

ONCOLOGY AND MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY

STUDENTS ARE KINDLY REQUESTED TO ENROLL ON THE MOODLE PLATFORM

BIOMEDICAL/BIOMOLECULAR

Molecular Pathology (3CFU)

Oncology (3 CFU)

NEUROBIOLOGICAL

Molecular Pathology (3 CFU)

Oncology (2 CFU)

Neuropathology (1 CFU – prof. L. Durelli, lesson time-table to be defined)

Didactic material will be published on Moodle

Exam modality: written test on Moodle

Information on course syllabus, time tables, exam enrollment, suggested textbooks:

<http://cmb.campusnet.unito.it/do/home.pl>

http://cmb.campusnet.unito.it/do/corsi.pl/Show?_id=g12a

DISEASE

- Dynamic condition
- Morpho-functional alteration of one or more organ/tissue
- Acute or chronic
- Localized or systemic

Etiology = studies the causes of disease

Pathogenesis = starting from etiology, studies the mechanisms leading to disease

ETIOLOGY

Monofactorial and multifactorial diseases

CAUSES OF DISEASE

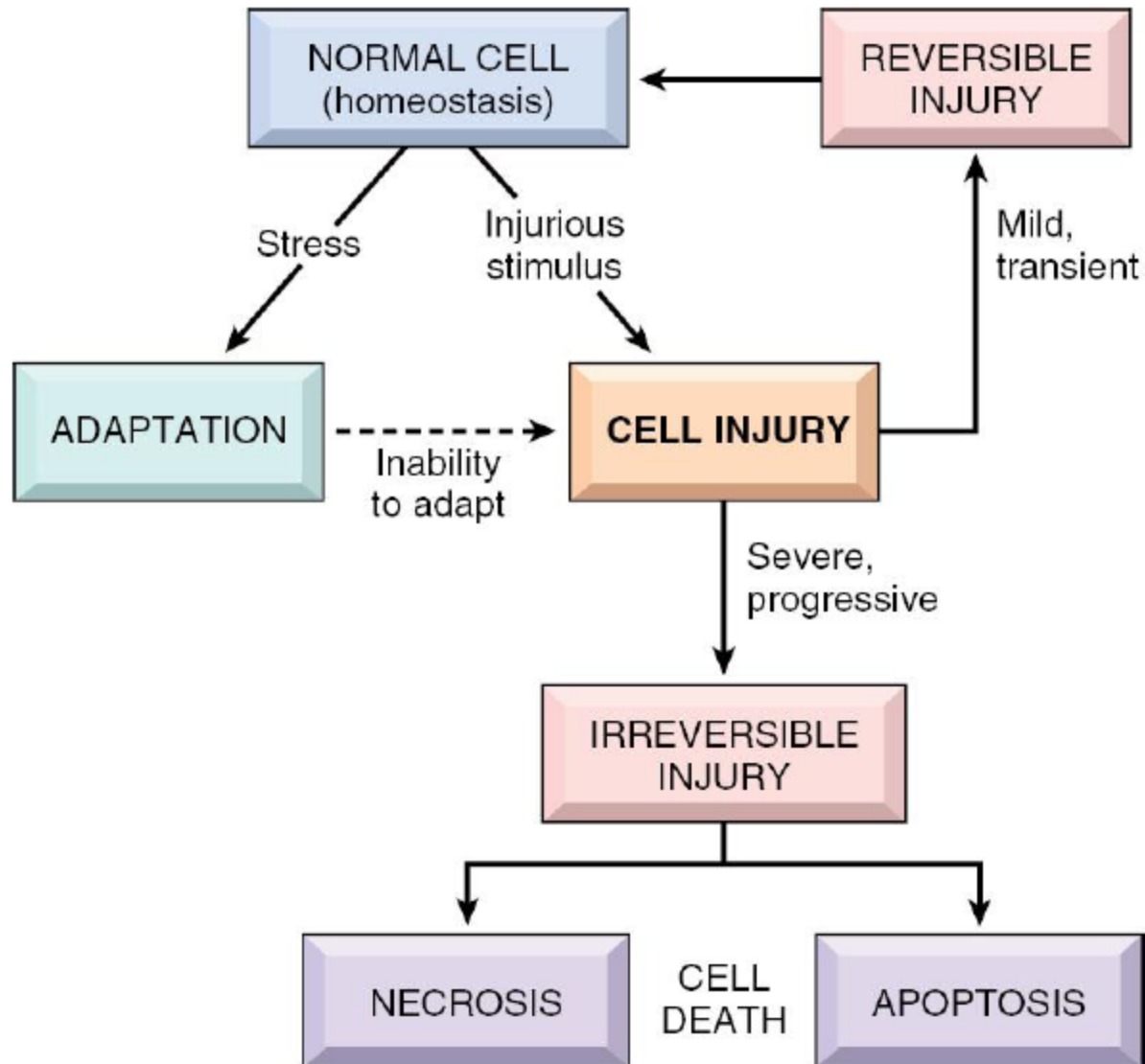
Intrinsic (es. on genetic basis)

Extrinsic (chemical, physical, microbiological, diet-related, etc.)

Both extrinsic and intrinsic causes can contribute to a disease

Idiopathic disease: unknown etiology

DAMAGE RESPONSE IN CELLS AND TISSUES



CELL ADAPTATIONS

ATTAINMENT OF A NEW STEADY STATE

PROGRESSIVE

HYPERTROPHY

CELL NUMBER (HYPERPLASIA)

CELL VOLUME

REGRESSIVE

HYPOPLASIA

HYPOTROPHY/ATROPHY

HYPERPLASIA

INCREASED CELL NUMBER IN ORGANS/TISSUES

GENERALLY IN LABILE TISSUES

BALANCE WITH STIMULUS ENTITY

REVERSIBLE

due to physiologic/pathologic hormonal stimuli
compensatory

due to increased functional requirement (polyglobulia)

PATHOGENETIC MECHANISMS

increased growth factor levels

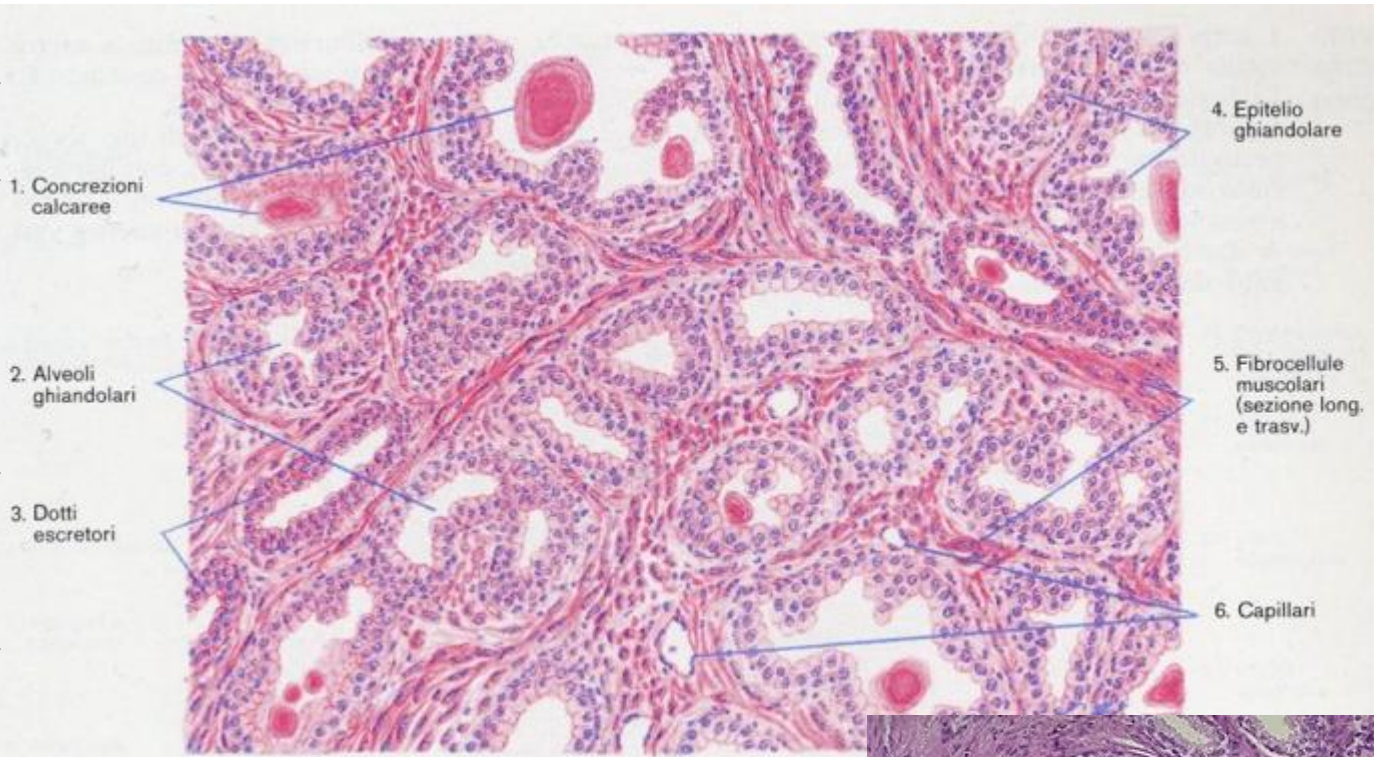
increased expression growth factor receptors

signal transduction pathways activation

RESULT: cell proliferation induction

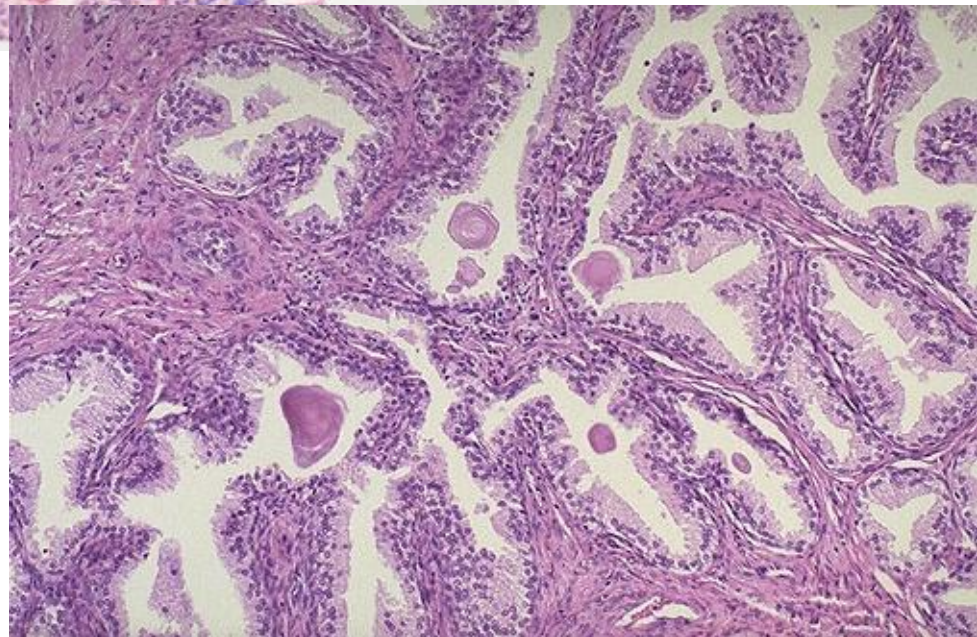
stem cell recruitment and differentiation

Increased risk of tumor development



Normal prostate

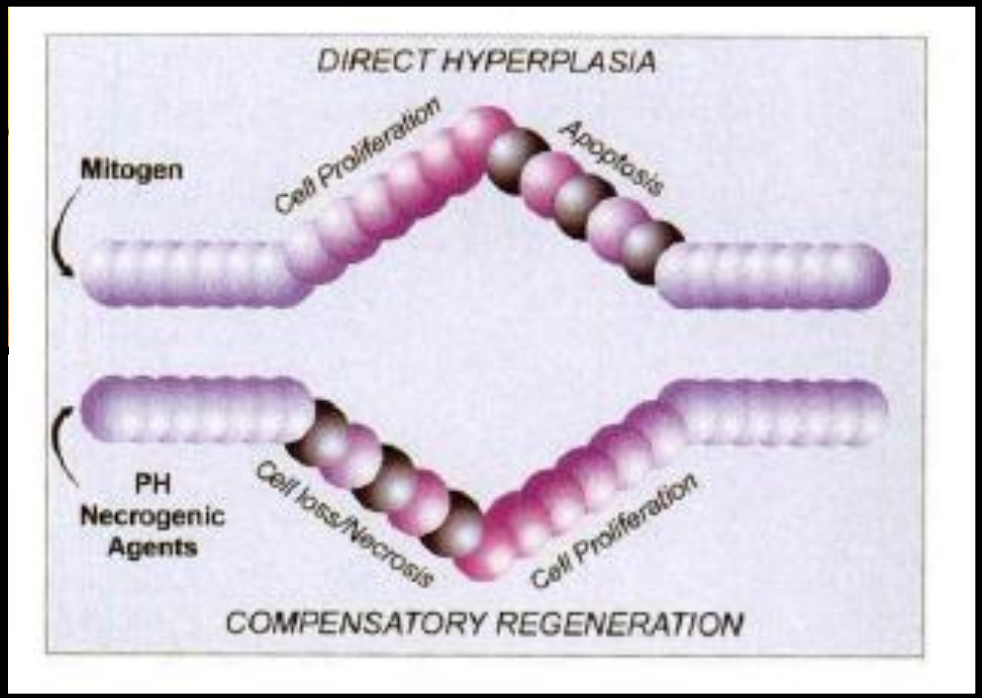
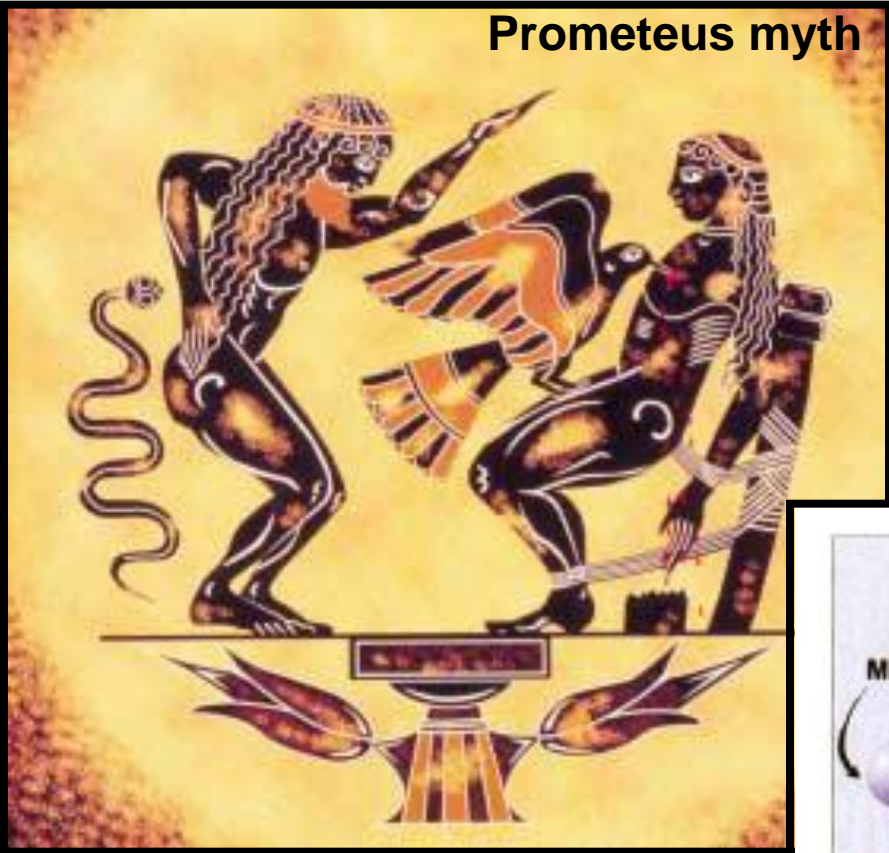
Here is one of the nodules of hyperplastic prostate, with many glands along with some intervening stroma. The cells making up the glands are normal in appearance, but there are just too many of them

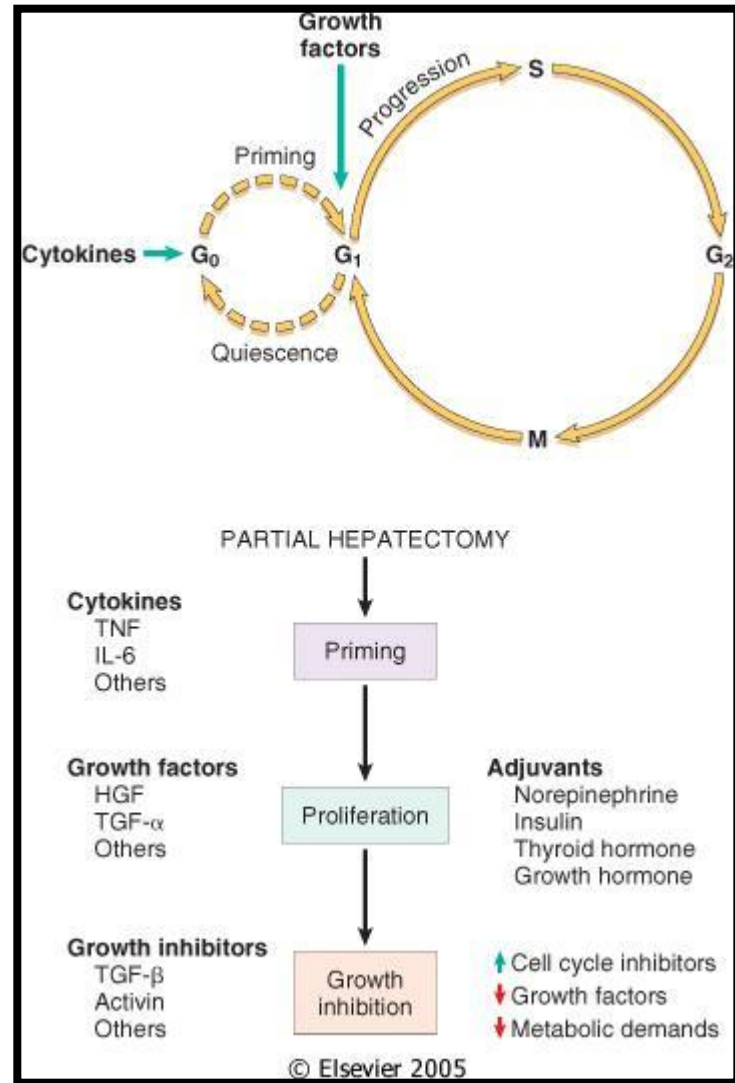
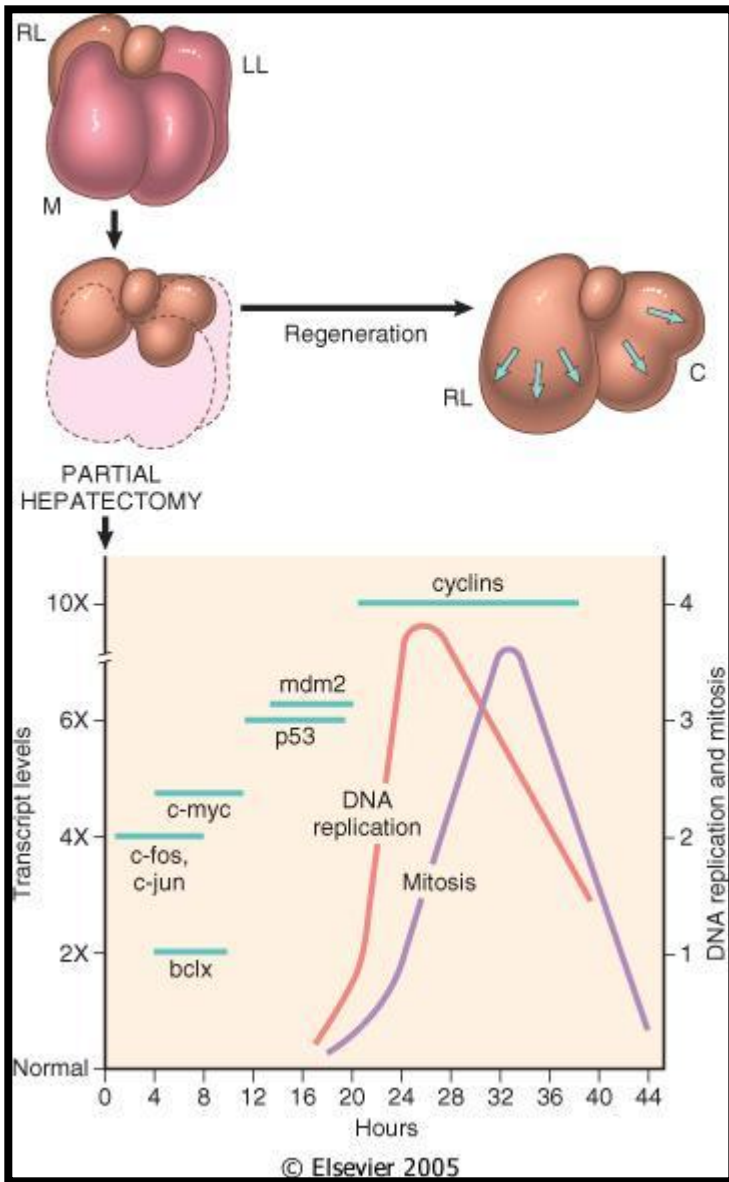


Hyperplastic prostate

LIVER RIGENERATION

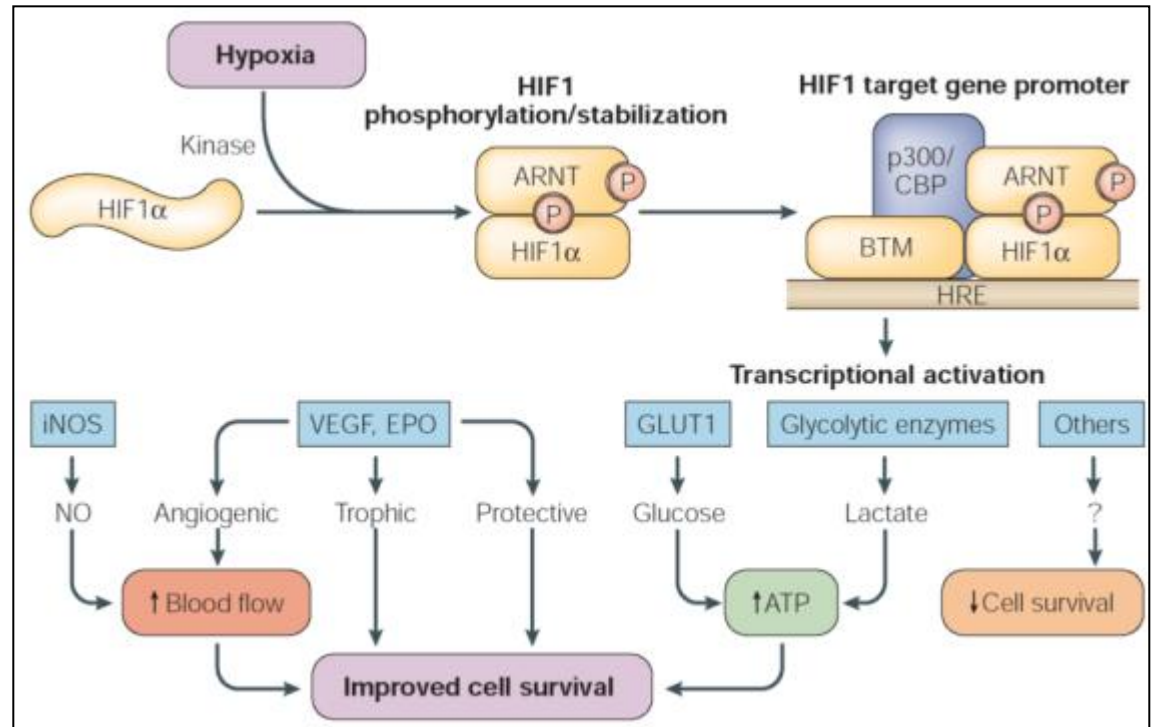
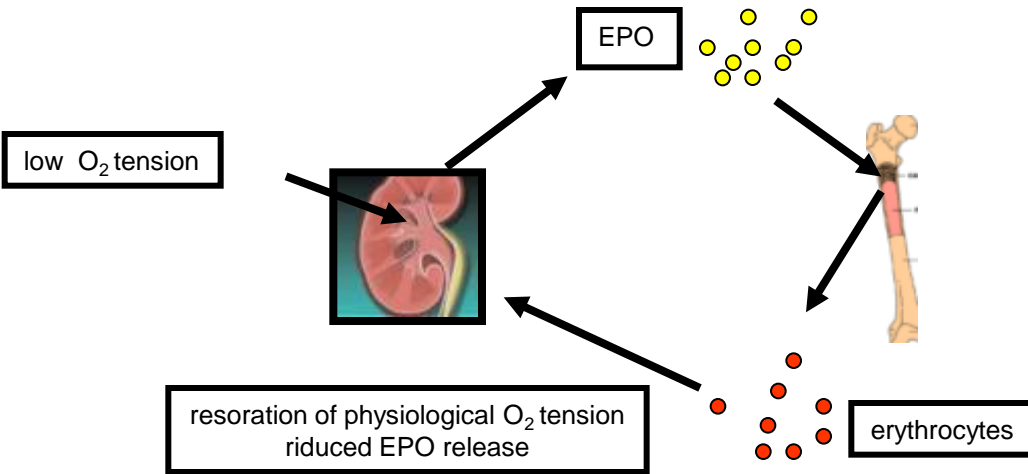
Prometeus myth





POLYGLOBULIA: INCREASED NUMBER OF CIRCULATING ERYTHROCYTES

absolute or secondary to chronic hypoxia



HYPERTROPHY

INCREASED CELL VOLUME

PHYSIOLOGIC OR PATHOLOGIC, REVERSIBLE

in low (liver, muscle) and very low turnover tissues (nervous)

INCREASED FUNCTION

exercise (skeletal muscle)

chronic blood overload

SPECIFIC HORMONAL STIMULI

pregnancy, breast-feeding

benign prostatic hyperplasia

PATHOGENETIC MECHANISMS

mechanical stimuli (muscle contraction)

trophic stimuli (growth factors, vasoactive factors)

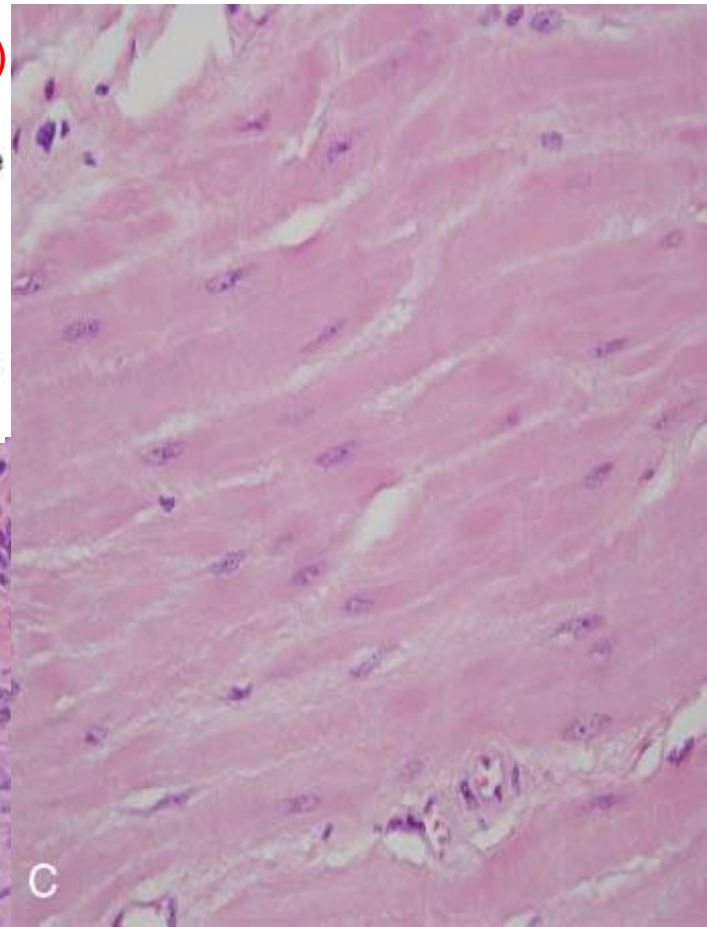
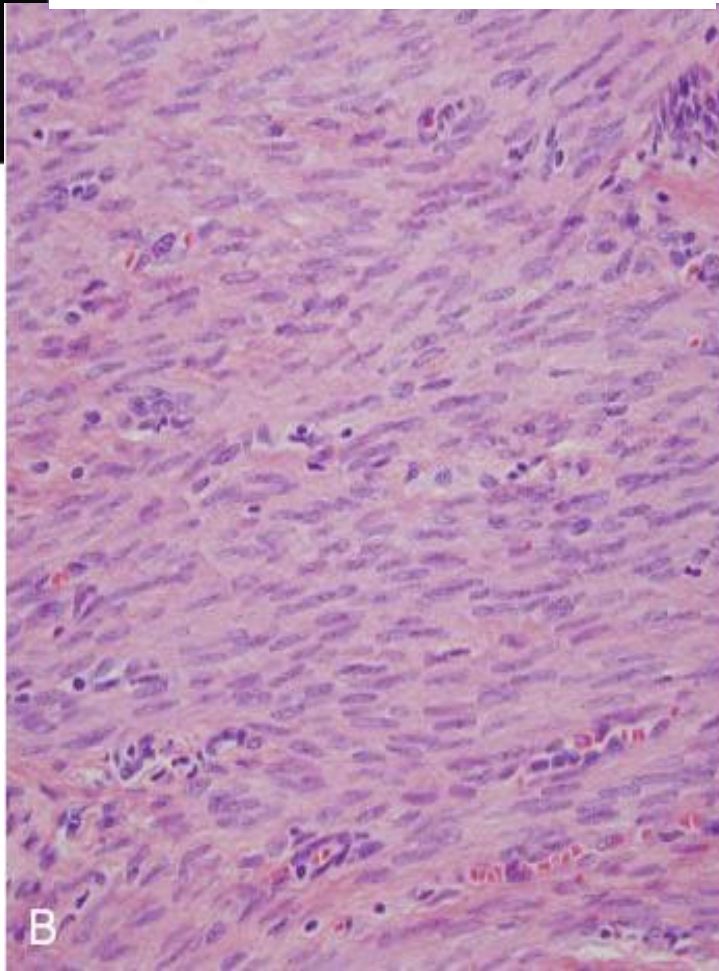
enhanced protein synthesis (reduced degradation)

protein type change (muscle)

embryonal gene re-expression (atrial natriuretic factor)

Hypertrophic uterus (pregnancy)

FIGURE 1-3B Physiologic hypertrophy of the uterus during pregnancy. **A**, Gross appearance of a normal uterus (*right*) and a gravid uterus (removed for postpartum bleeding) (*left*). **B**, Small spindle-shaped uterine smooth muscle cells from a normal uterus, compared with **C**, large plump cells from the gravid uterus, at the same magnification.



A

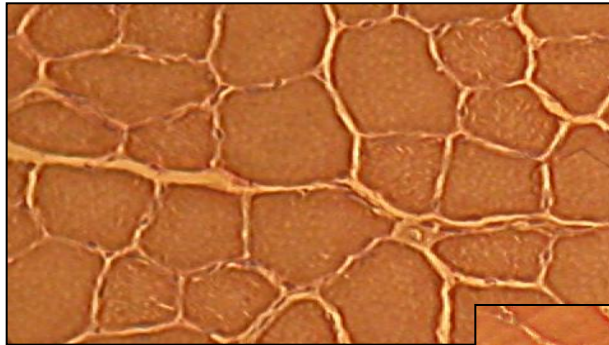
B

C

Ipertrofia muscolare

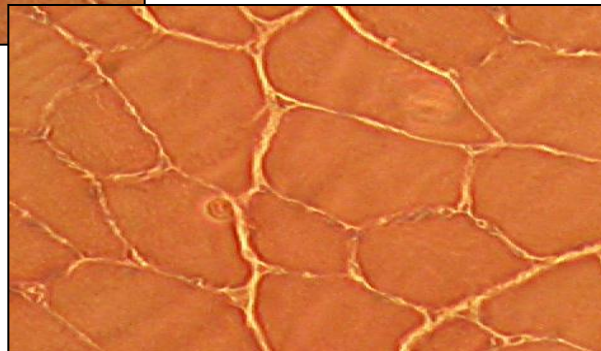


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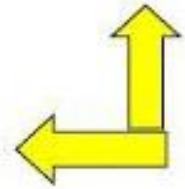


GFP

↑GROWTH FACTOR
↑EXPRESSION



IGF-1

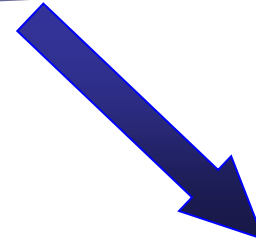
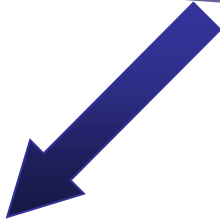


DA MUTAZIONE DEL GENE
PER LA MIOSTATINA

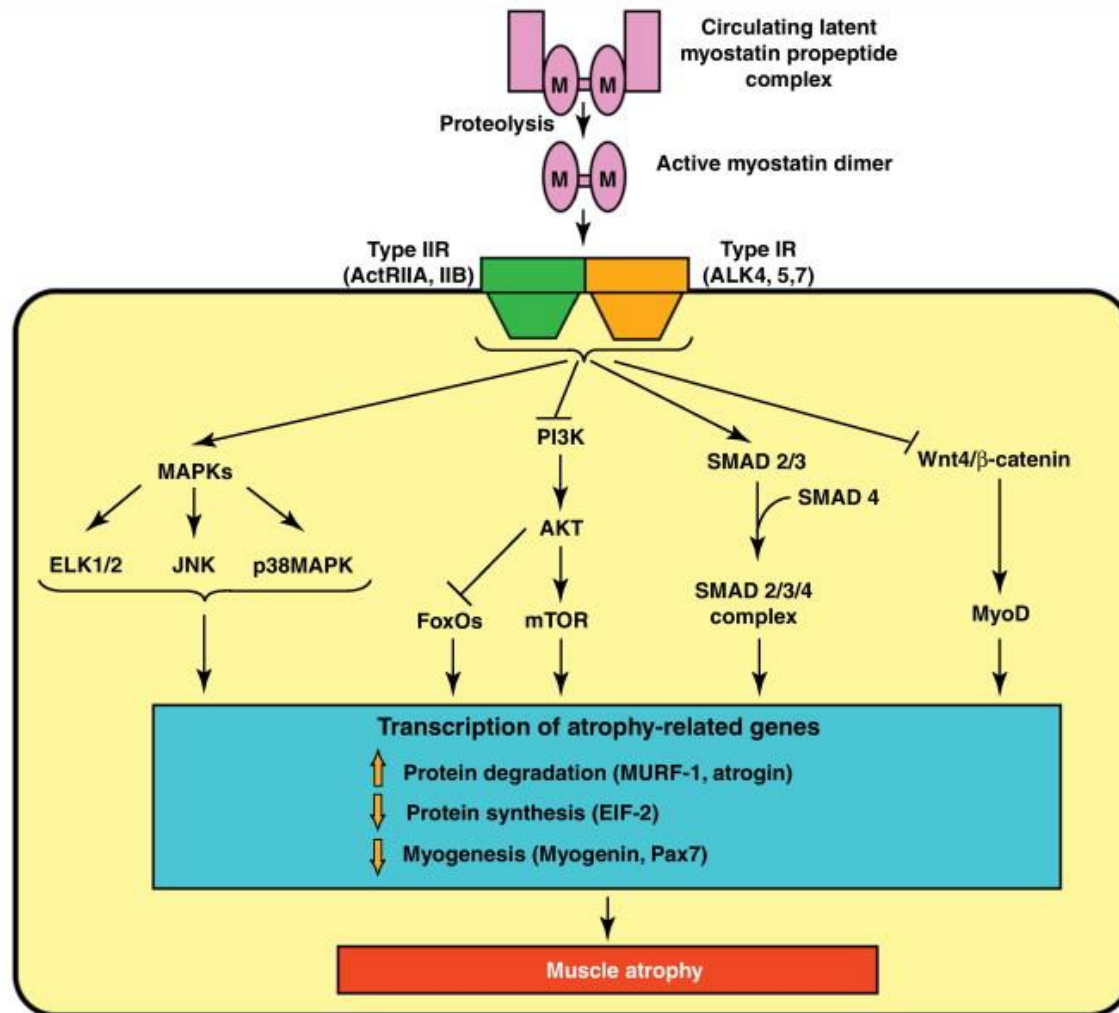
MYOSTATIN



TGF- β family member, negatively regulates muscle mass



Myostatin signaling pathway



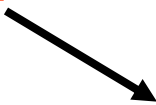
Drug Discovery Today

CARDIAC HYPERTROPHY

HYPERTENSION

VALVULOPATHY

INFARCT



↑ CARDIAC WORK



↑ WALL STRESS



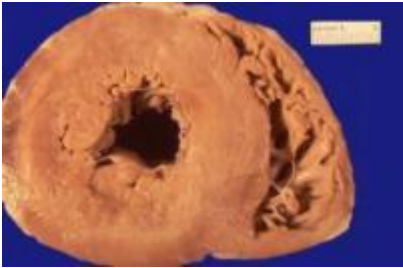
CELL ELONGATION



HYPERTROPHY/EXPANSION

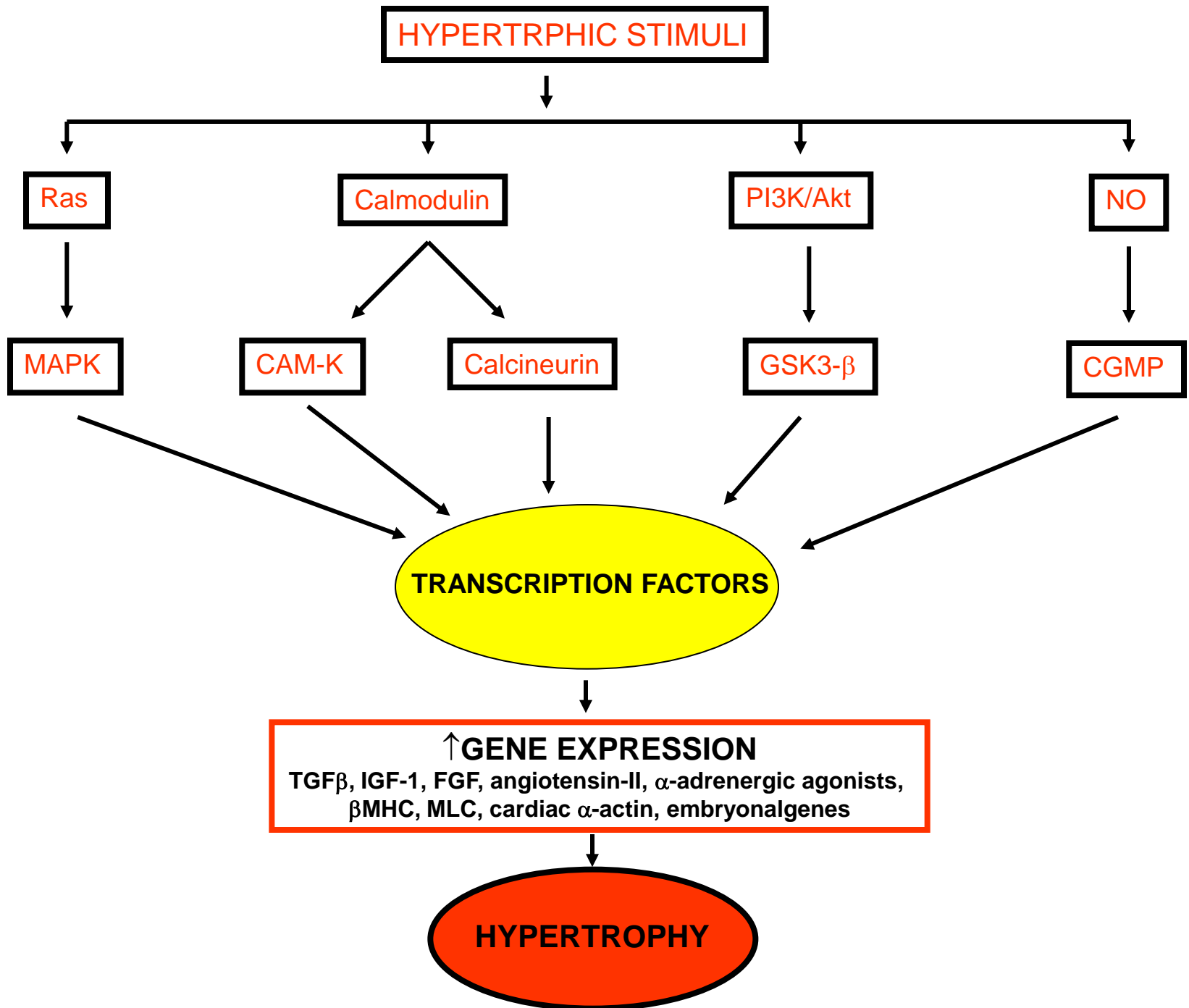


CARDIAC DYSFUNCTION



- ↑ heart size
- ↑ protein synthesis
- early gene and fetal gene program activation
- appearance of altered proteins
- fibrosis
- insufficient vascularization

- cardiac failure
- arrhythmia
- neurohumoral stimulation



COMPENSATORY HYPERTROPHY

DUE TO LACK OR LOSS OF FUNCTION OF ONE MEMBER OF PAIRED ORGANS (es.: kidney, adrenal)

KIDNEY

Enlarged existing glomeruli, capillary elongation

Hyperplasia occurs, without new glomeruli/tubules

Slow response: compensation by the remaining kidney through circulation changes

OTHER EXAMPLES

CAUSE

- endocrine stimulation
- humoral mediators
- mechanic factors
- Drugs

EXAMPLE

estrogens → hypertrophy/hyperplasia in uterus
cytokines → leucocyte hypertrophy/hyperplasia
skin traction → hypertrophy/hyperplasia in skin
 β -adrenergic agonists → muscle hypertrophy

HYPOTROPHY/ATROPHY

REDUCED CELL DIMENSION/FUNCTIONS

PHYSIOLOGIC (embryonal development, restoration normal organ/tissue dimensions)

PATHOLOGIC CAUSES:reduced work load

compression

denervation

reduced blood supply

malnutrition

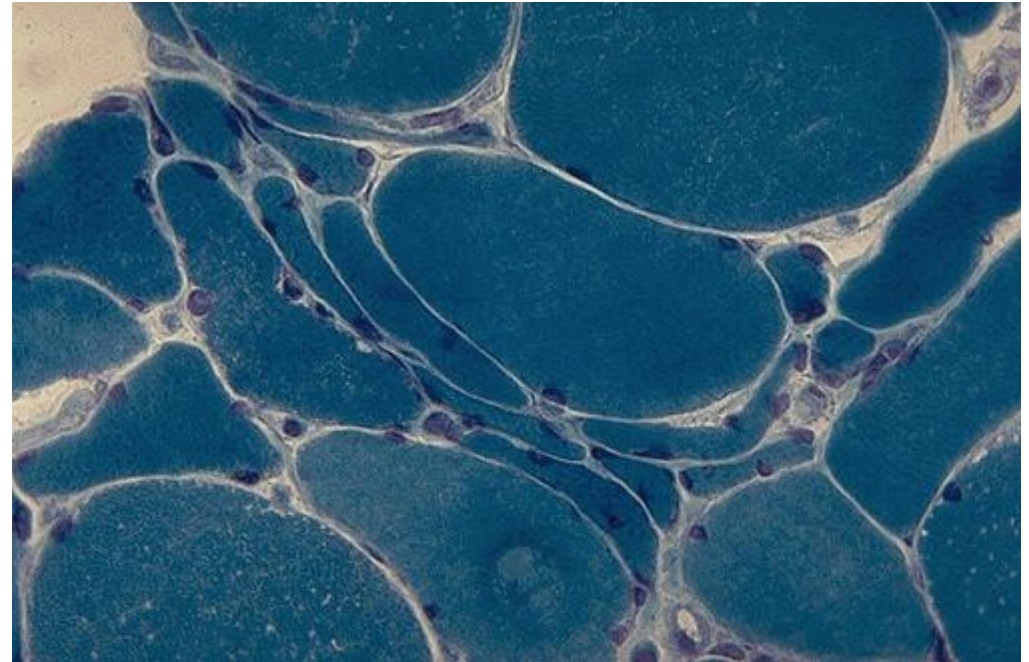
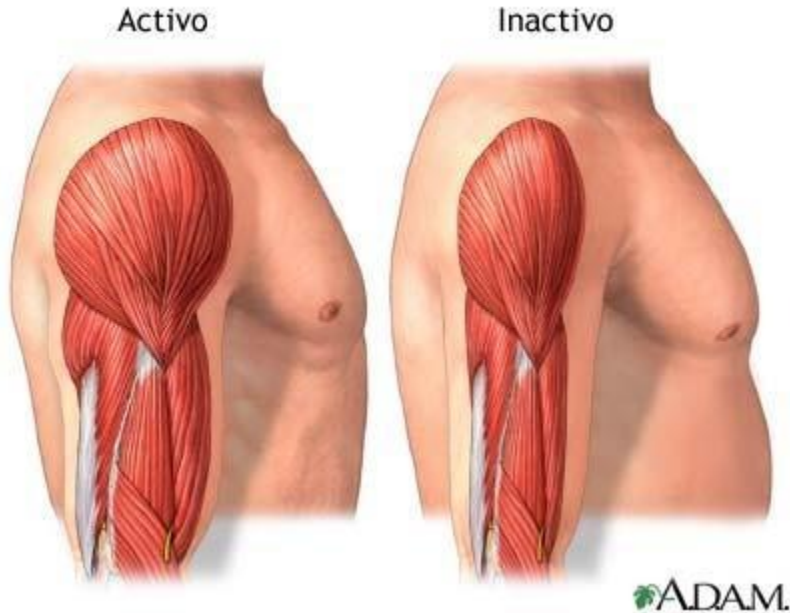
reduced endocrine stimulation

aging

immunologic causes (es. pernicious anemia)

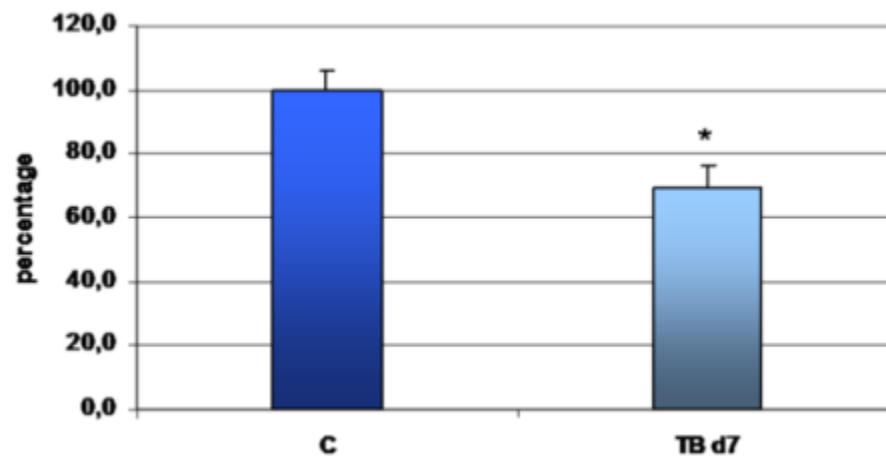
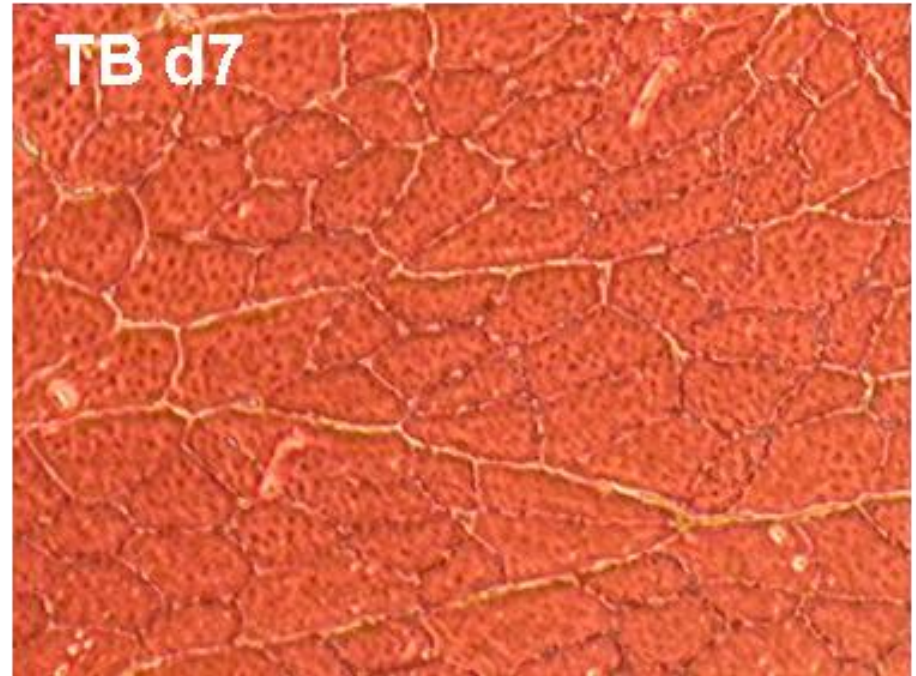
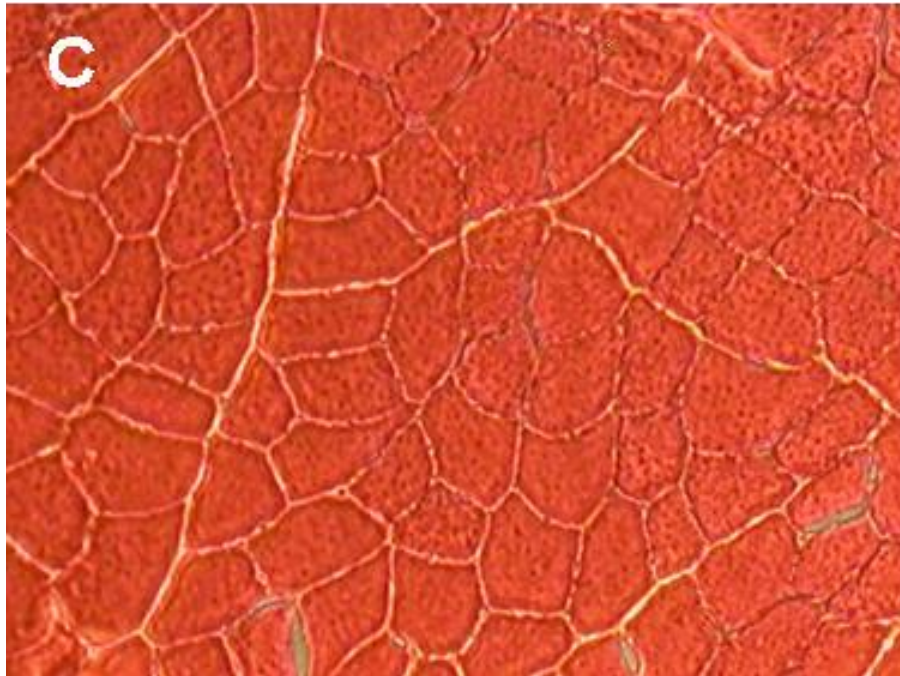
drugs

Muscle atrophy

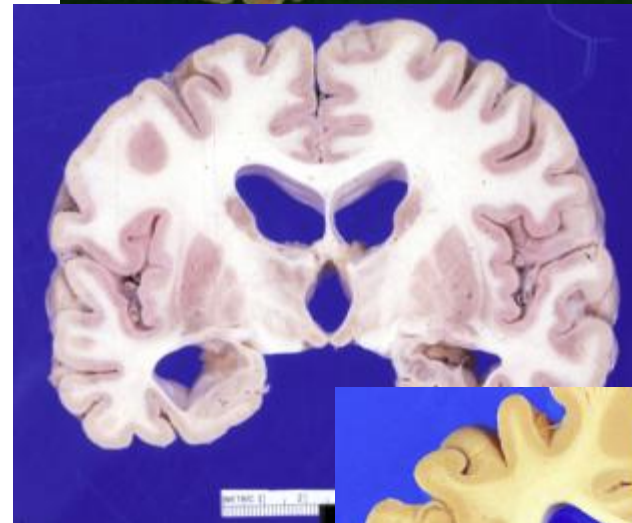
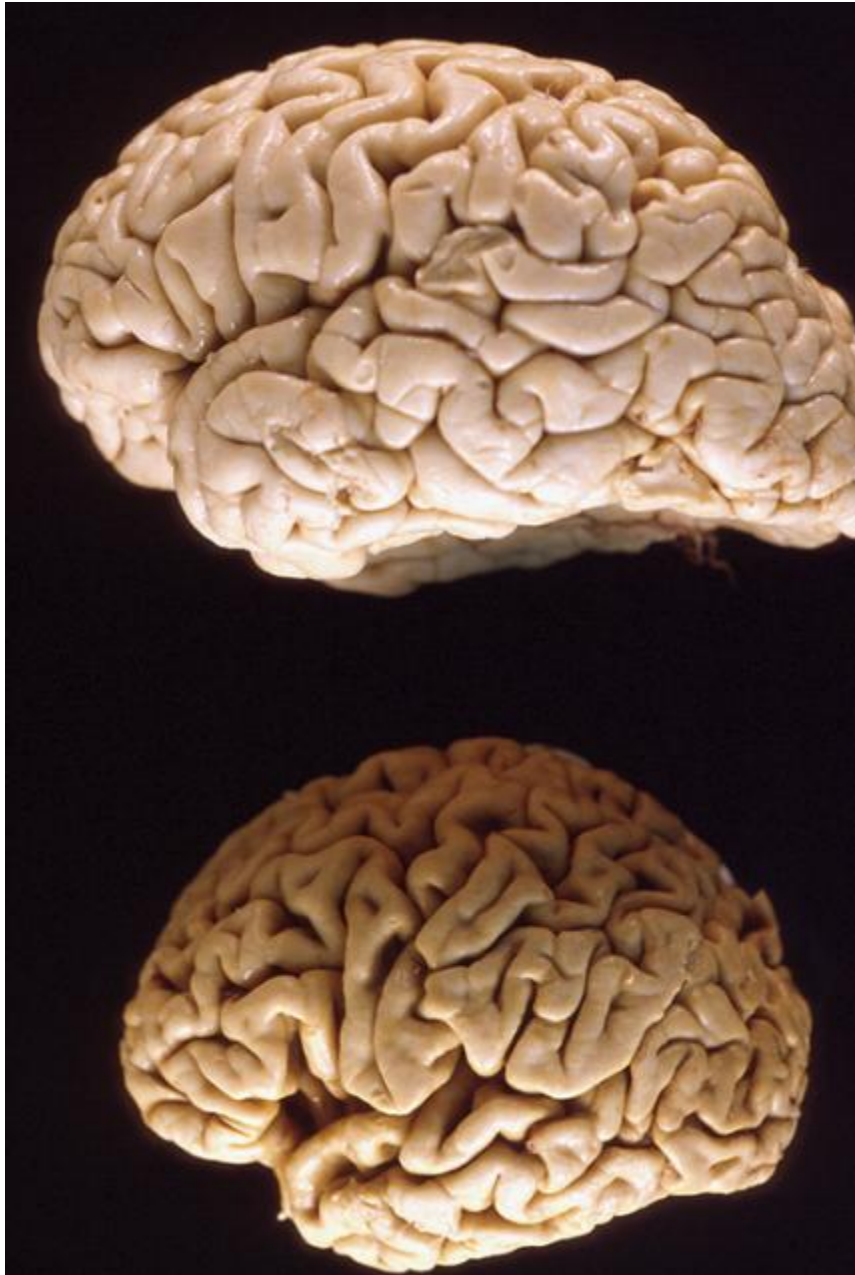


Some of these skeletal muscle fibers here show atrophy, compared to normal fibers. The number of cells is the same as before the atrophy occurred, but the size of some fibers is reduced. This is a response to injury by "downsizing" to conserve the cell. In this case, innervation to the small, atrophic fibers was lost (trichrome stain).

Muscle atrophy in cancer cachexia

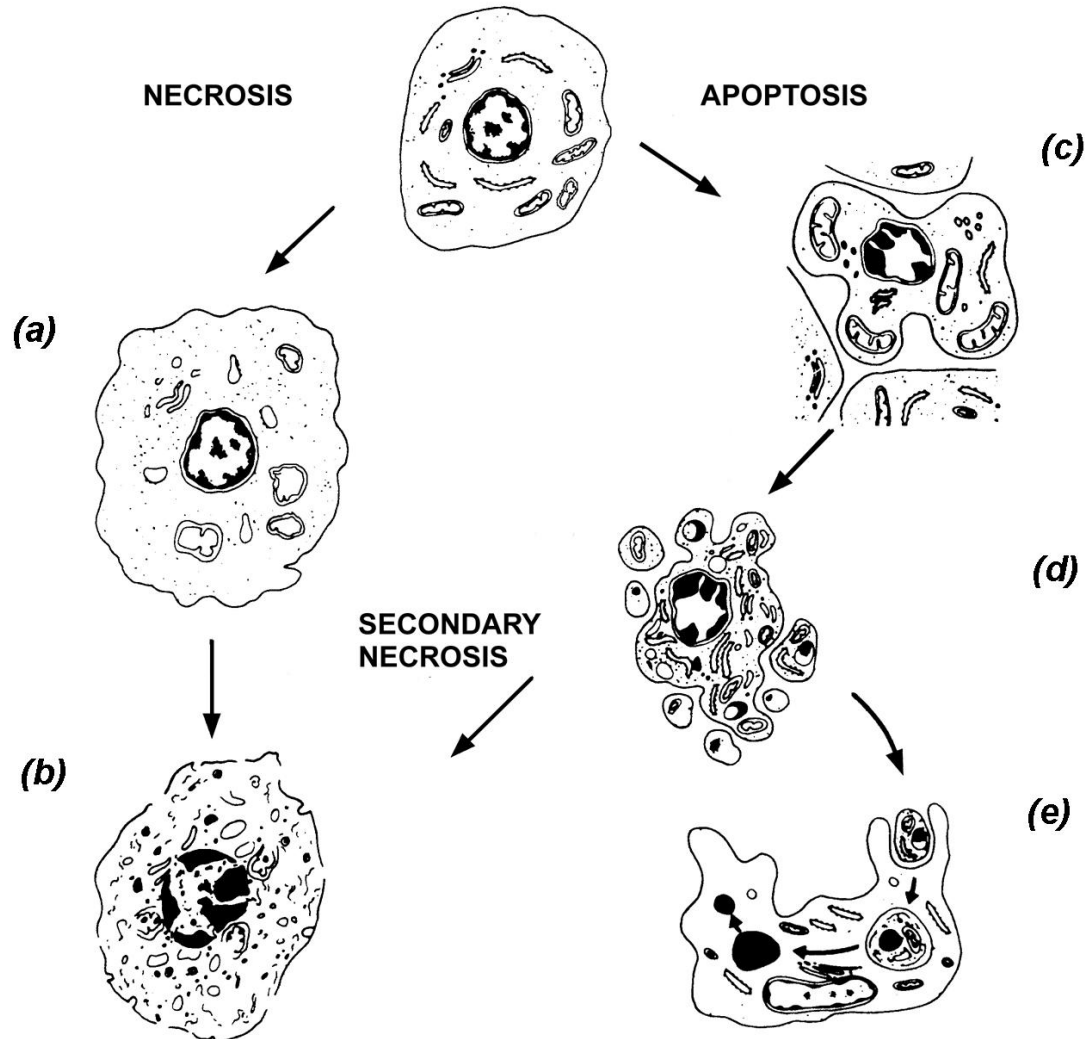


Brain atrophy

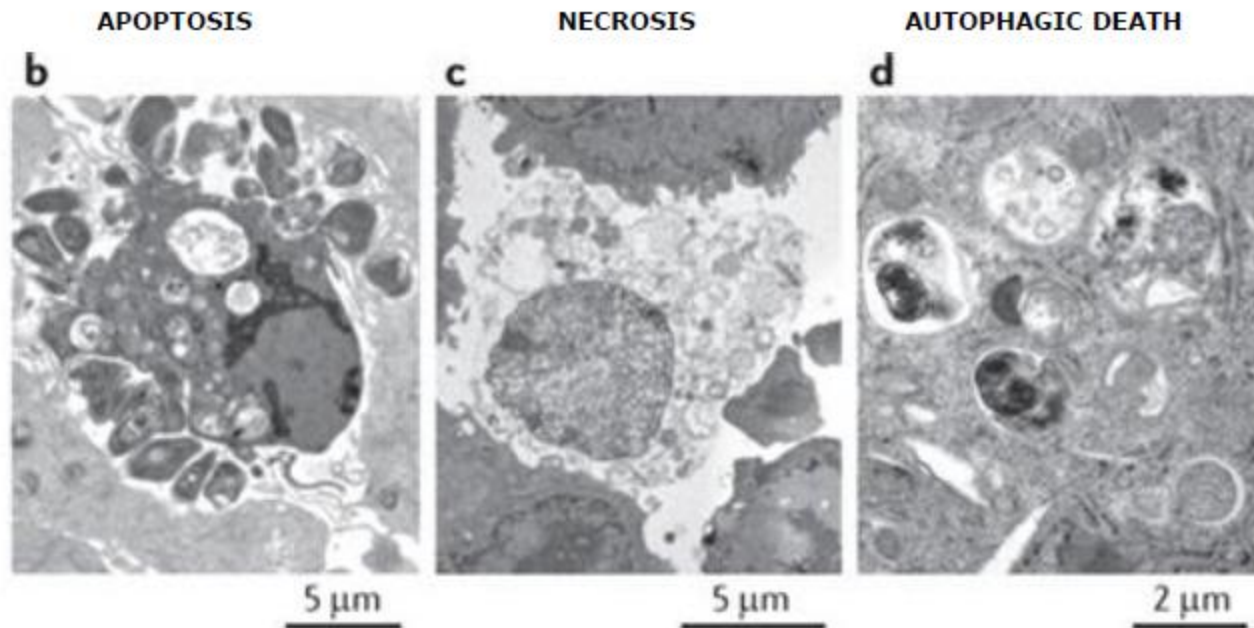


CELL DAMAGE

Severe damages alter fundamental cell structure/function → cell death: **NECROSIS** (death by colloido-osmotic lysis) and **APOPTOSIS** (death by condensation)



MORPHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF CELL DEATH



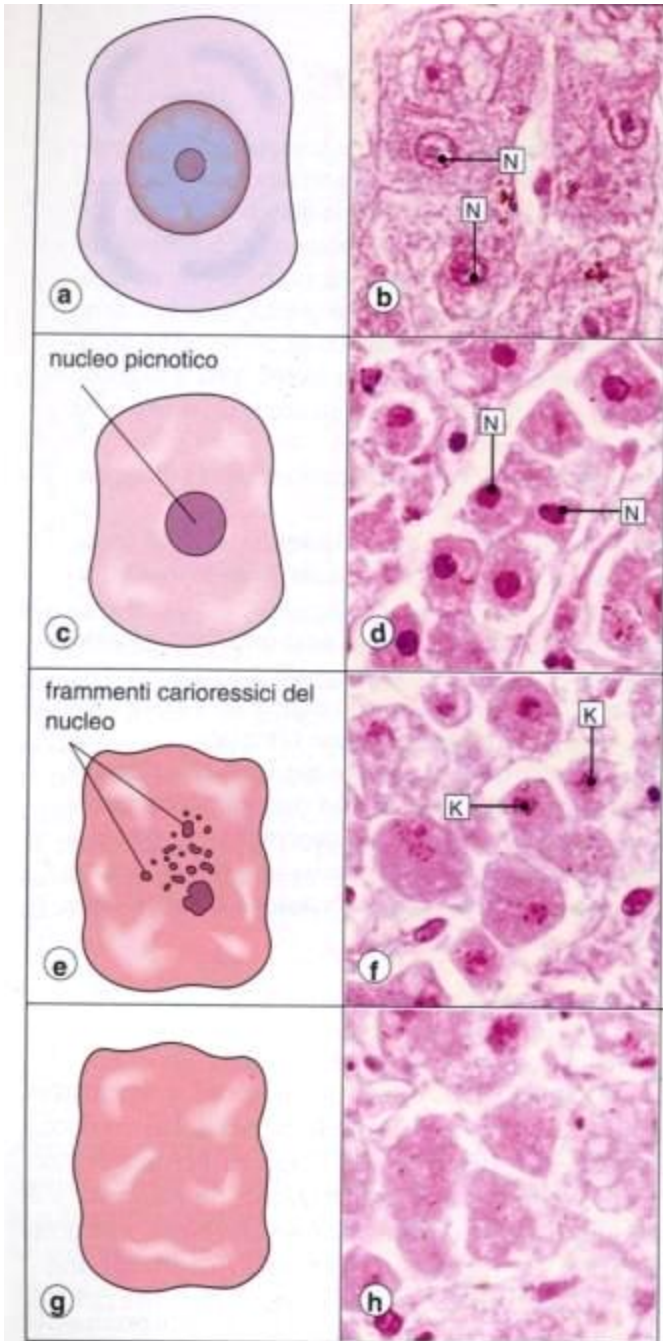
Electron microscopy images of cells undergoing different death processes.

a | Pyknosis, chromatin condensation and plasma membrane blebbing, are morphological traits of **apoptosis**.

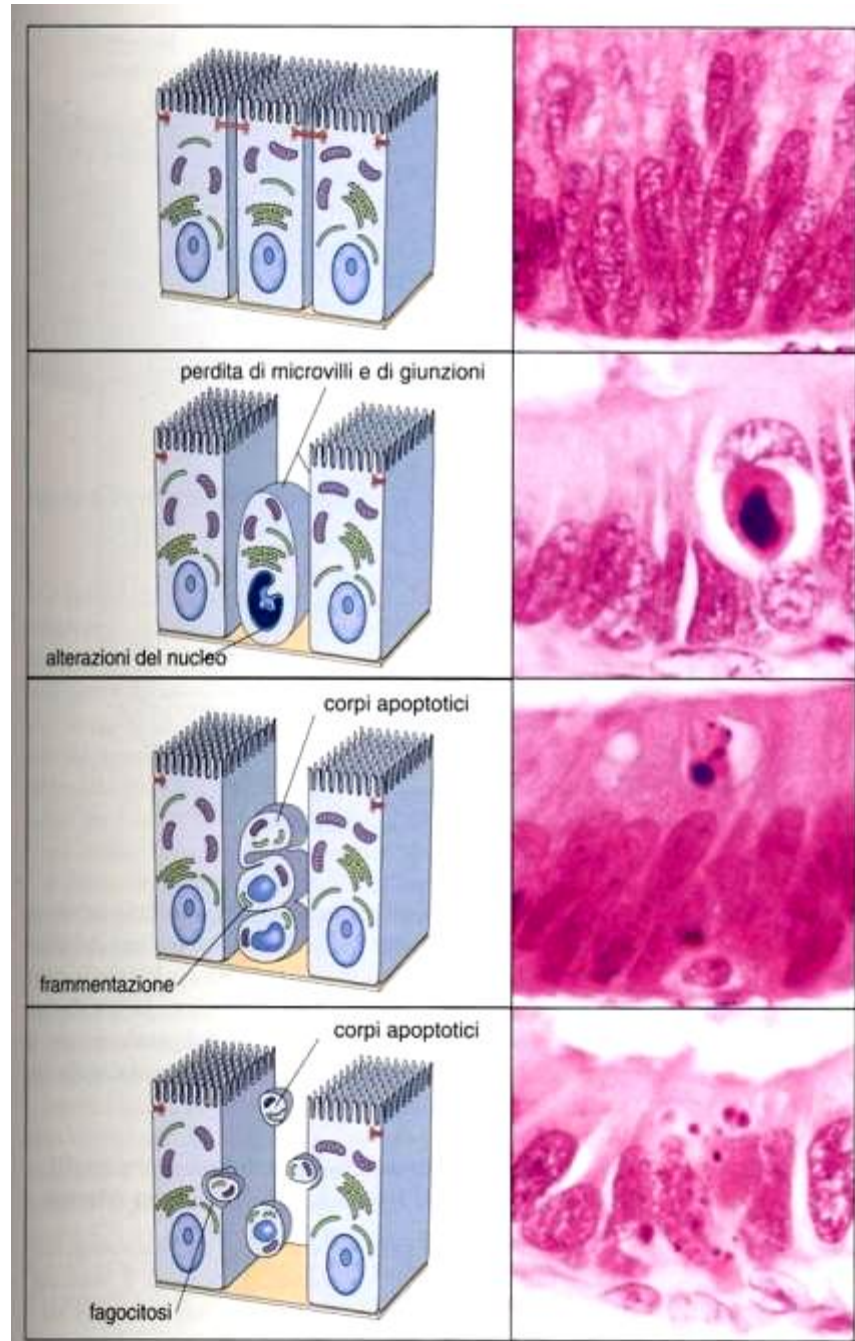
b | Nuclear membrane dilatation, circumscribed chromatin condensation and increased cell volume (oncosis), are morphological manifestations of **necrosis**.

c | **Autophagic vacuolization**.

NECROSIS



APOPTOSIS



Kidney infarct and necrosis

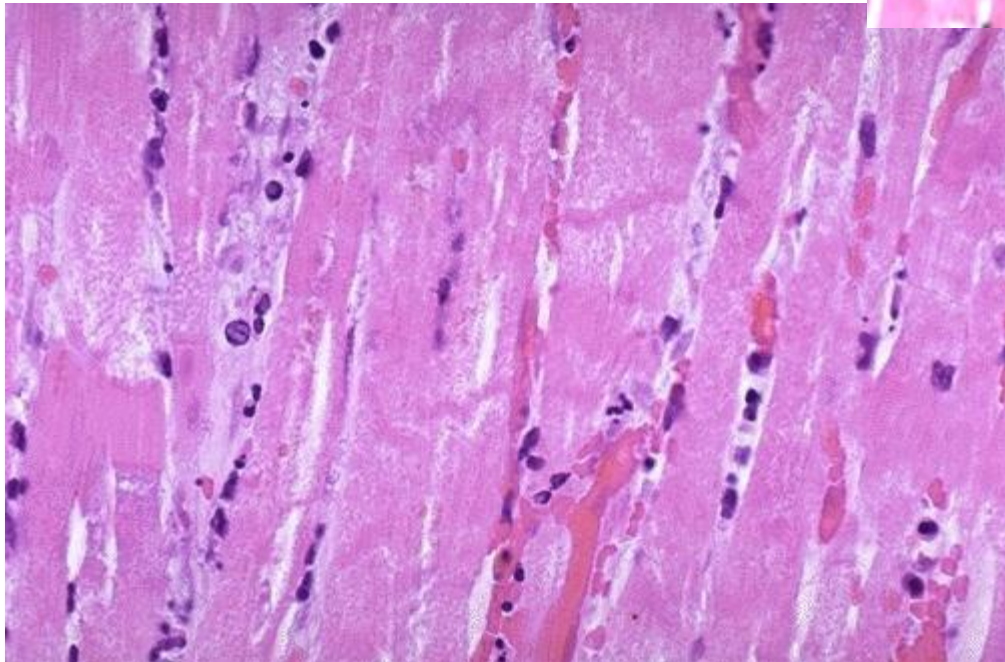
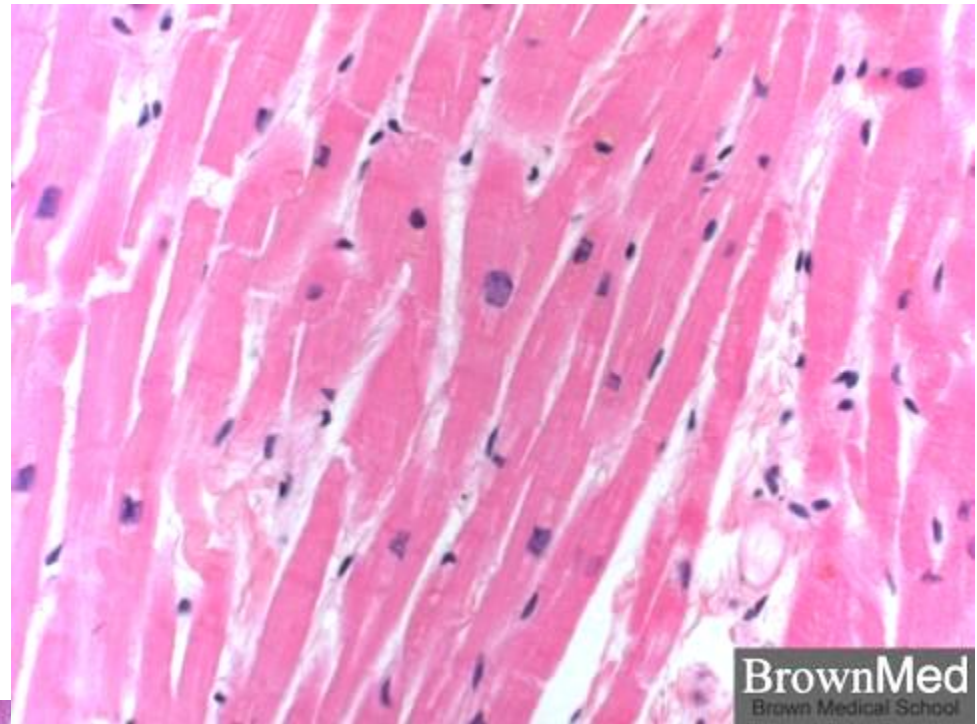


This is an example of coagulative necrosis. This is the typical pattern with ischemia and infarction (loss of blood supply and resultant tissue anoxia). Here, there is a wedge-shaped pale area of coagulative necrosis (infarction) in the renal cortex of the kidney.

Necrosis

Normal myocardium

In contrast with skeletal muscle, cardiac myofibers interdigitate. A myocyte can comprise a portion of more than one myofiber, as seen in the upper central portion of this photo.



Myocardium: cells are dying as a result of ischemic injury from coronary artery occlusion. This is early in the process of necrosis. The nuclei of the myocardial fibers are being lost. The cytoplasm is losing its structure, because no well-defined cross-striations are seen.

APOPTOSIS

MORPHOLOGY

LOSS OF MICROVILLI AND INTERCELLULAR JUNCTIONS

'BLEBBING'

REDUCED CELL VOLUME

MEMBRANE AND INTRACELLULAR ORGANELLE PRESERVATION

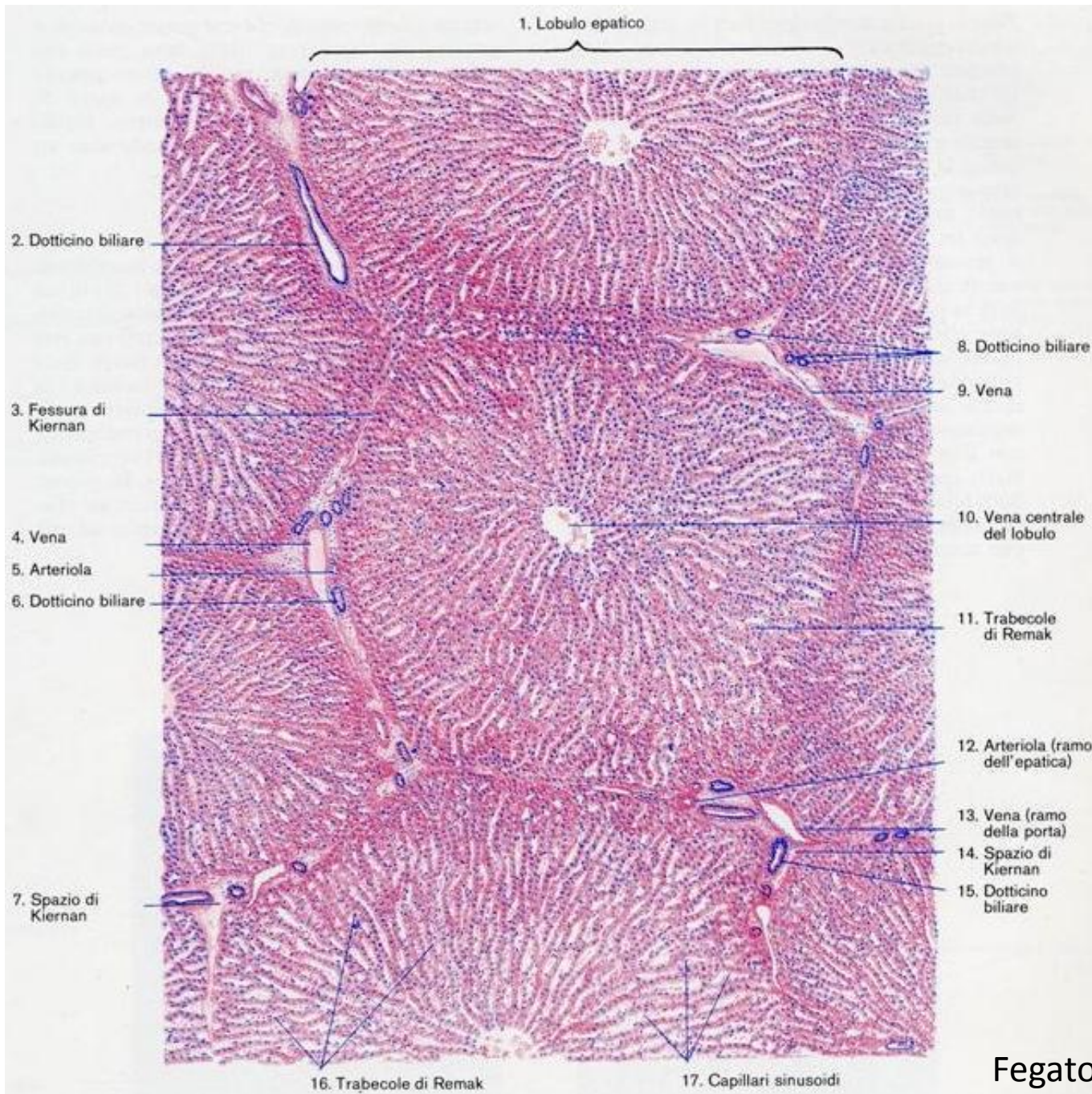
NUCLEAR MORPHO-FUNCTIONAL ALTERATIONS

CELL FRAGMENTATION IN APOPTOTIC BODIES

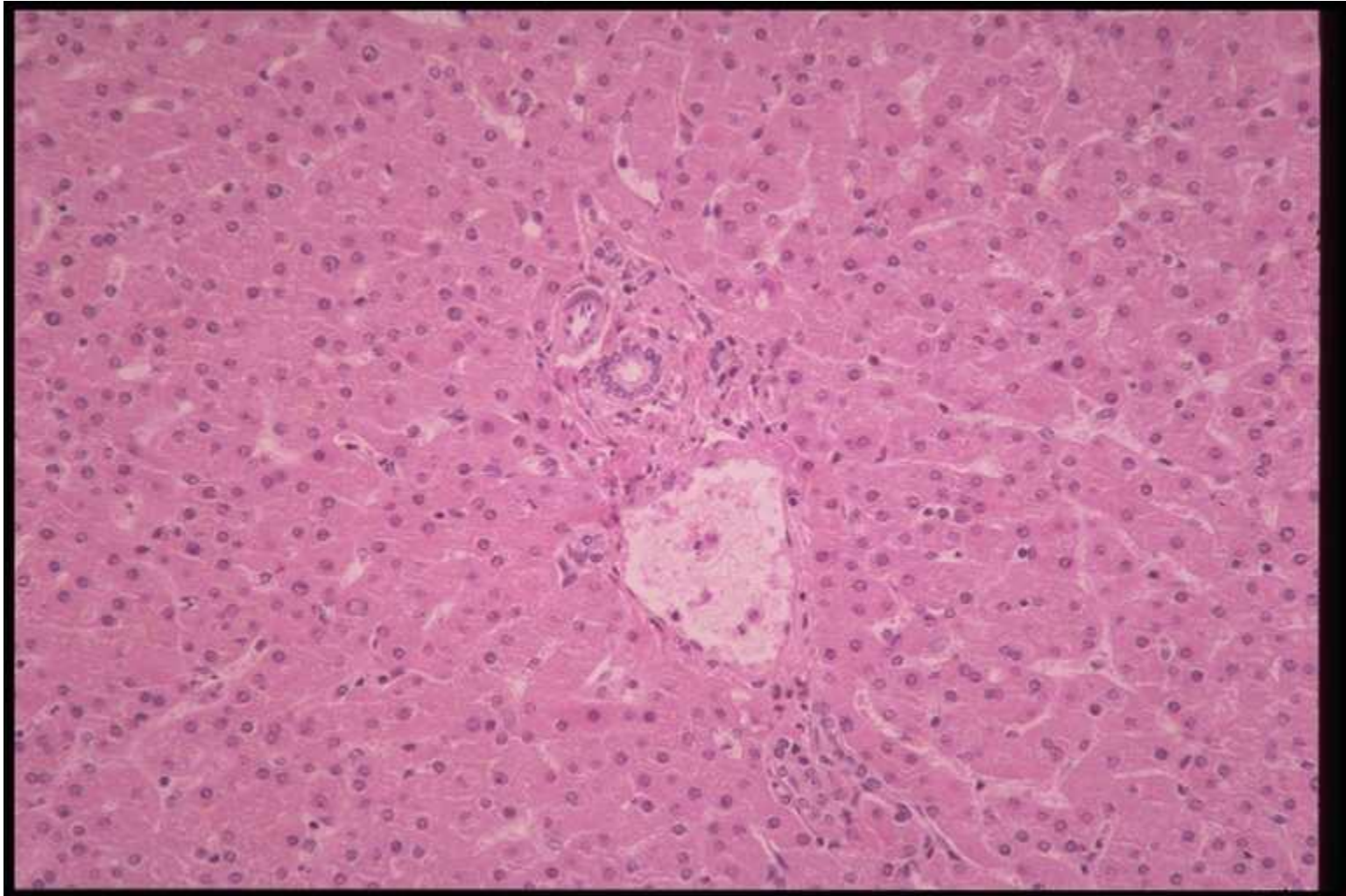
BIOCHEMISTRY

PHOSPHATIDYLSERINE EXTERNALIZATION

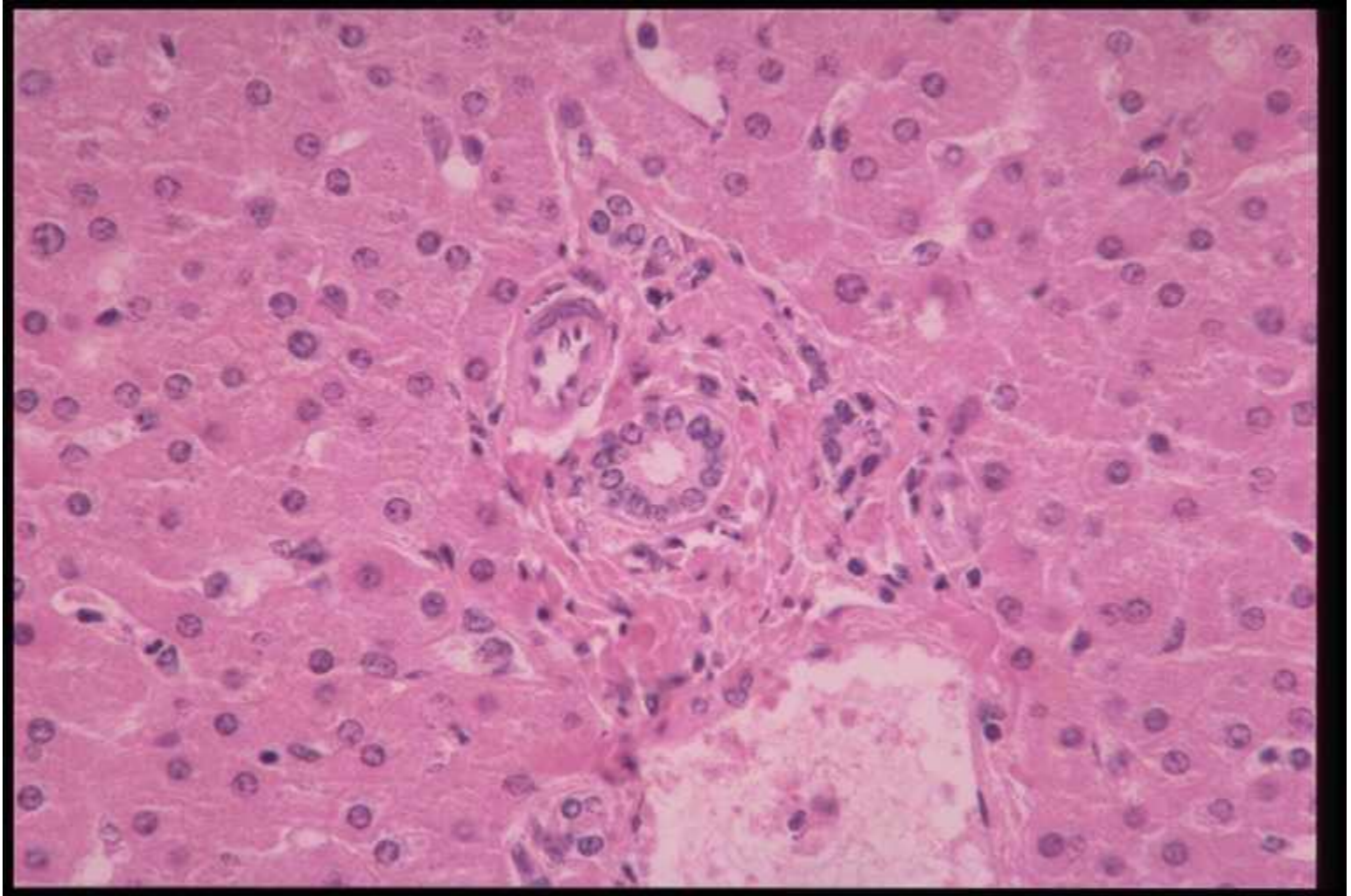
CASPASE, TRANSGLUTAMINASE, ENDONUCLEASE ACTIVATION



Fegato normale

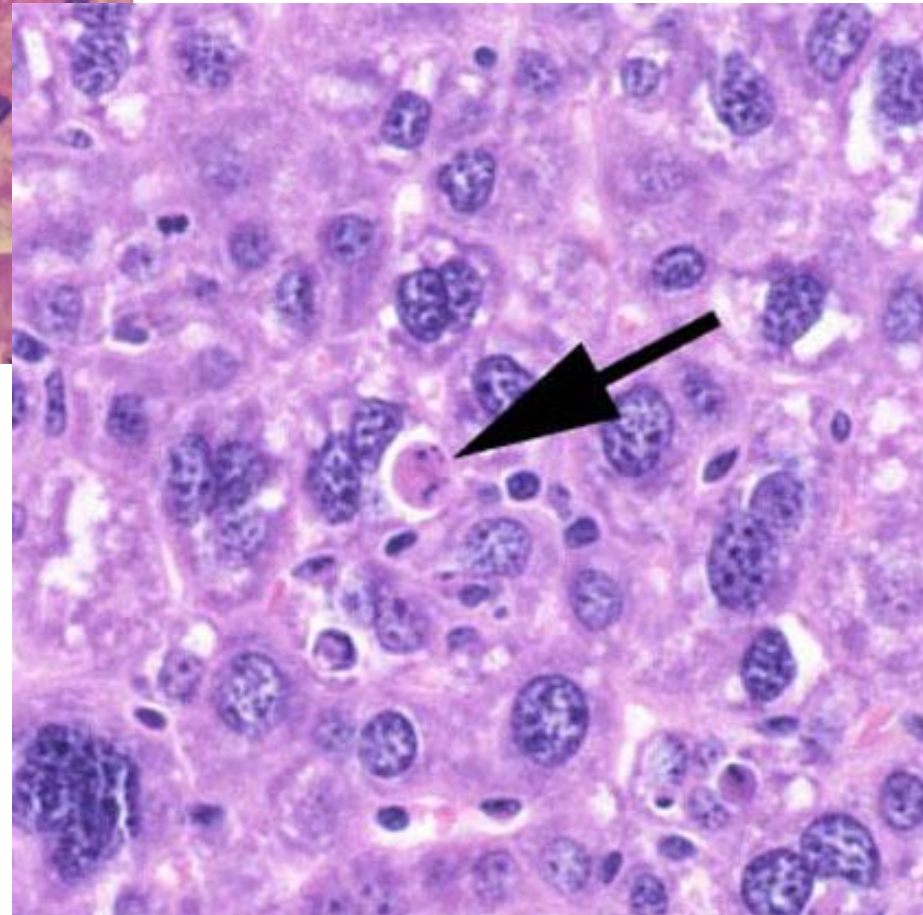
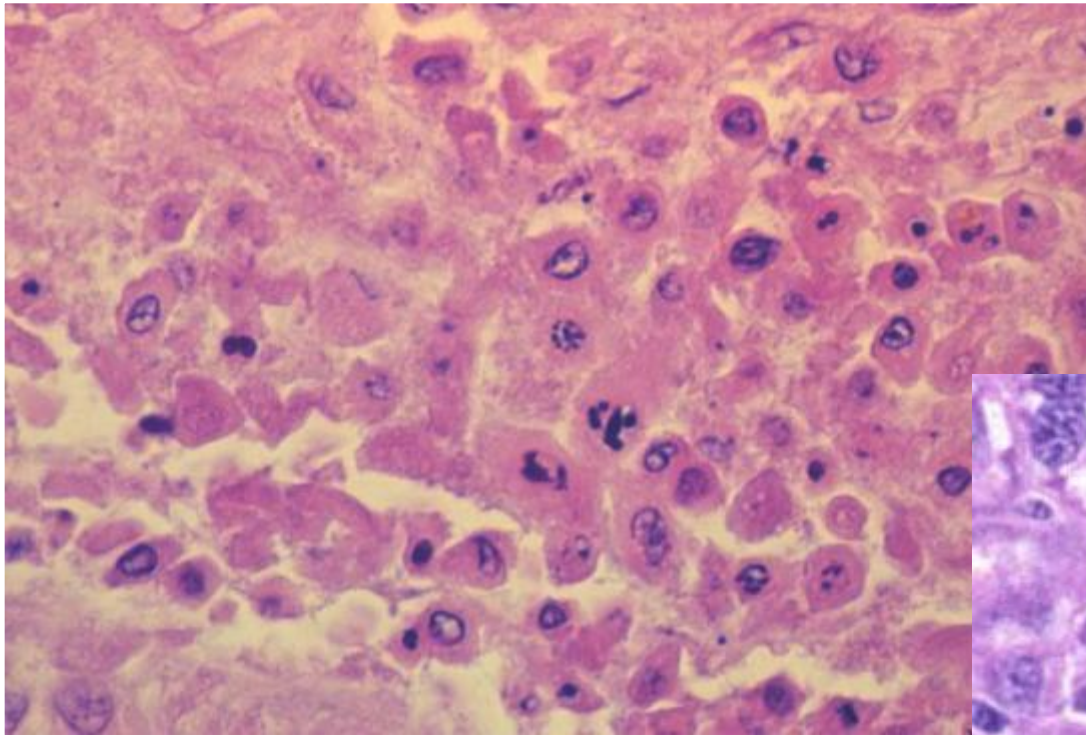


Normal liver

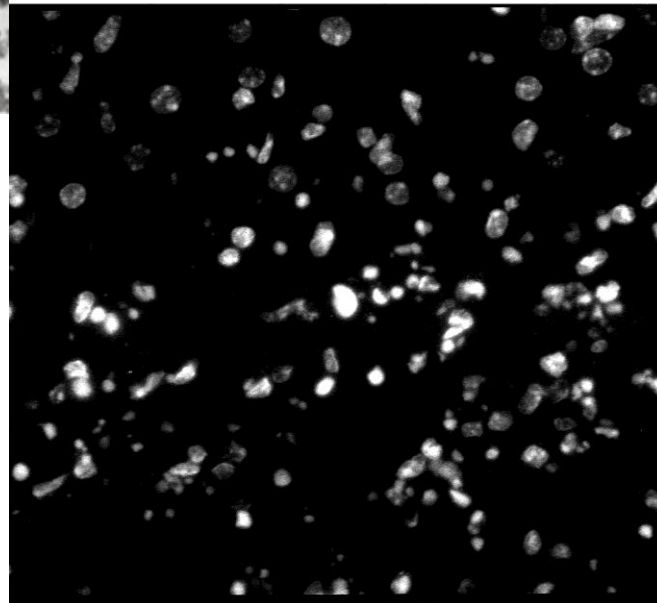
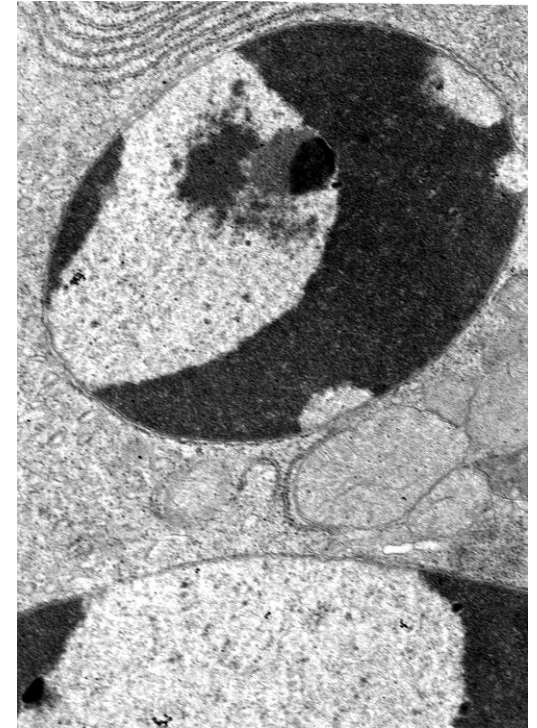
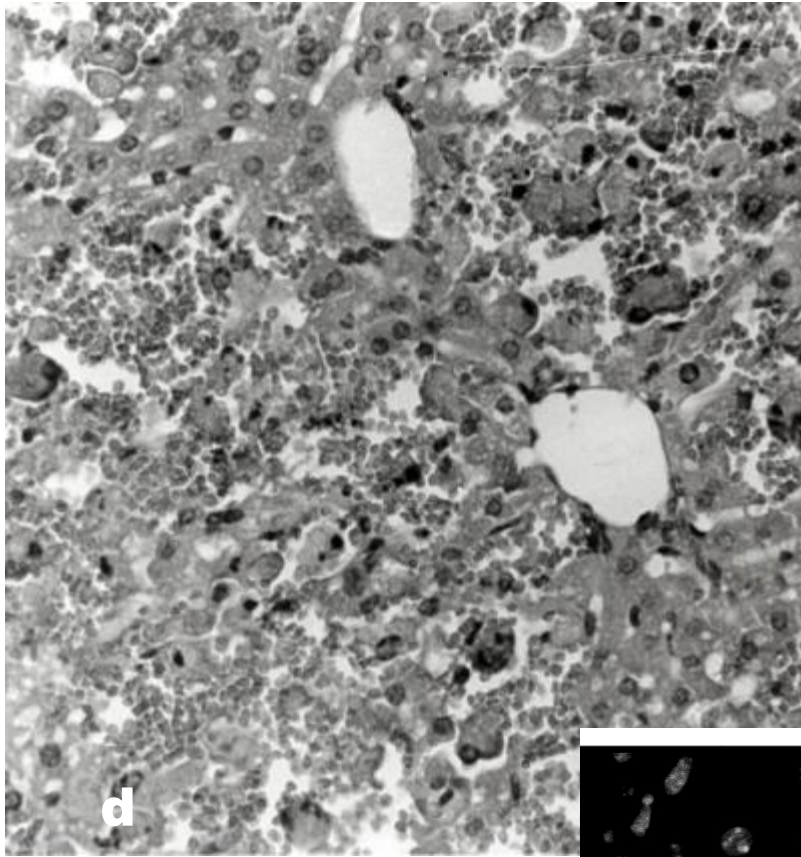


Normal liver

Liver: apoptosis



Liver: Fas-induced apoptosis



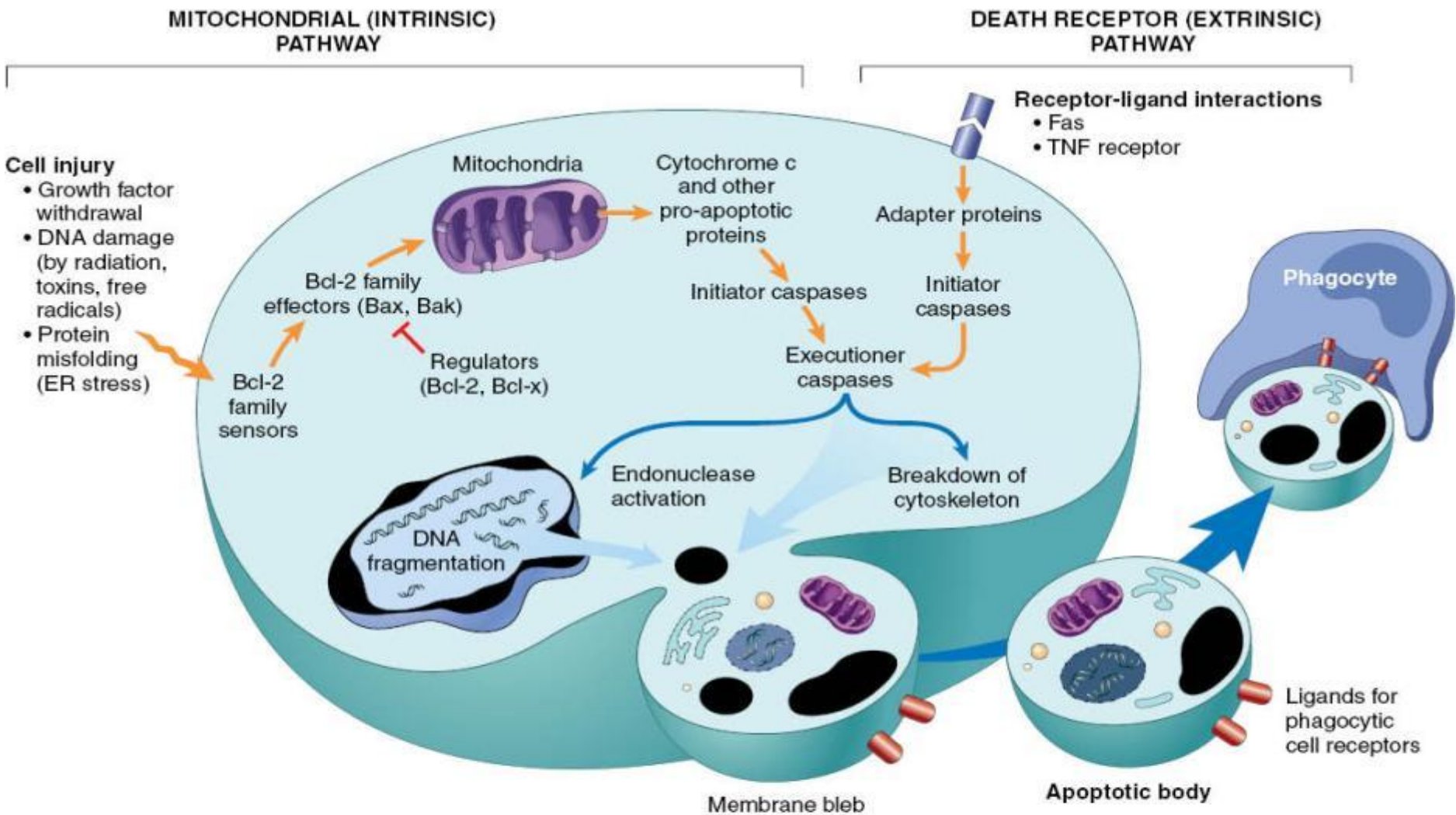
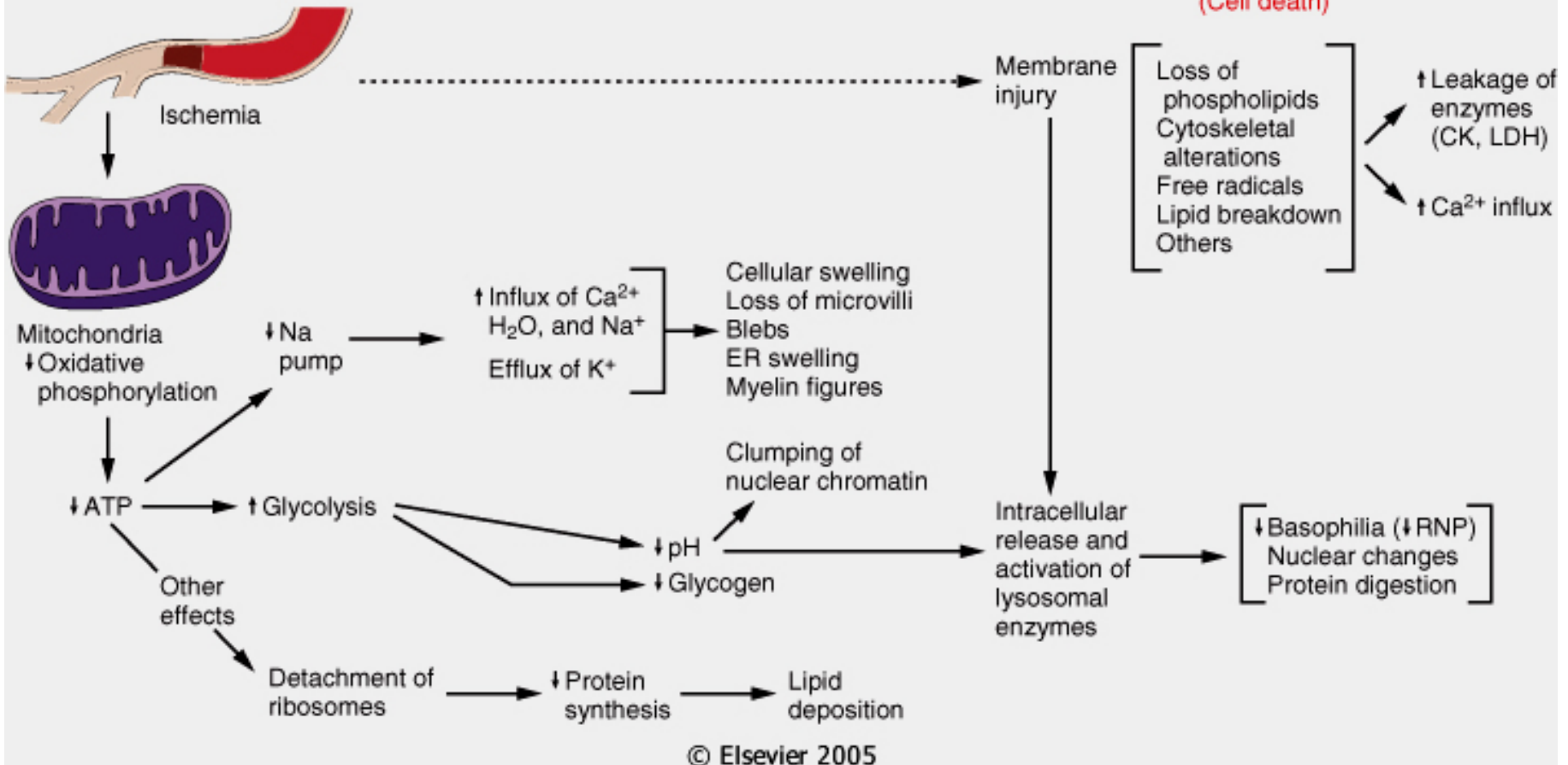


FIGURE 1–24 Mechanisms of apoptosis. The two pathways of apoptosis differ in their induction and regulation, and both culminate in the activation of “executioner” caspases. The induction of apoptosis by the mitochondrial pathway involves the action of sensors and effectors of the Bcl-2 family, which induce leakage of mitochondrial proteins. Also shown are some of the anti-apoptotic proteins (“regulators”) that inhibit mitochondrial leakiness and cytochrome *c*–dependent caspase activation in the mitochondrial pathway. In the death receptor pathway engagement of death receptors leads directly to caspase activation. The regulators of death receptor–mediated caspase activation are not shown. ER, endoplasmic reticulum; TNF, tumor necrosis factor.

REVERSIBLE INJURY

IRREVERSIBLE INJURY

(Cell death)



Ischemia-derived cell damage: reversible and irreversible

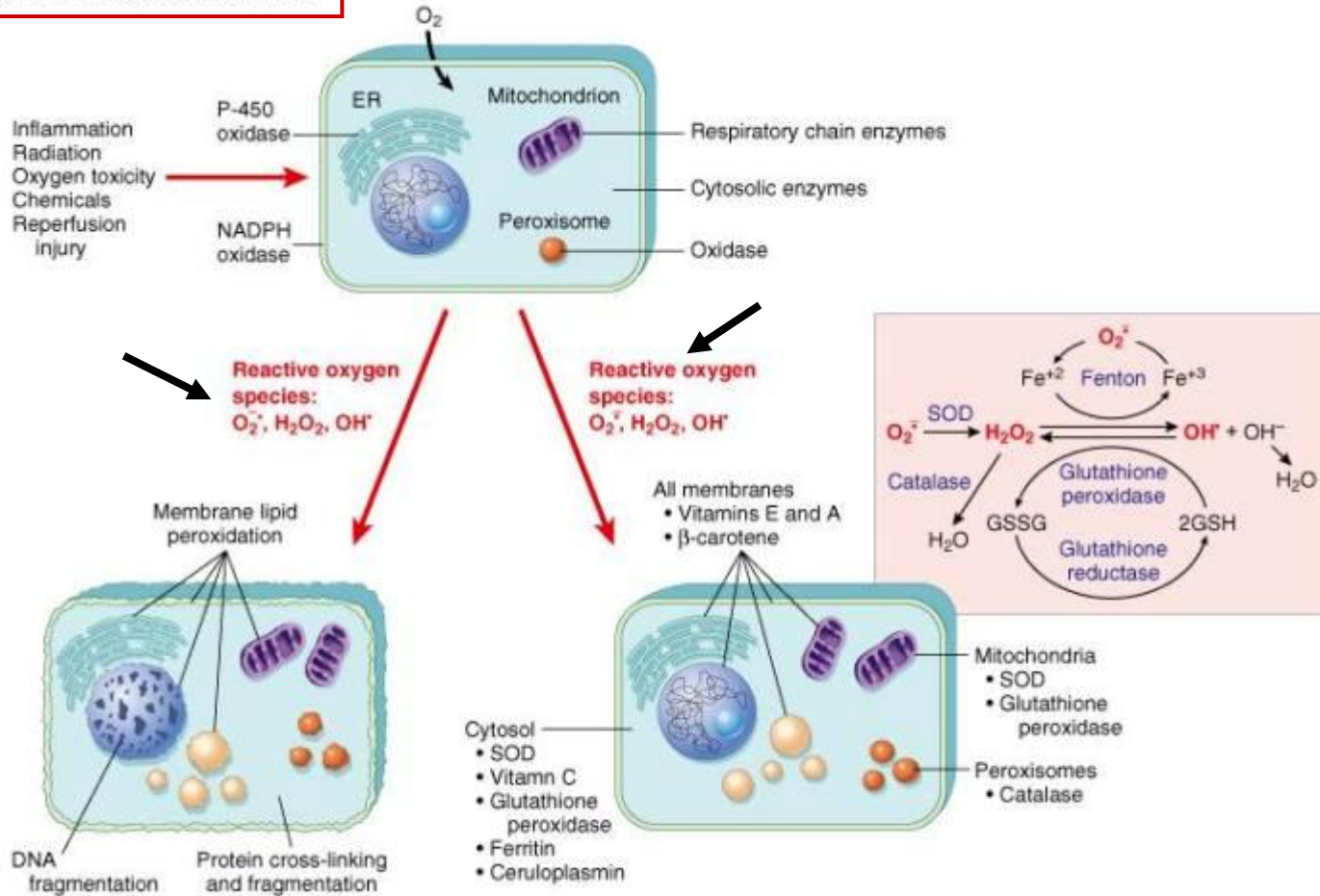
N.B.: ischemia vs hypoxia

ISCHEMIA reduced blood supply

IPOSSIA reduced O_2 supply

Reactive oxygen species (ROS) and cell damage

A. FREE RADICAL GENERATION



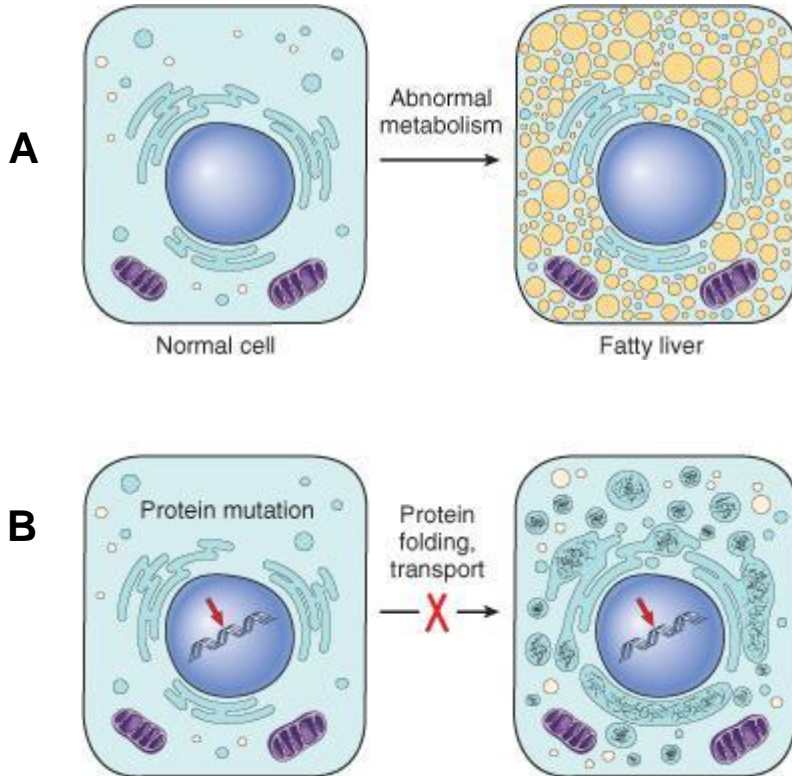
B. CELL INJURY BY FREE RADICALS

C. NEUTRALIZATION OF FREE RADICALS – NO CELL INJURY

DEGENERATIVE PROCESSES

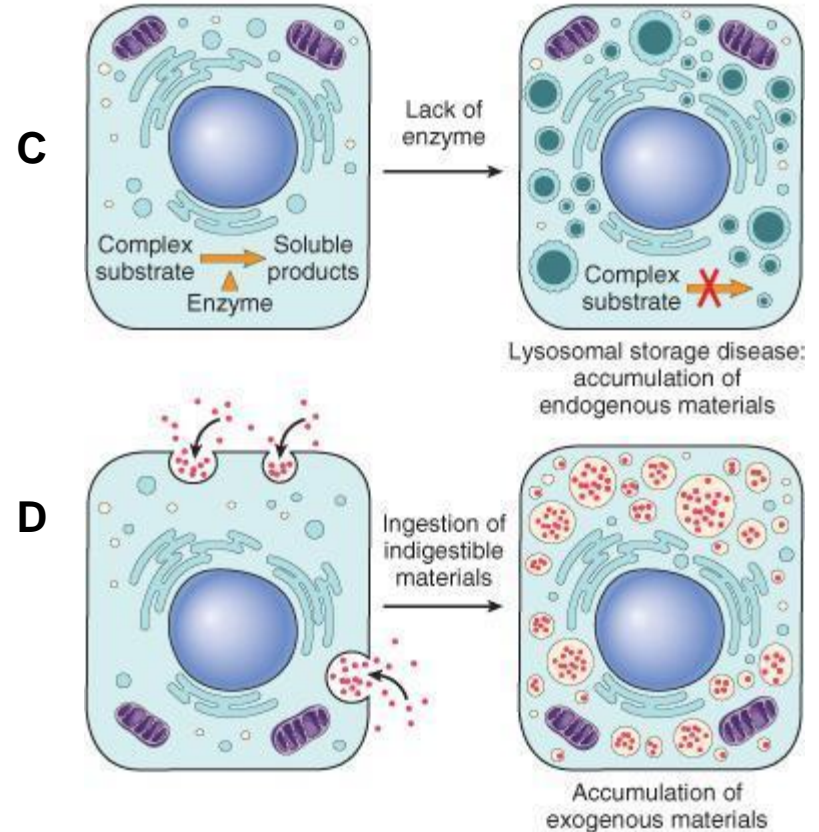
MECHANISMS OF INTRACELLULAR ACCUMULATION

**Metabolic alteration:
Liver steatosis (tryglicerides)**



**Altered protein folding and transport
(es. antitrypsine deficit)**

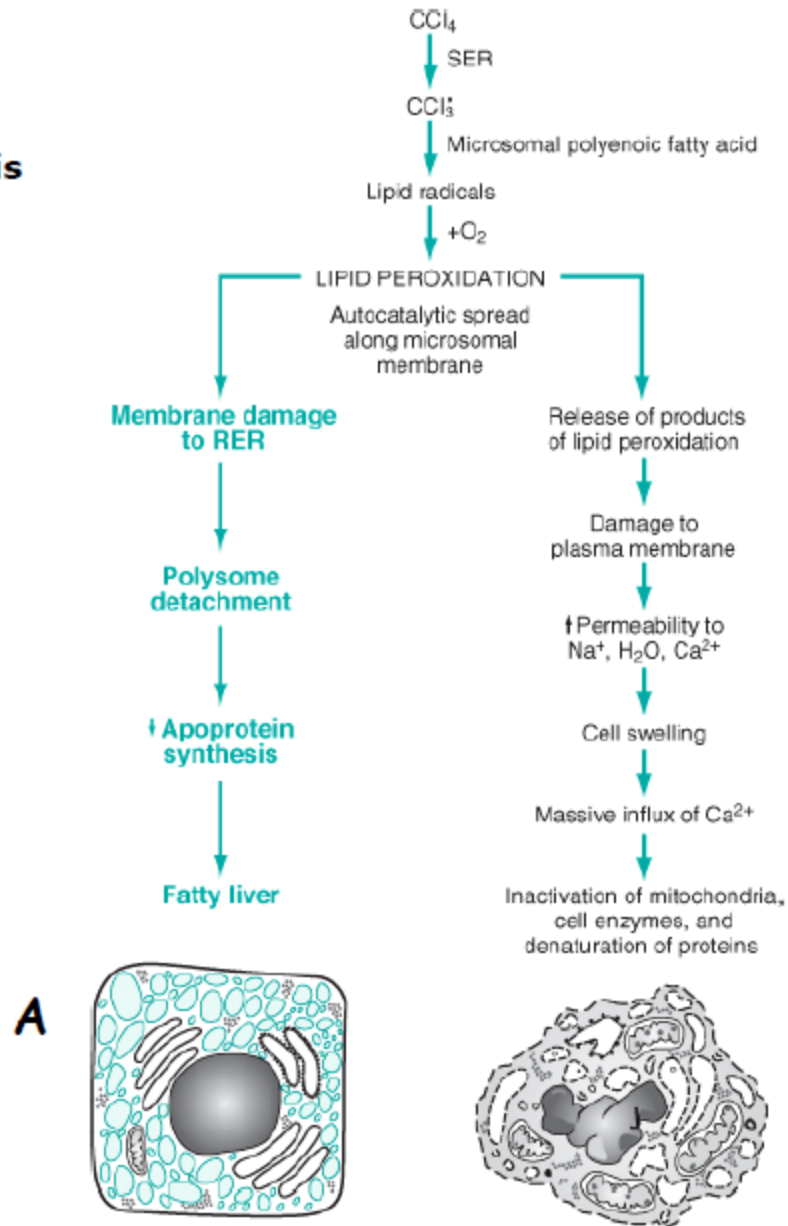
**Hereditary deficit of lysosomal enzymes
→ no substrate degradation**



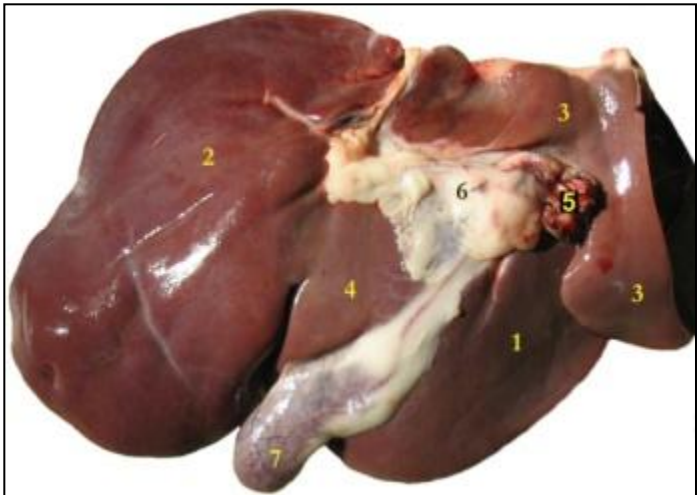
**Accumulation of non-degradable material
(es. Fe = hemosiderosis)**

Liver, CCl₄ damage:

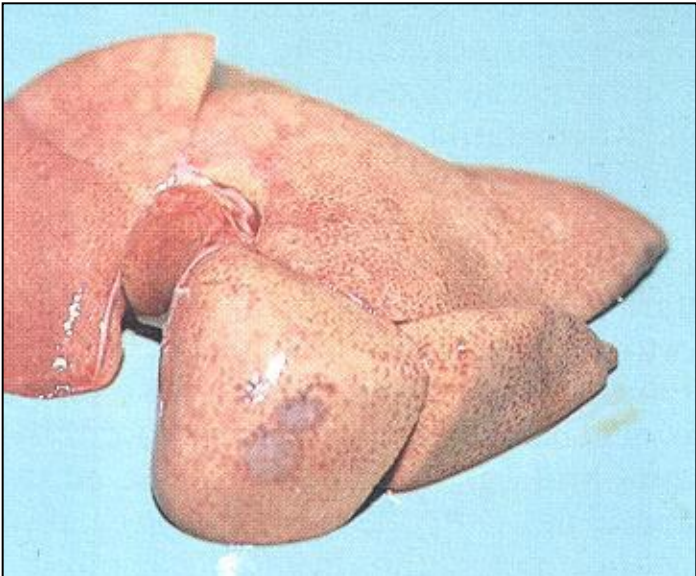
A. steatosis B. necrosis



Liver steatosis



normal



steatosis

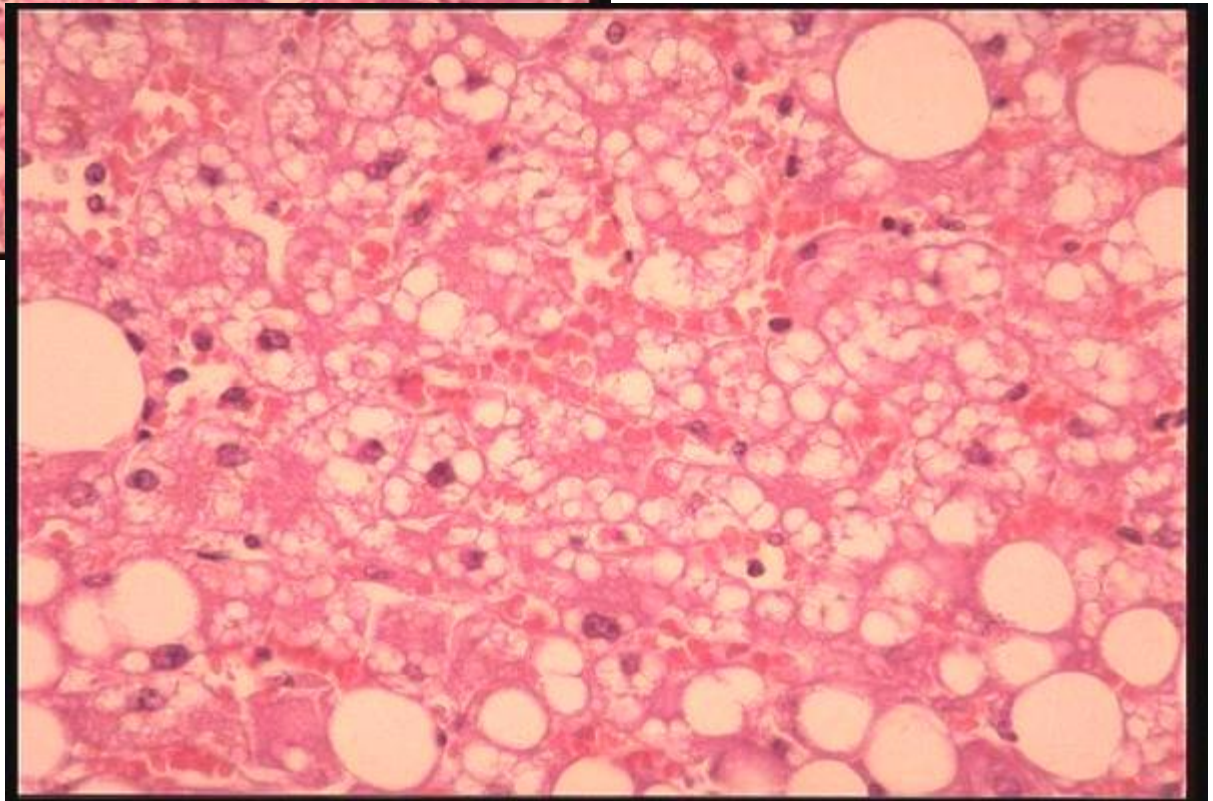
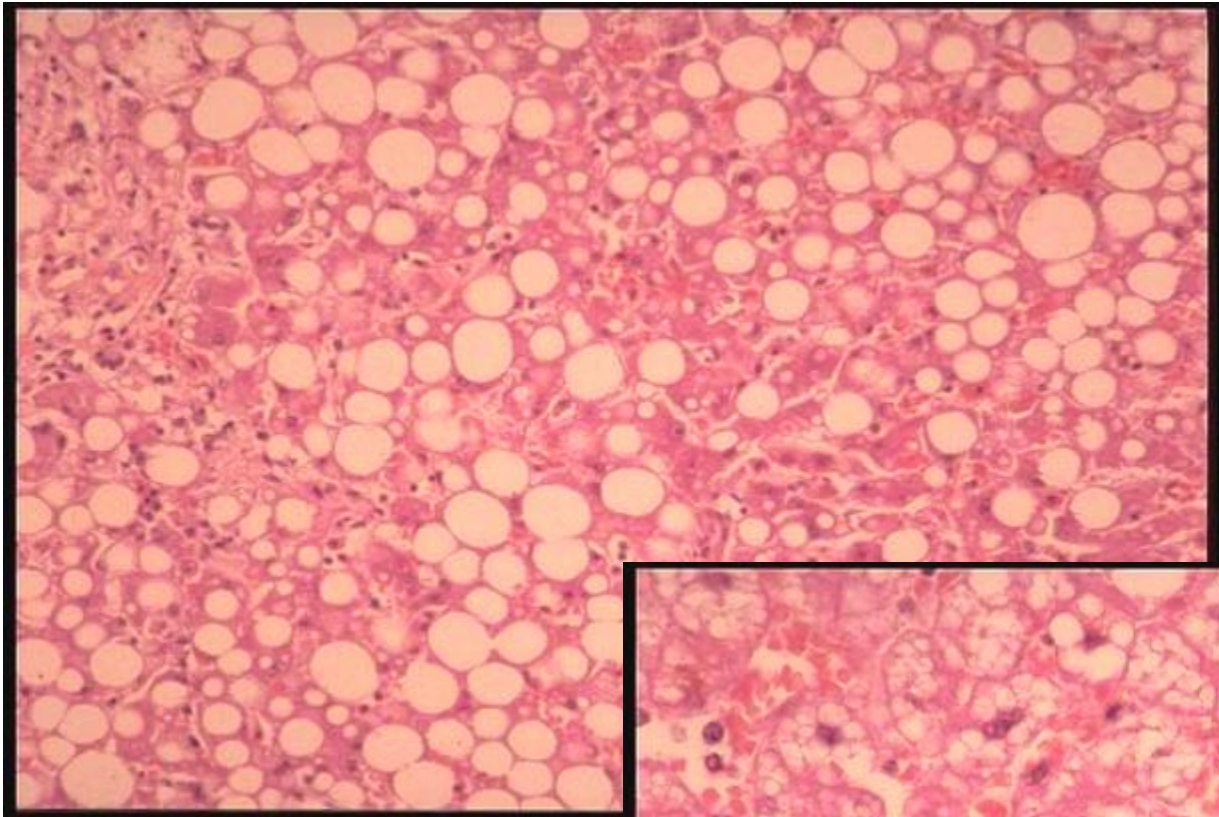


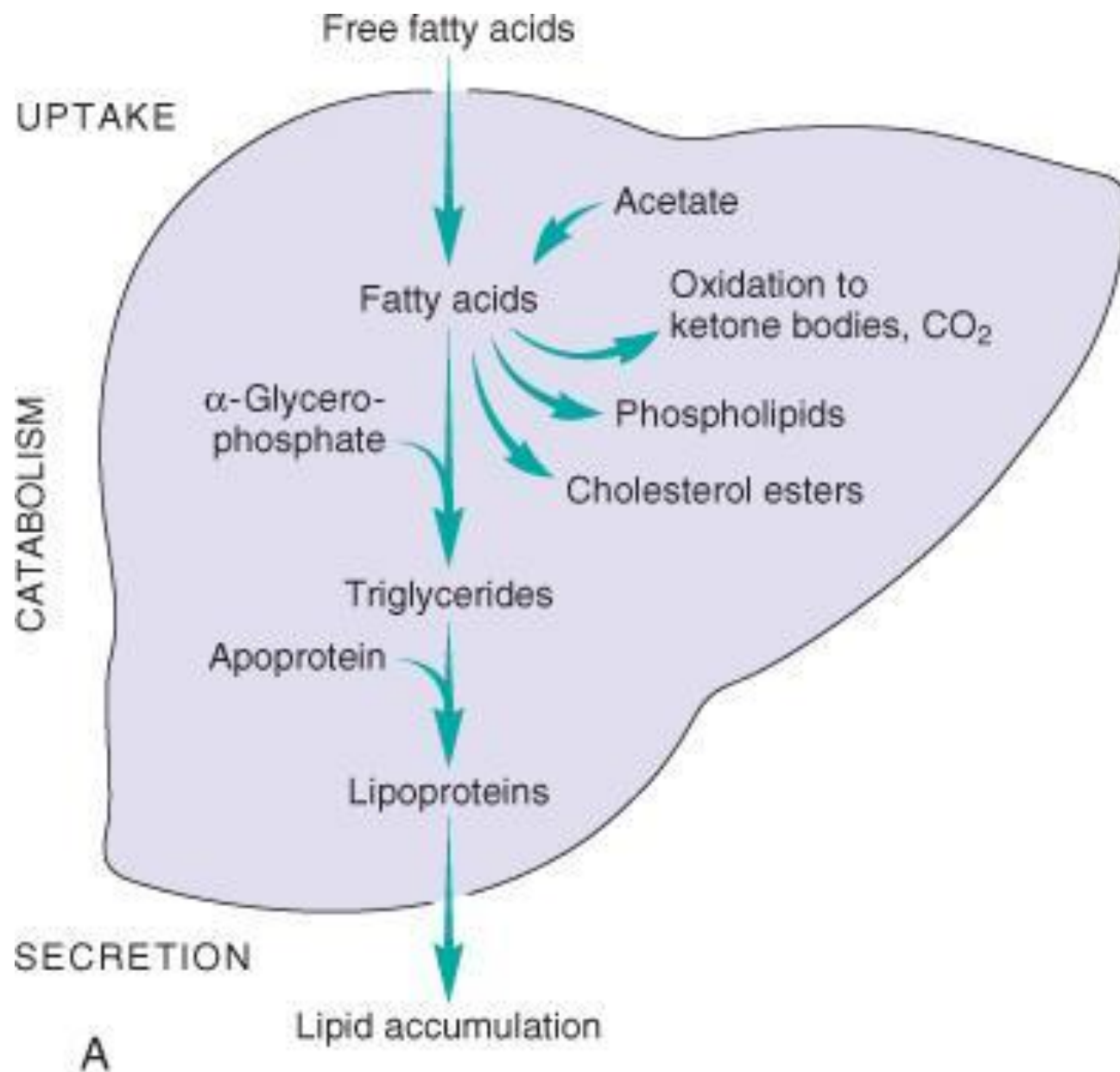
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chirrosis

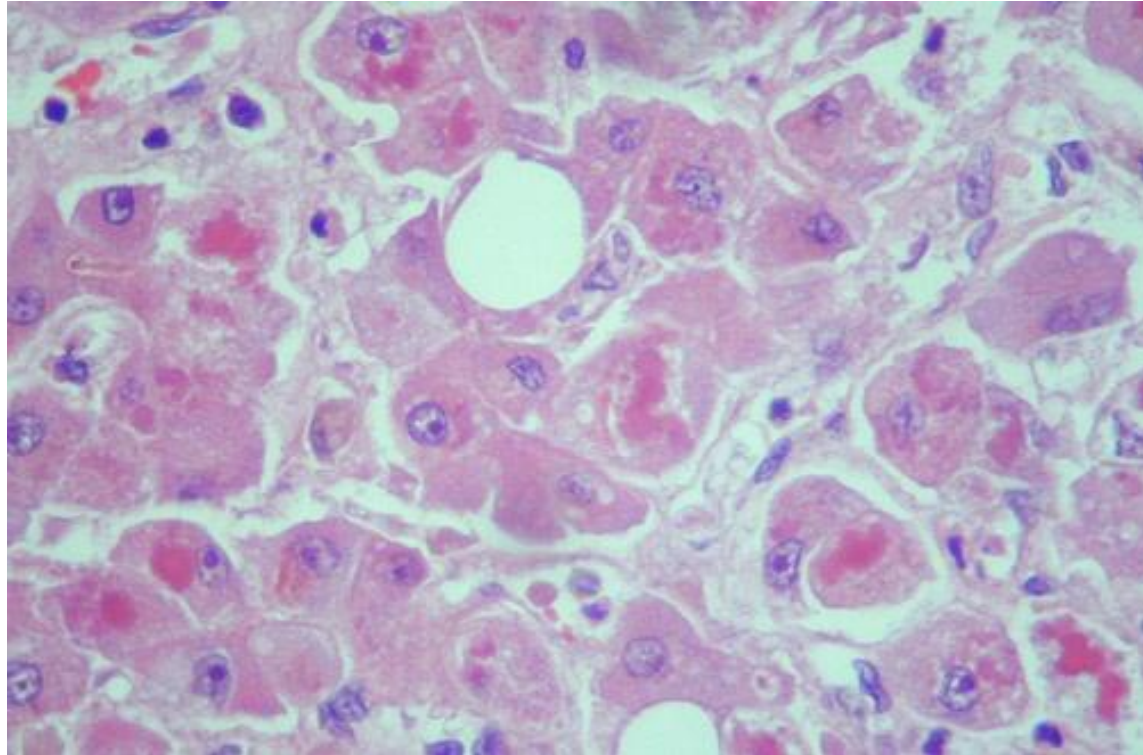


HCC





Liver: Mallory bodies



Mallory bodies (the red globular material) composed of cytoskeletal filaments in liver cells chronically damaged from alcoholism. These are a type of "intermediate" filament between the size of actin (thin) and myosin (thick). Not specific of alcoholic hepatitis, also found in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), primary biliary chirosis (PBC), Wilson disease, hepatocellular carcinoma.

Liver: hemosiderin accumulation

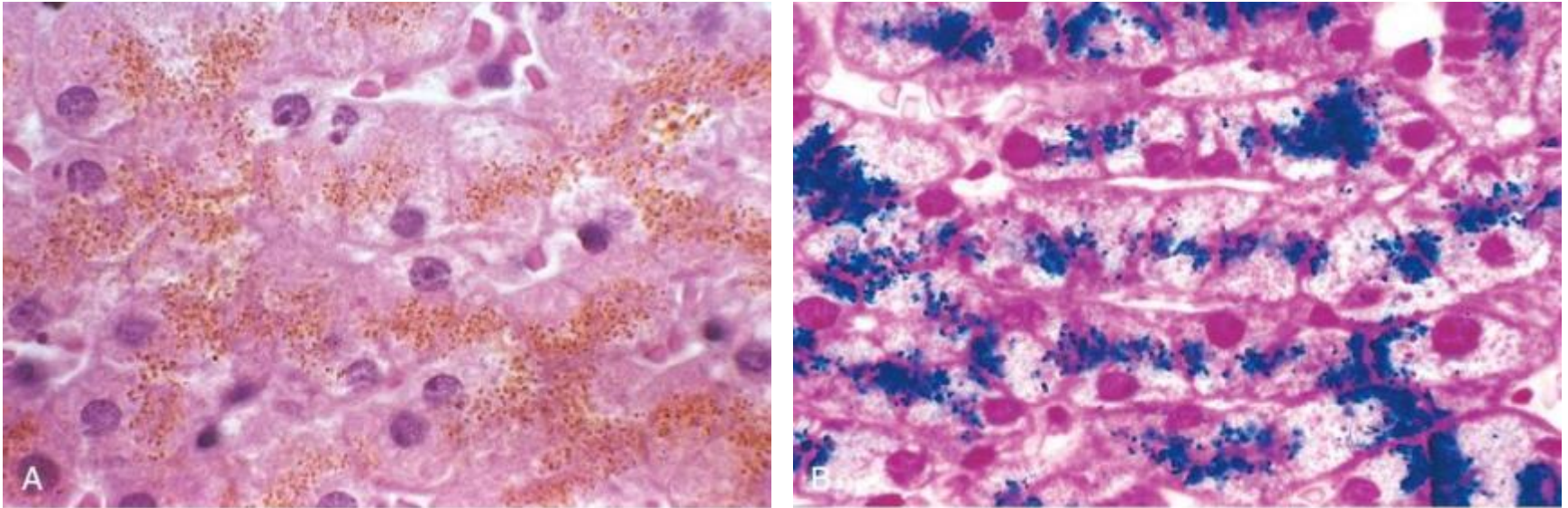


FIGURE 1-34B Hemosiderin granules in liver cells. **A**, H+E stain showing golden-brown, finely granular pigment. **B**, Prussian blue stain, specific for iron (seen as blue granules).

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TISSUE NECROSIS OUTCOMES

acute inflammation

labile/stabile cells

perennial cells

persistent damaging agent

regeneration

healing

chronic
inflammation

restoration of normal
strutcure/function

persistent damaging
agent

no more damaging agent

scare formation
loss of function

