# Apoptosis & autophagy

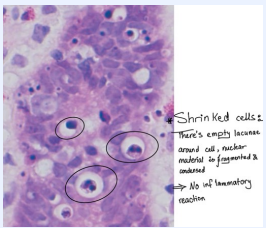
## Cell death

### Necrosis

- Uncontrolled, damaging death
- > Cell size → Enlarged (swelling)
  - > Nucleus → Pyknosis, Karyorrhexis, Karyolysis.
  - > Plasma membrane → Disrupted
  - > Cellular content → Enzymatic digestion, may leak out of cell
  - > Adjacent inflammation → Frequent
  - > Physiologic or pathologic role → always pathologic

### Apoptosis

- Programmed, controlled death
- > Cell size → Reduced (shrinkage)
  - > Nucleus → Fragmentation into nucleosome-size fragments < we can say pyknosis and karyorrhexis >
  - > Plasma membrane → Intact, altered structure, especially orientation of lipids
  - > Cellular content → Intact, may be released in apoptotic bodies.
  - > Adjacent inflammation → No
  - > Physiologic or pathologic role → often physiologic and may be pathologic



## Causes of apoptosis

### Physiologic

- > embryogenesis
- > Involution of tissues upon hormone deprivation (Cyclic endometrium, lactating breast)
- > Steady state population (Gut, Skin) "rapid turnover"
- > End of function/life (neutrophils at end of inflammation)
- > Self reacting lymphocytes

### Pathologic

- > DNA damage (Rx, chemoTx, temperature, UV, hypoxia)
- > Accumulation of misfolded proteins
- > Some infections (adenovirus, HIV, hepatitis viruses)

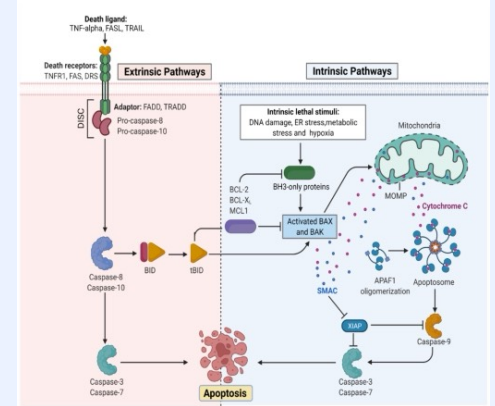
## Mechanisms of apoptosis

### Intrinsic pathway (Mitochondrial pathway)

- > in most physiological and pathological situations
- > The lack of survival signals, activate sensors as **BH3** that is located in cytoplasm those sensors **inhibit BCL2 (antiapoptotic proteins)** and **activation of BAX and BAK**, the BAX and BAK will dimerise forming a channel where **cytochrome c** leak outside the mitochondria and activate **caspace 9**. And a series of the actions until the cellular proteins and organelles go through apoptosis.

### Extrinsic pathway

- > **TNF** receptor family, cytoplasmic death domain
- > Prototypes: Type 1 TNF receptor and **Fas**
- > Fas ligand on activated T lymphocytes
- > Fas - FasL interaction activates death domain which in turn activates **caspace 8**



## Autophagy

Self-eating  
May lead to the adaptive mechanism atrophy  
→ failure of adaptation leads to apoptosis

membrane bound vacuoles form in the cells, these vacuoles are **derived from ER** membrane, and they are called **autophagic vacuoles**. These vacuoles fuse with **lysosomes** making **autophagolysosome**, then the **lysosomal enzymes** will start the process of **digestion**.

Survival mechanism in times of nutrient deprivation.  
Recycling cells contents to provide nutrients and energy in times of starvation

