Necrosis	Apoptosis	
Morphological features		
Loss of membrane integrity	Membrane blebbing, but no loss of integrity	
	Aggregation of chromatin at the nuclear membrane	
<ul> <li>Begins with swelling of cytoplasm and mitochondria</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Begins with shrinking of cytoplasm and condensation of nucleus</li> </ul>	
Ends with total cell lysis	Ends with fragmentation of cell into smaller bodies	
No vesicle formation, complete lysis	<ul> <li>Formation of membrane bound vesicles (apoptotic bodies)</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Disintegration (swelling) of organelles</li> </ul>	Mitochondria become leaky due to pore formation involving proteins of the bcl-2 family.	

Biochemical features	
Loss of regulation of ion homeostasis	<ul> <li>Tightly regulated process involving activation and enzymatic steps</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>No energy requirement (passive process, also occurs at 4°C)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Energy (ATP)-dependent (active process, does not occur at 4°C)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Random digestion of DNA (smear of DNA after agarose gel electrophoresis)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Non-random mono- and oligonucleosomal length frag- mentation of DNA (Ladder pattern after agarose gel electrophoresis)</li> </ul>
Postlytic DNA fragmentation (= late event of death)	Prelytic DNA fragmentation
	<ul> <li>Release of various factors (cytochrome C, AIF) into cytoplasm by mitochondria</li> </ul>
	Activation of caspase cascade
	<ul> <li>Alterations in membrane asymmetry (i.e., translocation of phosphatidylserine from the cytoplasmic to the extracellular side of the membrane)</li> </ul>

#### Physiological significance

Affects groups of contiguous cells
 Evoked by non-physiological disturbances (complement attack, lytic viruses, hypothermia, hypoxia, ischemica, metabolic poisons)
 Phagocytosis by macrophages
 Significant inflammatory response
 Affects individual cells
 Induced by physiological stimuli (lack of growth factors, changes in hormonal environment)
 Phagocytosis by macrophages
 No inflammatory response















	Main biochemical features	Examples of inhibitory interventions <sup>a</sup>
Autophagic cell death	MAP1LC3 lipidation	AMBRA1, ATG5, ATG7, ATG12 or BCN1 genetic inhibition
Caspase-dependent intrinsic apoptosis	MOMP Irreversible $\Delta \psi_m$ dissipation	BCL-2 overexpression Z-VAD-fmk administration
Caspase-independent intrinsic apoptosis	Release of IMS proteins Respiratory chain inhibition	BCL-2 overexpression
Extrinsic apoptosis by death receptors	Death receptor signaling Caspase-8 (-10) activation BID cleavage and MOMP (in type II cells) Caspase-3 (-6,-7) activation	Genetic inhibition of caspases (8 and 3) Z-VAD-fmk administration

#### Initiators: BH3-only proteins

(BIM, PUMA, BAD, NOXA, BIK, HRK, BMF and tBID)

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Guardians: multi-domain pro-survival proteins The Bcl-2 (BCL-2, BCL-X, BCL-W, MCL1, A1 and BCL-B) BH3 BH1 BH2 BH4 TM α2 α3 α4 α5 α6 α7 α8 family  $\alpha_1$  $\alpha 9$ Effectors: multi-domain pro-apoptotic proteins (BAX, BAK and BOK) BH3 BH1 (BH2 (BH4) TM α2 α3 α4 α5 α6 α7 α8  $\alpha_1$ 00 INTRINSIC Attivatori BH3 only molecules Anti apoptopic Anti-apoptotici **Bcl-2** family members Activated Bax Bak Caspase-S

Mitochondria

Pro-apoptotici

# Globular structure with a central BH3-binding hydrophobic groove

b BCL-XL c BAX 017 al CTα9 (TM)

- Amphipathic helix
- Activators conformational disorder(and the Bid exception)
- Hydrophobic residues(h0→h4) and salt bridge





#### Second activation site for Bax Alpha 9 extrusion trigger





It is widely accepted that Bcl-2 family members not only inhibit apoptosis but also negatively regulate autophagy by binding to Beclin 1



Lisa M. Lindqvist et al.,2014 PNAS



Lisa M. Lindqvist et al.,2014 PNAS

**Q:** Does inhibiting anti-apoptotic Bcl-2 members interfere with non-apoptotic death?



**Beclin 1**, formation of a complex with the mammalian PI3K Vps34 and nucleation of the autophagosome membrane

When nutrients are abundant, Bcl-2 and the related proteins Bcl-xL and Mcl-1 bind to the Beclin 1's BH3 domain and thereby inhibit induction of autophagy

When nutrients are scarce, Bcl-2 is phosphorylated by JNK1, which prevents its binding to Beclin 1 and allows it to initiate formation of autophagosomes

BH3 mimetic ABT-737

VP-16 chemotherapeutic agent etoposide, inducer of autophagy, including the () or nutrient starvation by culturing in HBSS, potent inducer of apoptosis

### Q: Does it affect autophagy?





### Bax-/-Bak-/-McI-1-/-





## Q: How about overexpressing them?







the effects of Bcl-2 on autophagy are instead an indirect consequence of its inhibition of apoptosis mediators Bax and Bak.

- None of the prosurvival Bcl-2 family members bind to Beclin-1 under physiological circumstances or they do not significantly inhibit its function
- □ In conclusion, the data demonstrate that the prosurvival Bcl-2 family of proteins does not directly regulate autophagy, but any impact they have on autophagy is indirect, via Bax and Bak activation

It is widely accepted that Bcl-2 not only inhibits apoptosis but also negatively regulates autophagy by binding to Beclin 1.

We provide genetic and biochemical evidence that the effects of Bcl-2 on autophagy are instead an indirect consequence of its inhibition of apoptosis mediators Bax and Bak.

We show that in the absence of Bax and Bak, antagonizing or altering the levels of Bcl-2 has no detectable impact on autophagy.

Because several inhibitors of both autophagy and Bcl-2 are in clinical trials for the treatment of cancer, it is important to understand the cross-talk between these pathways.







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Extrinsic apoptosis by death receptors	Death receptor signaling Caspase-8 (-10) activation BID cleavage and MOMP (in type II cells) Caspase-3 (-6,-7) activation	Genetic inhibition of caspases (8 and 3) Z-VAD-fmk administration
Necroptosis	Death receptor signaling Caspase inhibition RIP1 and/or RIP3 activation	Administration of necrostatin(s) Genetic inhibition of RIP1/RIP3

