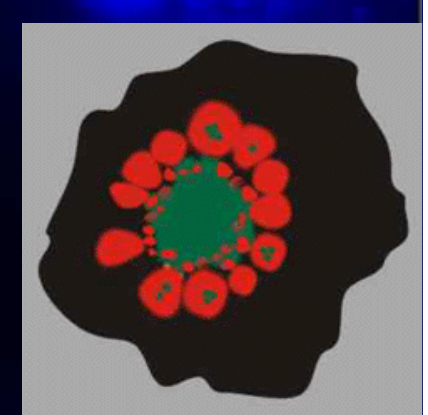
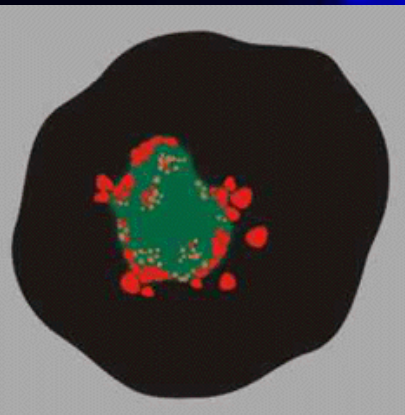


# Apoptosis: Architecture of Chromosomal Territories in Apoptotic Cells

**E. Bártová**

*•Institute of Biophysics Academy of Sciences of  
the Czech Republic*



Cellular death-by-suicide is part of normal development, and is termed apoptosis or programmed cell death (PCD). Cysteine Aspartate Specific ProteASEs – caspases – are active in apoptosis, as are p53, a tumor suppressor gene, and FAS gene, which is member 6 of the tumor necrosis factor receptor superfamily (TNF). In contrast to apoptosis, necrosis is cell death that results from cytotoxic, injurious stresses that are too severe for correction by the cellular stress response.

**Apoptosis is a part of normal cell turnover and tissue homeostasis**

# „History“ of molecular biology of cell death



**Kerr et al., 1972:**

**Identification of the cell death APOPTOSIS**

**Kerr, Wylie and Currie** Apoptosis: a basic biological phenomenon with wide-ranging implications in tissue kinetics. *Br. J.Cancer* 1972;26:239-257

**1990**

Horvitz (1992-3) identification of „cell death genes“ in *Caenorhabditis elegans* {*ced-3* (ICE), *ced-4* (0), *ced-9* (*bcl-2*)} (Cerretti 1992, Thornberry 1992) uncovering of the homology between *ced-3* gene product and ICE (interleukin-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme)] protease



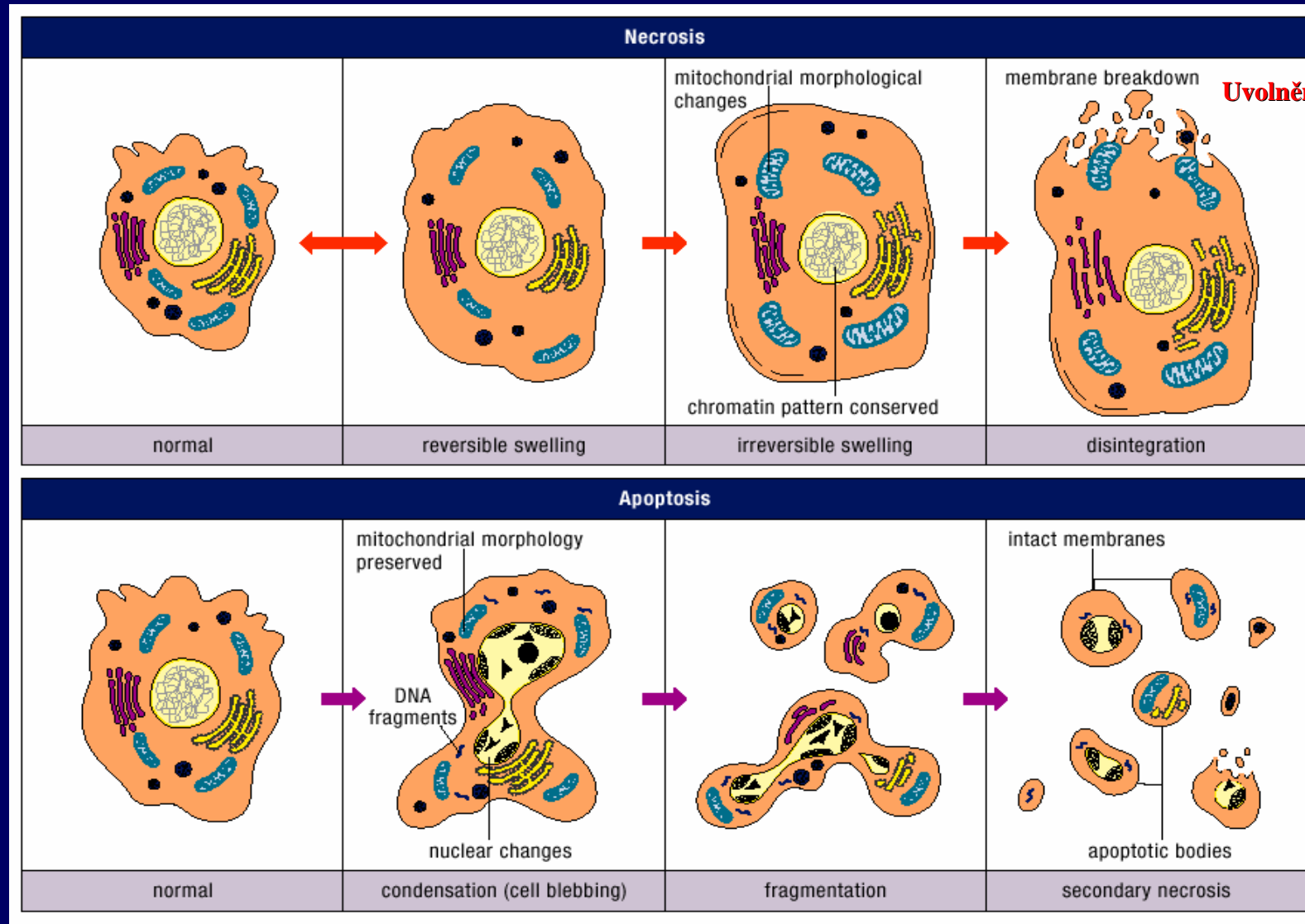
Discovery of new family of mammalian cysteine proteases -  
**CASPASES**

## **Apoptosis is involved in a wide range of physiological and pathological processes.**

- > Development (embryonic, neuronal development)**
- > Inflammation and involution of tissues**
- > In the immune system (Apoptosis is employed as a method of cytotoxic T-cell mediated killing of infected cells)**
- > In ageing**

Apoptosis plays a pivotal role in the pathophysiology of **ageing**'. The free radical theory of ageing links senescence to damage inflicted by **superoxide-derived radicals** and other oxidants generated primarily in mitochondrial respiration. The **mitochondrial theory of ageing**, proposes that ageing is the **result of accumulated free radical damage to mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)**. The accumulation of errors in mtDNA leads to errors in the **polypeptides encoded by mtDNA**, i.e., the four mitochondrial enzymatic complexes. Defective complexes produce more free radicals leading to a vicious cycle of increasing mtDNA damage, radical generation, and possibly apoptosis

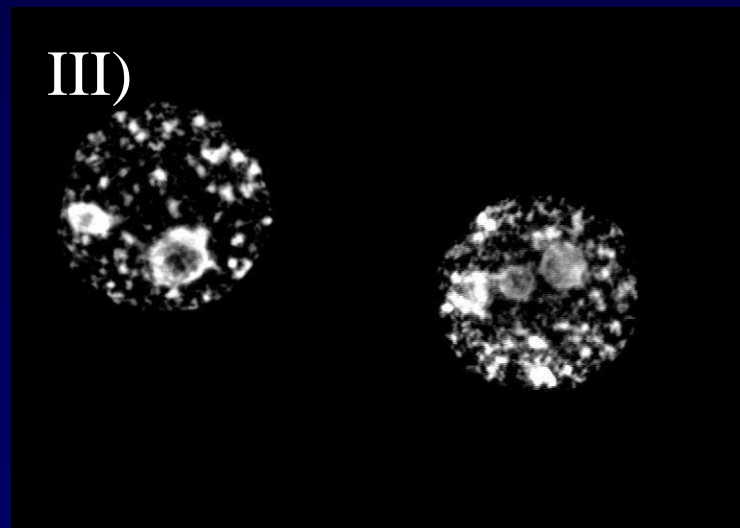
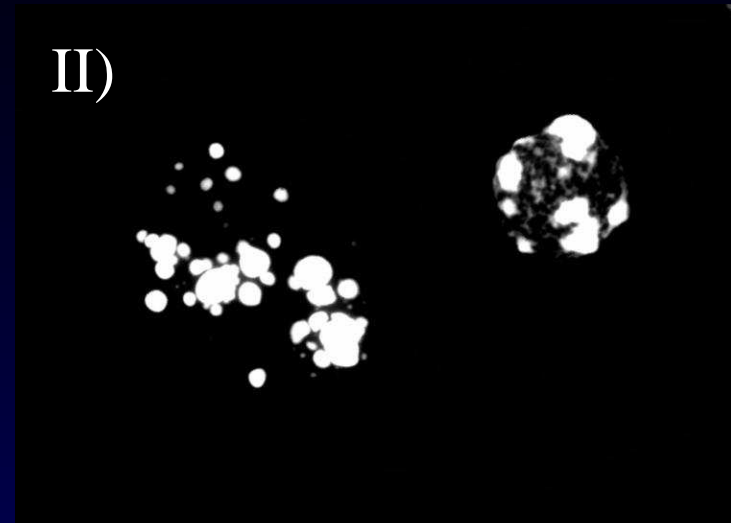
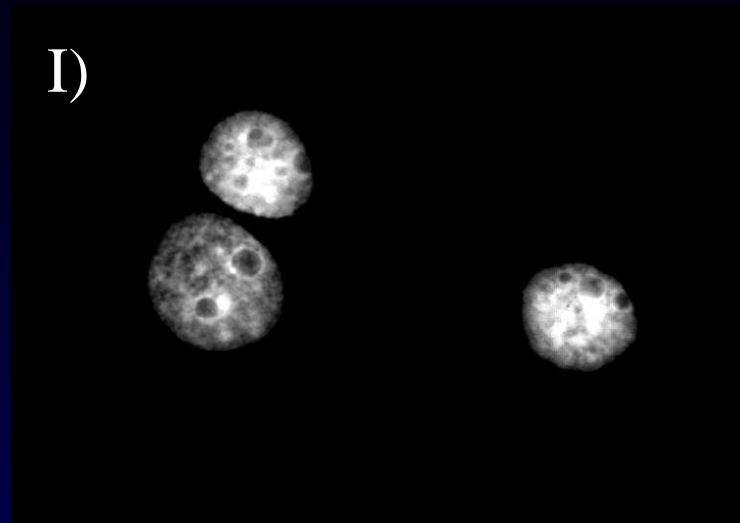
# Apoptosis in contrast to necrotic cell death



Uvolnění lysosomálních enzymů

# Nuclear morphology in HL-60 cells

(P. Mlejnek 2001)



**I) Control**

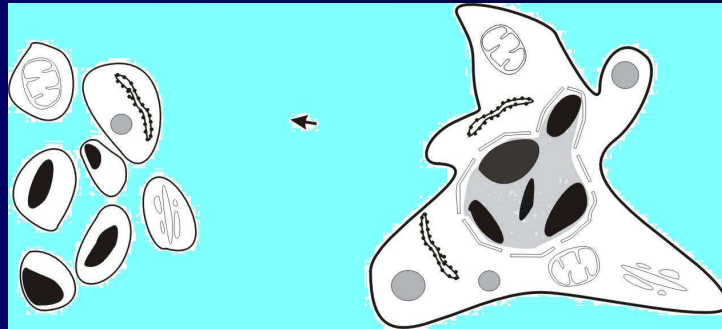
**II) Apoptosis**

**III) Necrosis**

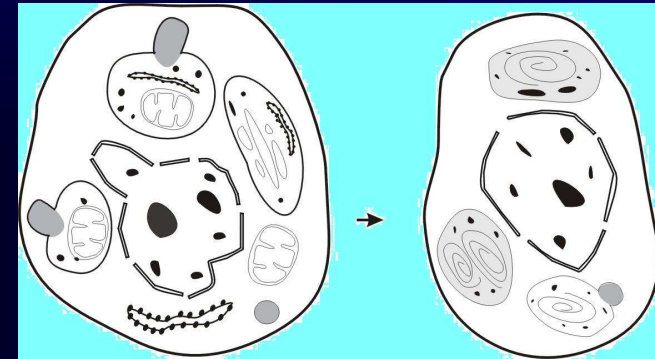


# Cell death classification by Clarke

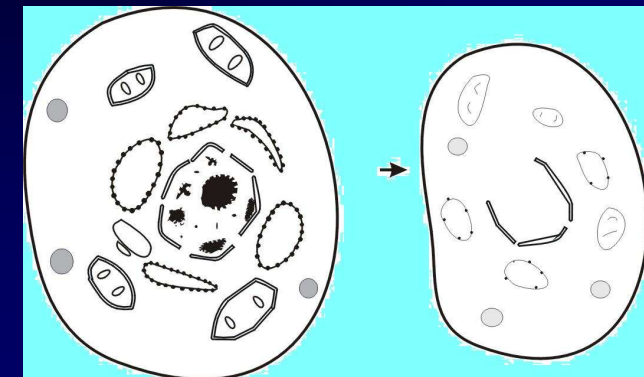
## Apoptosis



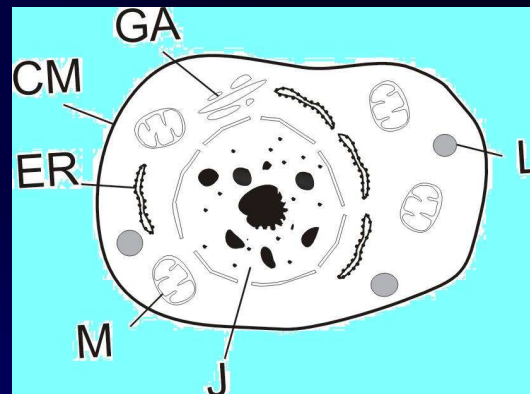
## Autophagy



## Nelysosomal disintegration



CM – cyt. membrane  
J – nuclei  
M – mitochondrion  
ER – endopl. reticulum  
GA – Golgy complex  
L – lysosomes



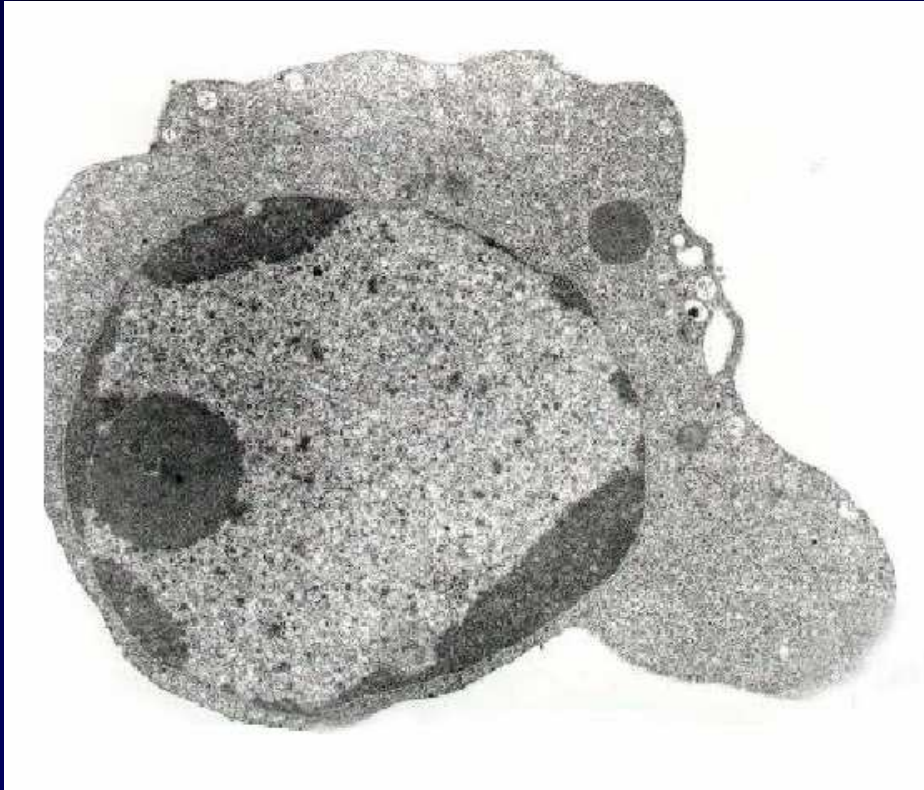
# Cell death classification by Clarke

- **Apoptosis** - heterophagy, final cell destruction is done by lysosomes of other cells
- **Autophagy** - final cell destruction is done by its own lysosomes
- **Nonlysosomal disintegration** - cell destruction is mediated by unknown nonlysosomal proteases

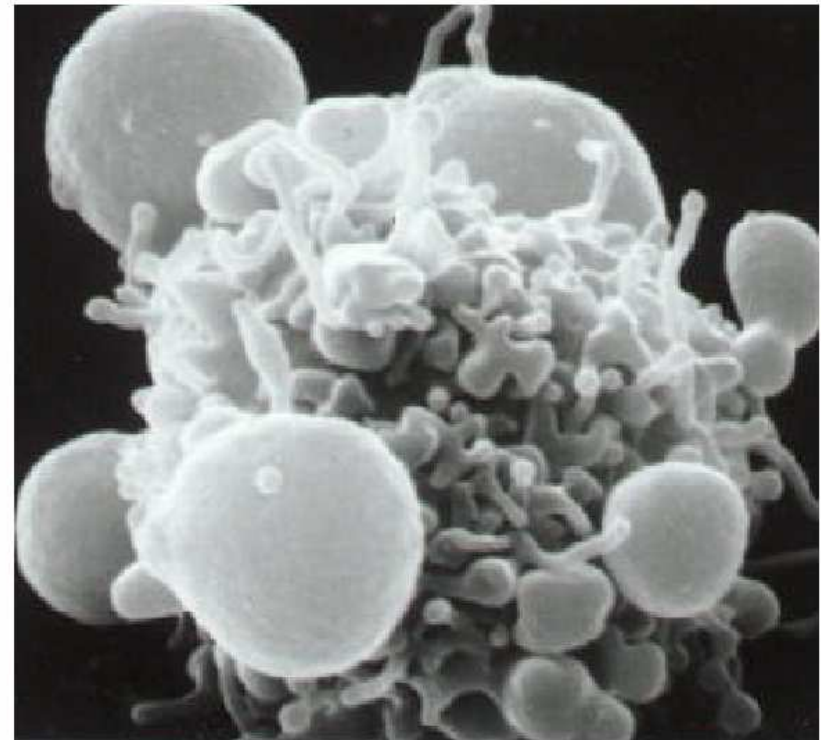
**Anoikis** is a form of programmed cell death which is induced by anchorage-dependent cells detaching from the surrounding extracellular matrix (ECM)[1]. Usually cells stay close to the tissue to which they belong since the communication between proximal cells as well as between cells and ECM provide essential signals for growth or survival. When cells are detached from the ECM, i.e. there is a loss of normal cell-matrix interactions, they may undergo anoikis. However, metastatic tumor cells may escape from anoikis and invade other organs.



# Morphological features of apoptosis



**Transmission electron micrograph**

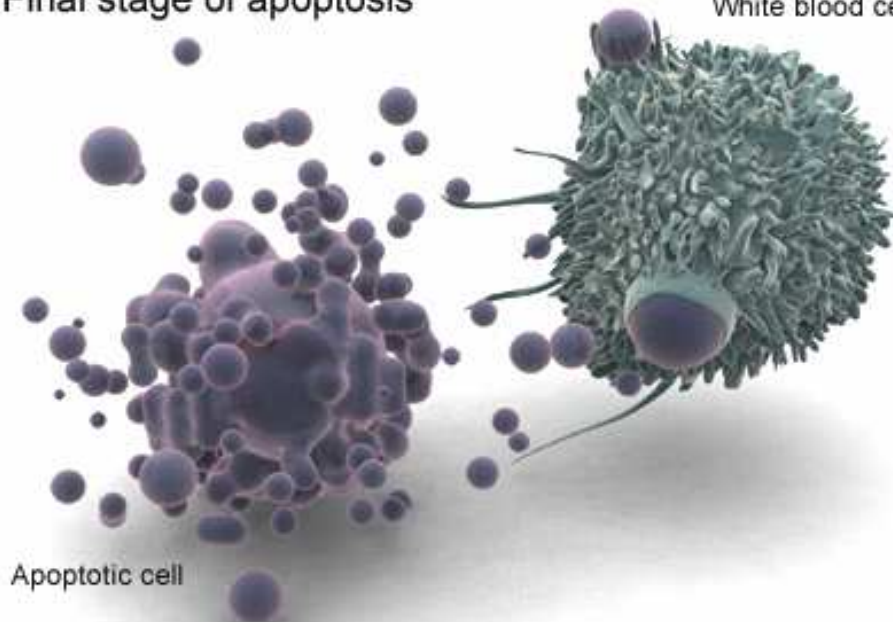


**Scanning electron micrograph**

# Apoptotic DNA degradation is followed by phagocytosis of apoptotic bodies

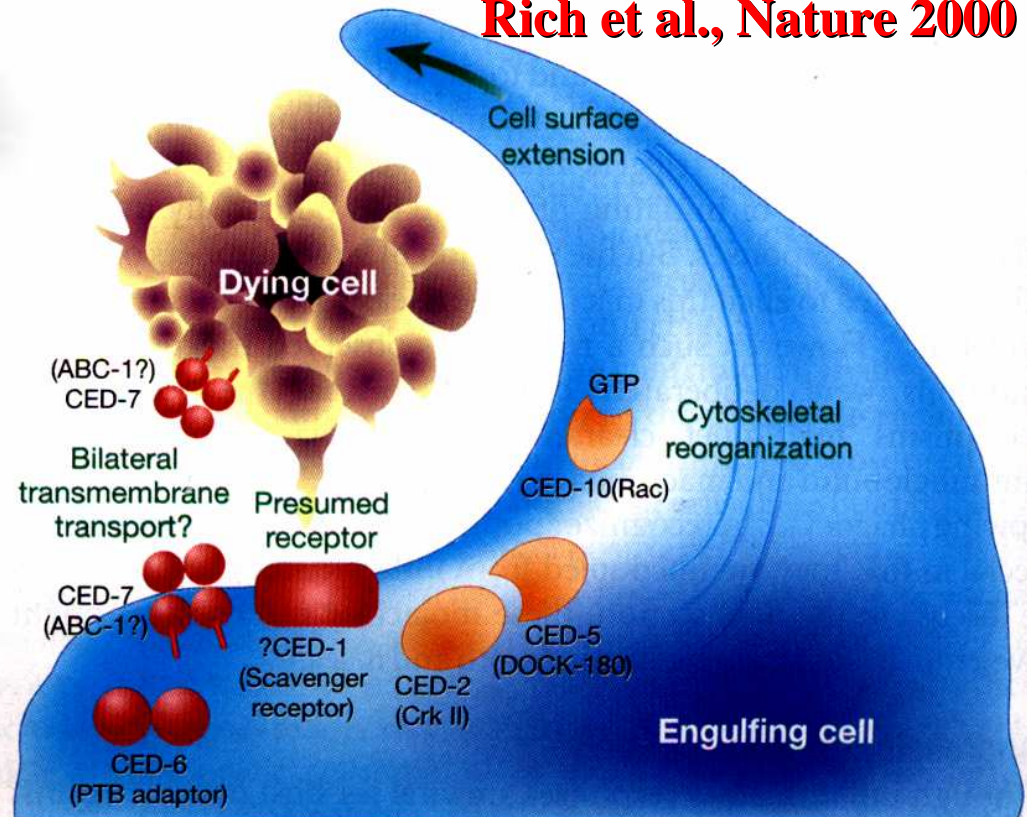
Final stage of apoptosis

White blood cell



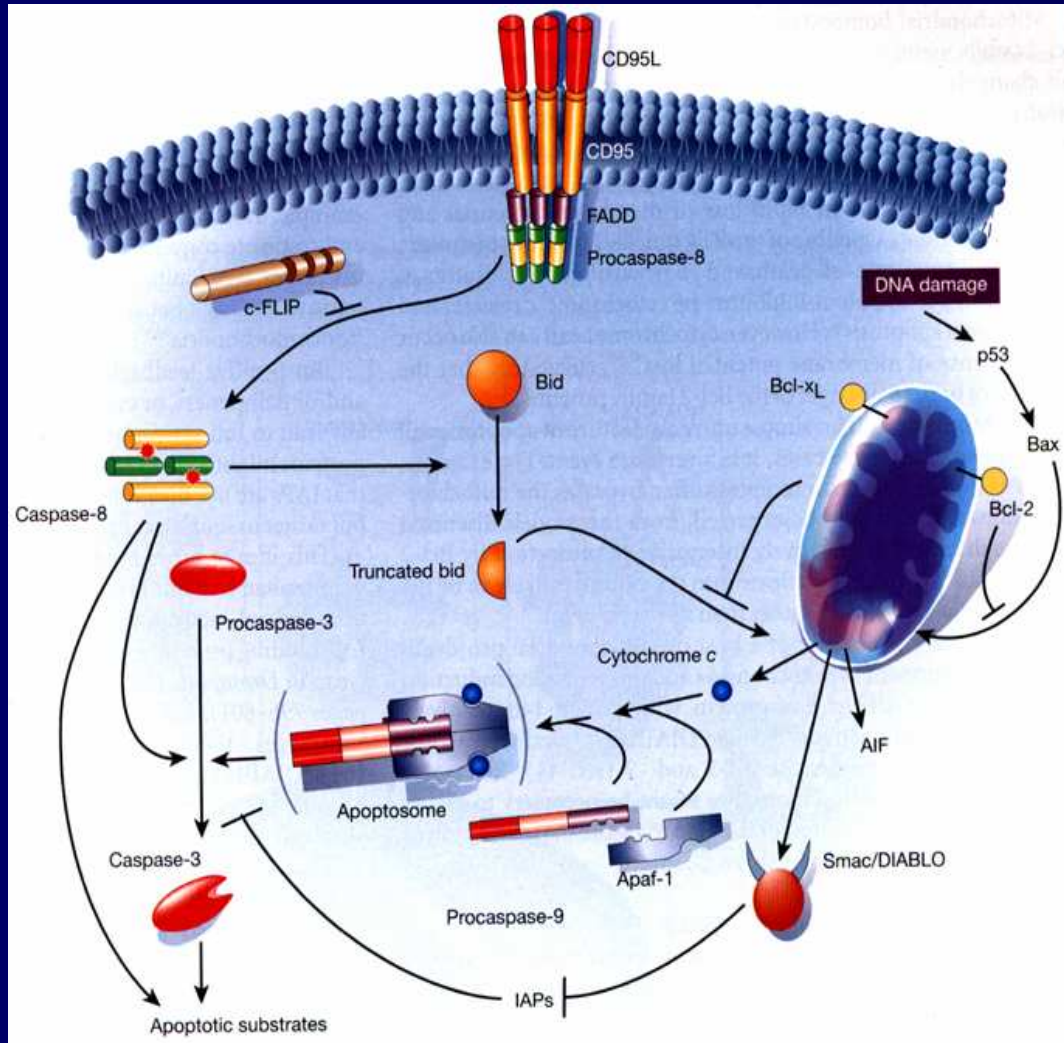
Apoptotic cell

**Rich et al., Nature 2000**





## Two major apoptotic pathways in mammalian cells

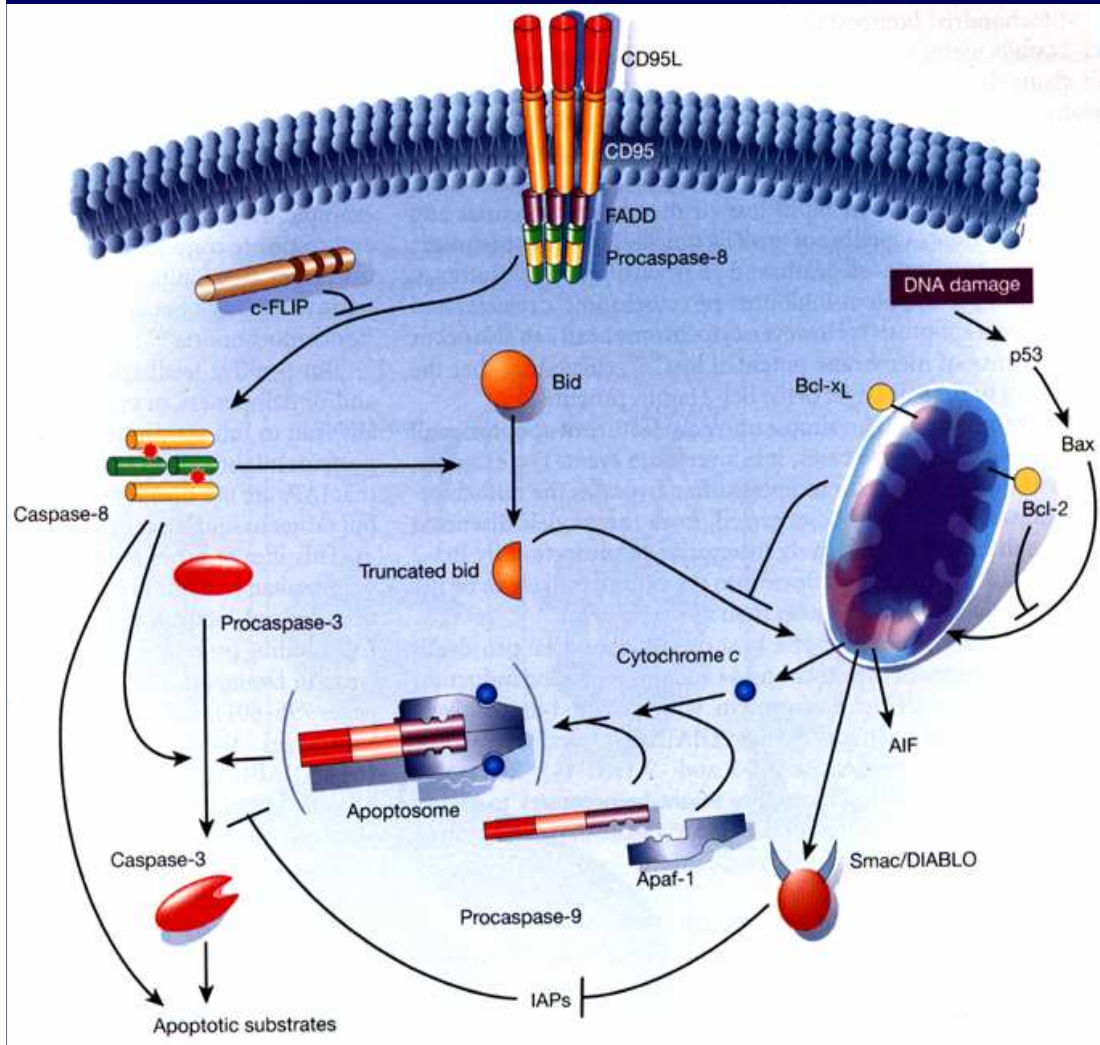


### Death-receptor pathway:

**Death receptor superfamily: CD95 receptor and tumour necrosis factor receptor. CD95 ligand binds to CD95 receptor - to form death inducing signaling complex. This complex recruits via the adaptor molecule FADD (Fas-associated death domain protein). Procaspase 8 binds to this complex in order to activate Caspase-8 and subsequently activation of Caspase-3 is induced. Activation of procaspase-8 can be blocked through degenerate caspase homologue c-FLIP.**

Hengartner M.O., Nature 2000

## Two major apoptotic pathways in mammalian cells

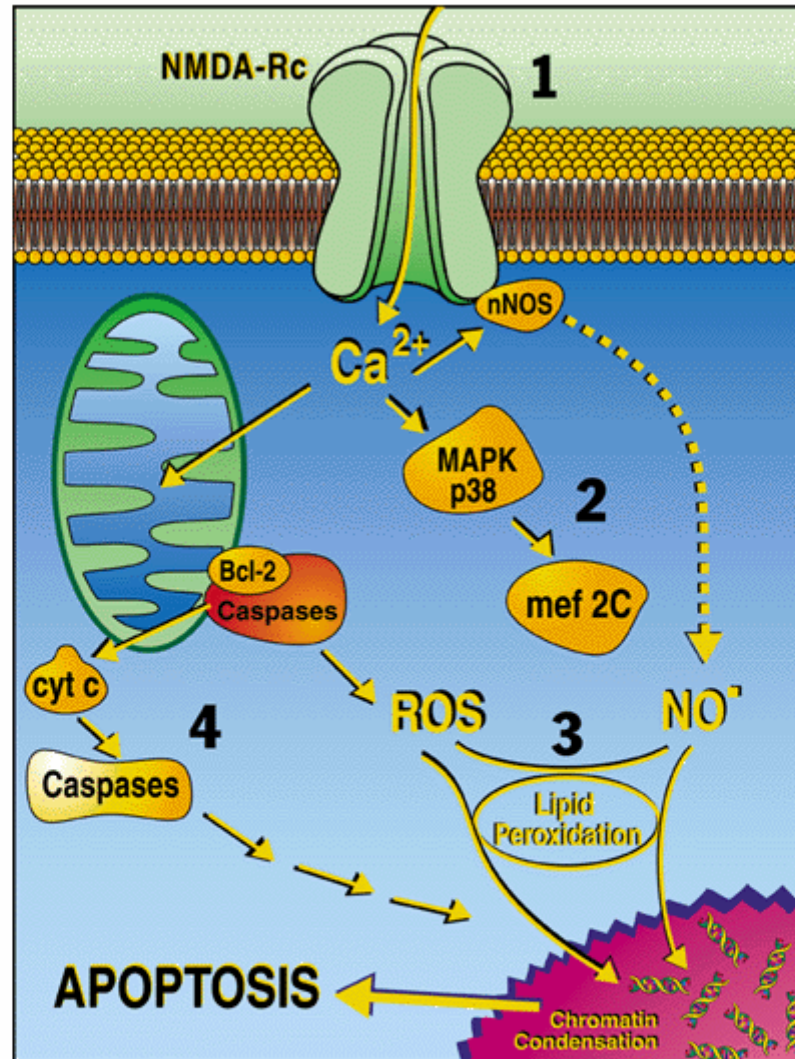


Hengartner M.O., Nature 2000

- **The mitochondrial pathway** activated after **DNA damage**
- **proapoptotic members of Bcl-2 family**, located on the surface of mitochondria, are activated
- **Cytochrome c** is released from mitochondria and forms complex with **Apaf-1** and **Procaspase 9**.
- **The complex is called APOPTOSOME.**

**Both apoptotic pathways converge on the level of Caspase-3 activation**

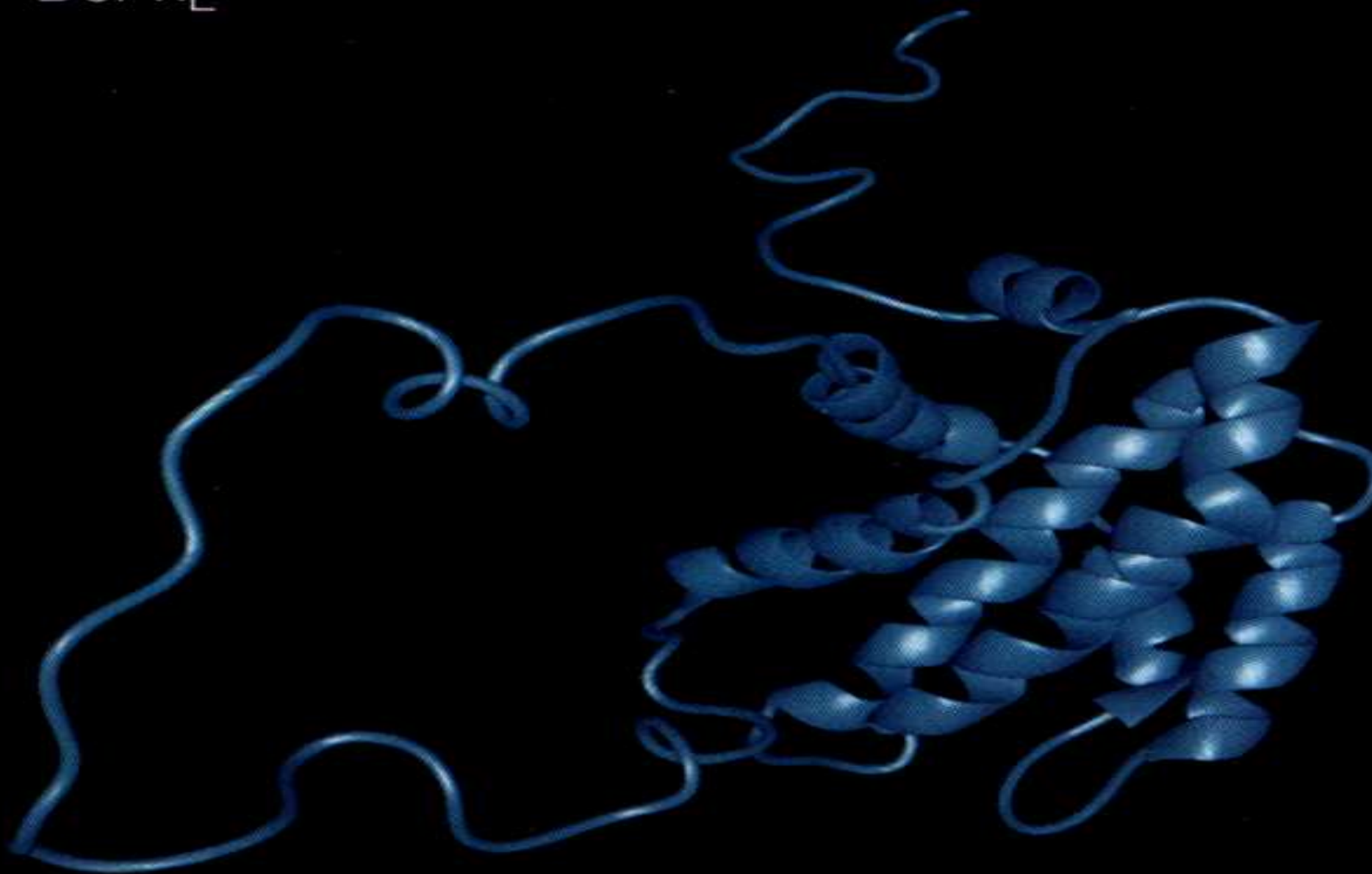
**Caspase-3 activation is antagonized by IAP released from mitochondria**



Schematic illustration of the signaling pathways discovered or characterized in the Neurodegenerative Disease Program that can be targeted to prevent neuronal apoptosis and thus treat various neurologic diseases. Drug or molecular therapies are being developed to (1) antagonize NMDA receptors (NMDA-Rc), (2) modulate activation of the p38 mitogen activated kinase (MAPK) - MEF2C (transcription factor) pathway, (3) prevent toxic reactions of free radicals such as nitric oxide (NO) and reactive oxygen species (ROS), and (4) inhibit apoptosis-inducing enzymes including caspases.



Bcl-x<sub>L</sub>



## The Bcl-2 Family

Anti-Apoptotic



Pro -Apoptotic



BH4



BH1



Transmembrane Domain



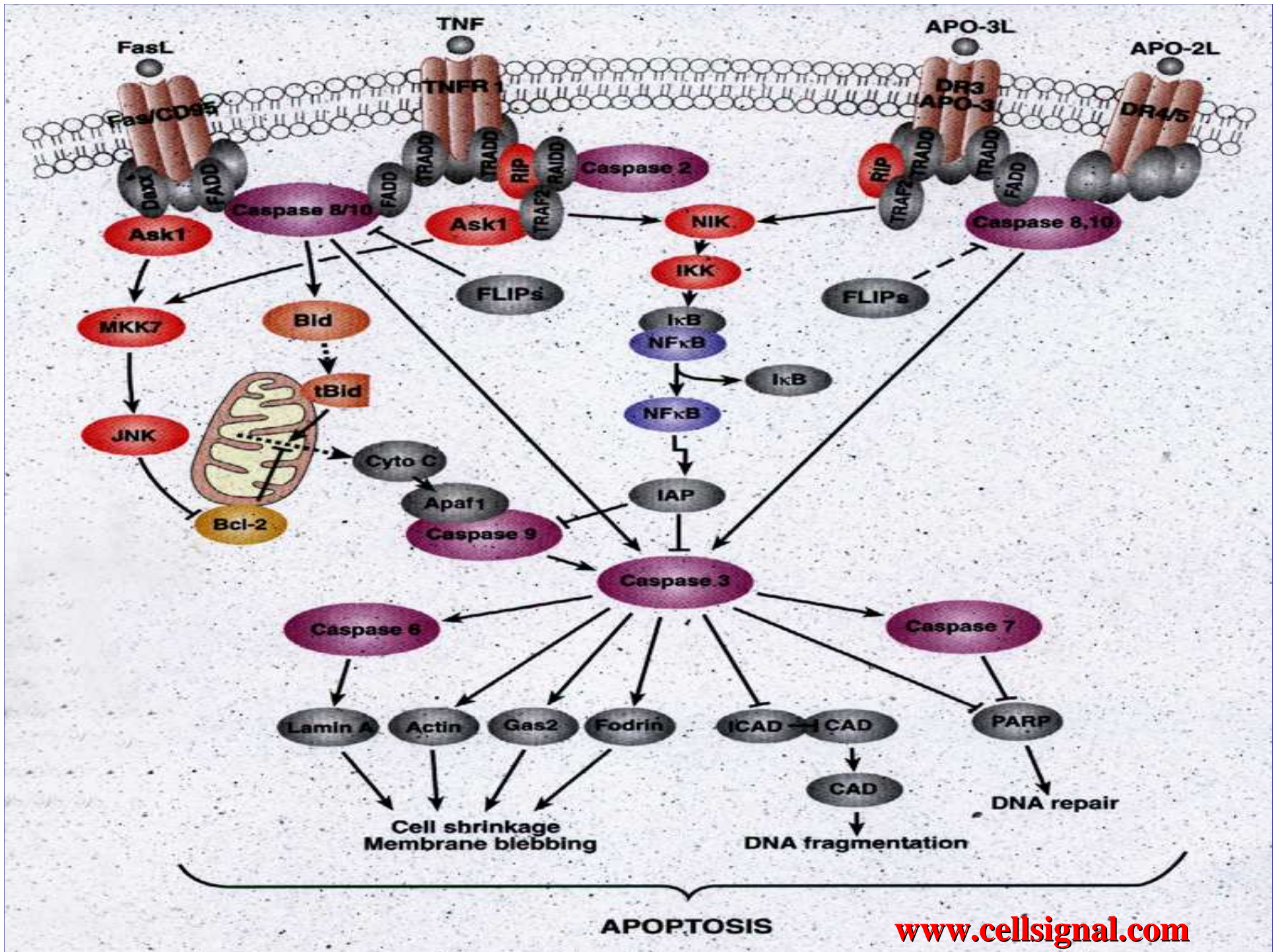
BH3



BH2

**Sigma (Apoptosis  
and Life Science)**

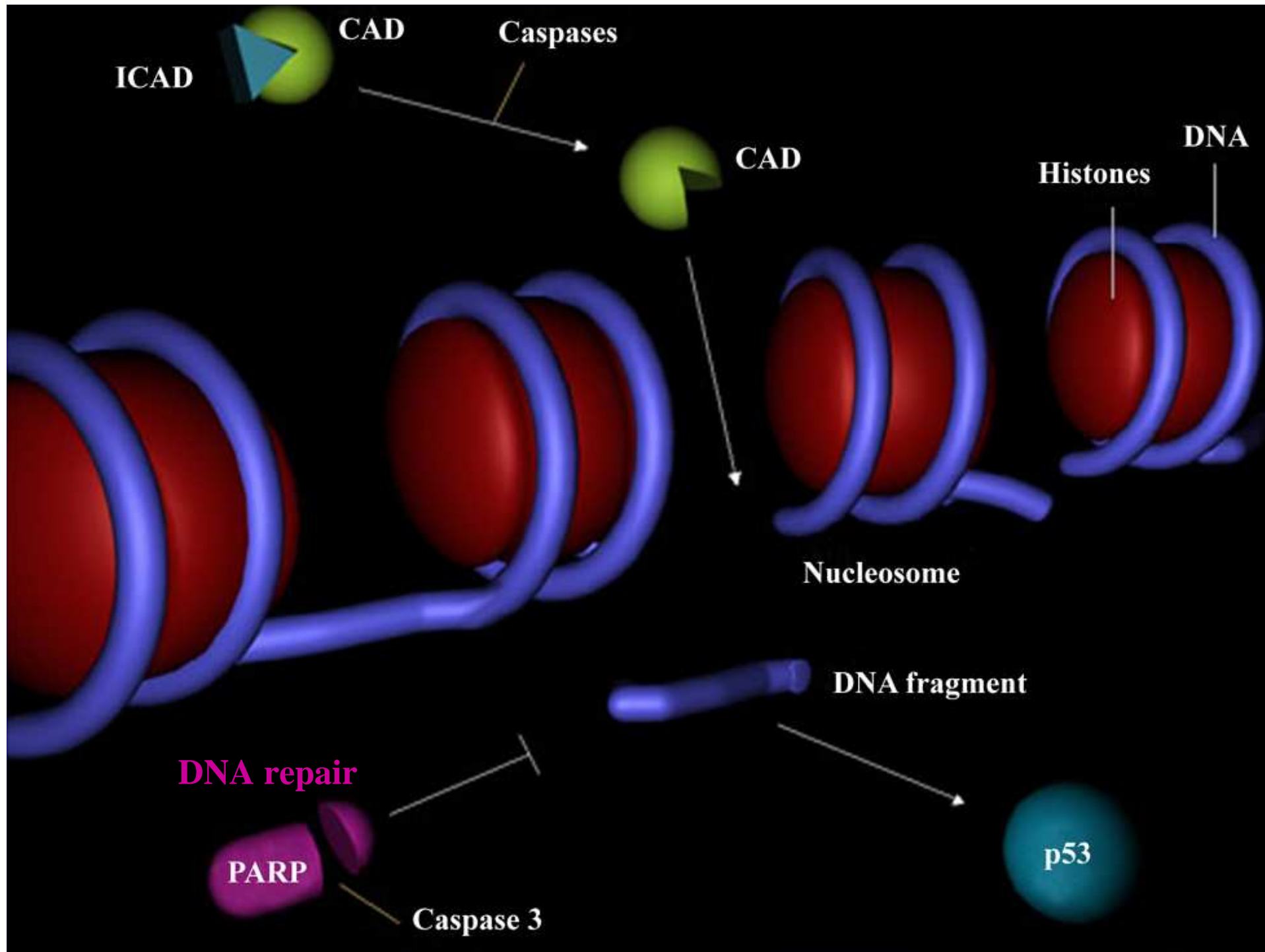






# Caspase-3

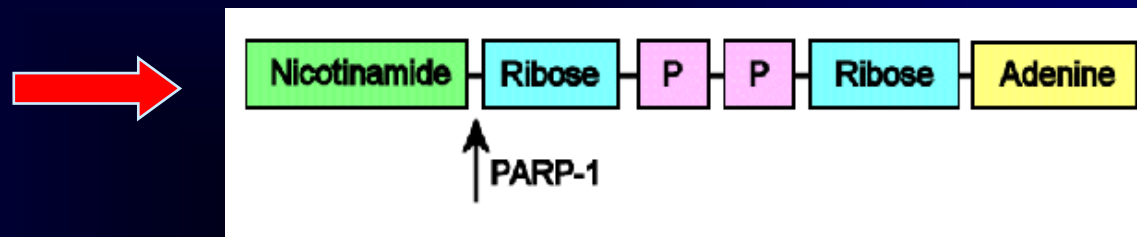




**DNA damage** stimulates apoptosis. For example **p53** is a tumour suppressor gene. MDM2 inhibits the activity of p53 participating in the ubiquitination of p53. p53 is activated when MDM2 is inhibited by signalling from factors such as DNA damage. p53 is a transcription factor. Active p53 induces the transcription of many genes, including Bax, which promotes apoptosis by stimulating the release of cytochrome c and the formation of **apoptosomes**.

**PARP-1** is a nuclear enzyme involved in DNA repair. When overactive, it can cause apoptosis or necrosis. PARP-1 is activated by single stranded DNA. Active PARP-1 cleaves NAD<sup>+</sup> as shown in figure.

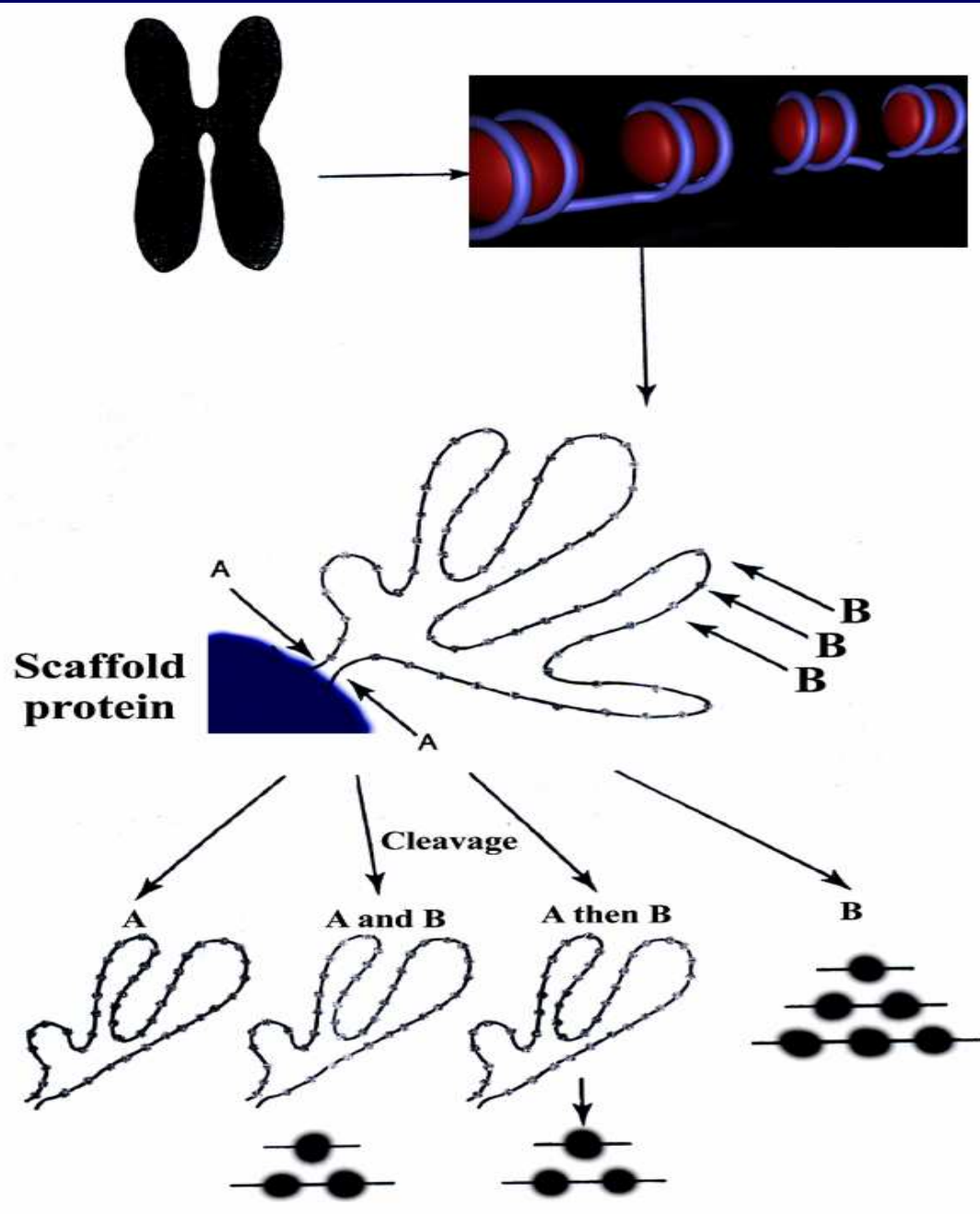
### Cleavage of NAD<sup>+</sup> by PARP-1.



PARP-1 catalyses the addition of an ADP-ribose polymer of 50-200 residues to nuclear proteins such as histones, which stimulates DNA repair enzymes. However, overactive PARP-1 causes depletion of NAD<sup>+</sup>, and consequently the depletion of ATP.

- ATP depletion leads to ion pump failure. The cell swells and bursts due to osmotic pressure. This is **necrosis**.
- Alternatively, the depletion of NAD<sup>+</sup> from mitochondria appears to induce **AIF translocation** from the mitochondria to the cytoplasm. This leads to **apoptosis**.
- **There may be a PARP-1 activity threshold, which determines whether the cell engages in DNA repair, apoptosis or necrosis.**

Apoptosis is ATP dependent. Apoptosis involves chromatin fragmentation, which would be predicted to cause PARP-1 overactivity and drive the cell into necrosis.



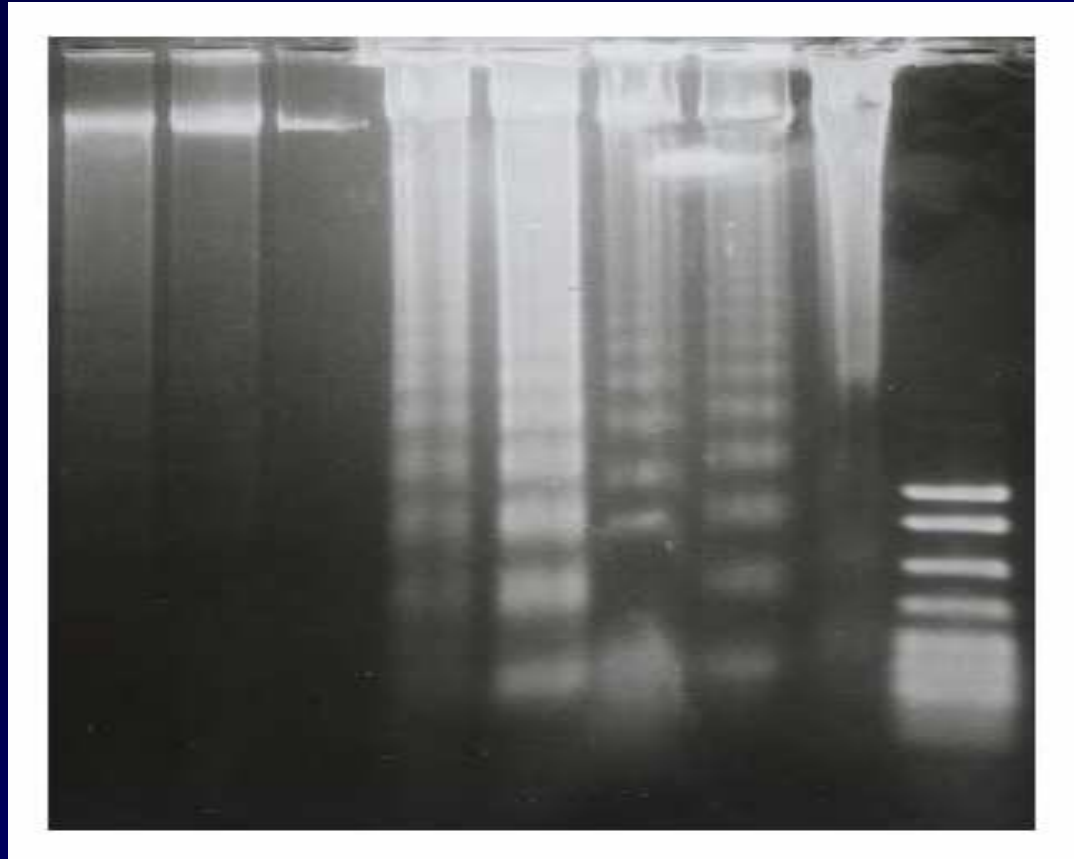
## DNA fragmentation during apoptosis

1. High molecular weight DNA fragmentation (50-300 kbp)
2. Oligonucleosomal DNA fragmentation (180-200 bp)
3. Single-strand cleavage

Bortner C.D. et al., 1995

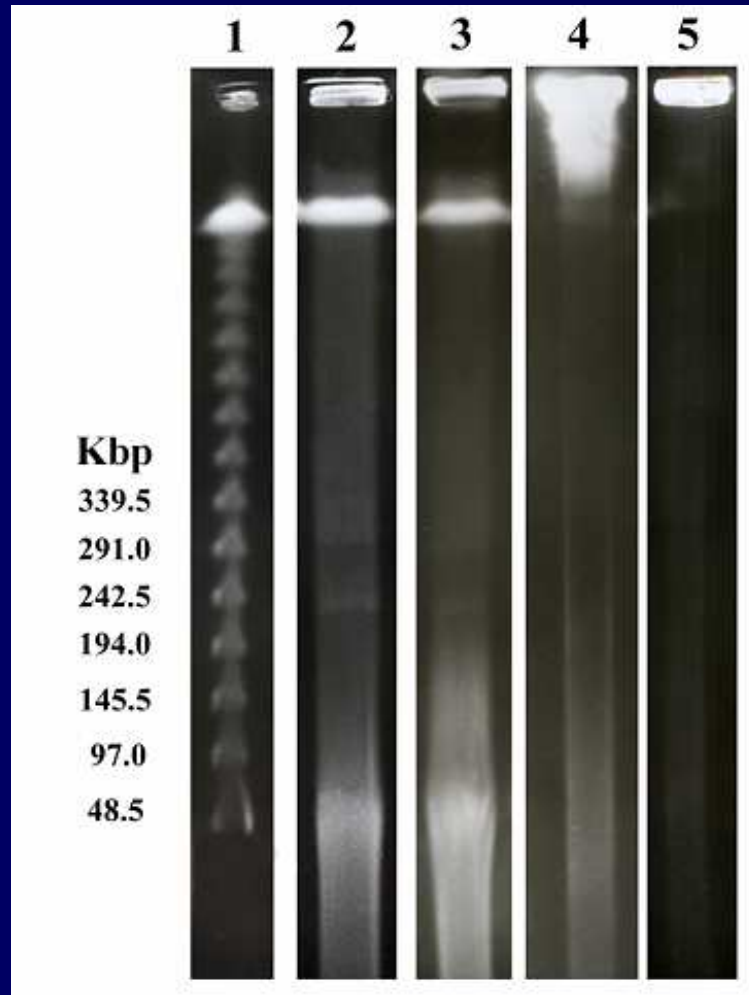
# APOPTOSIS DETECTION

## DNA fragmentation test

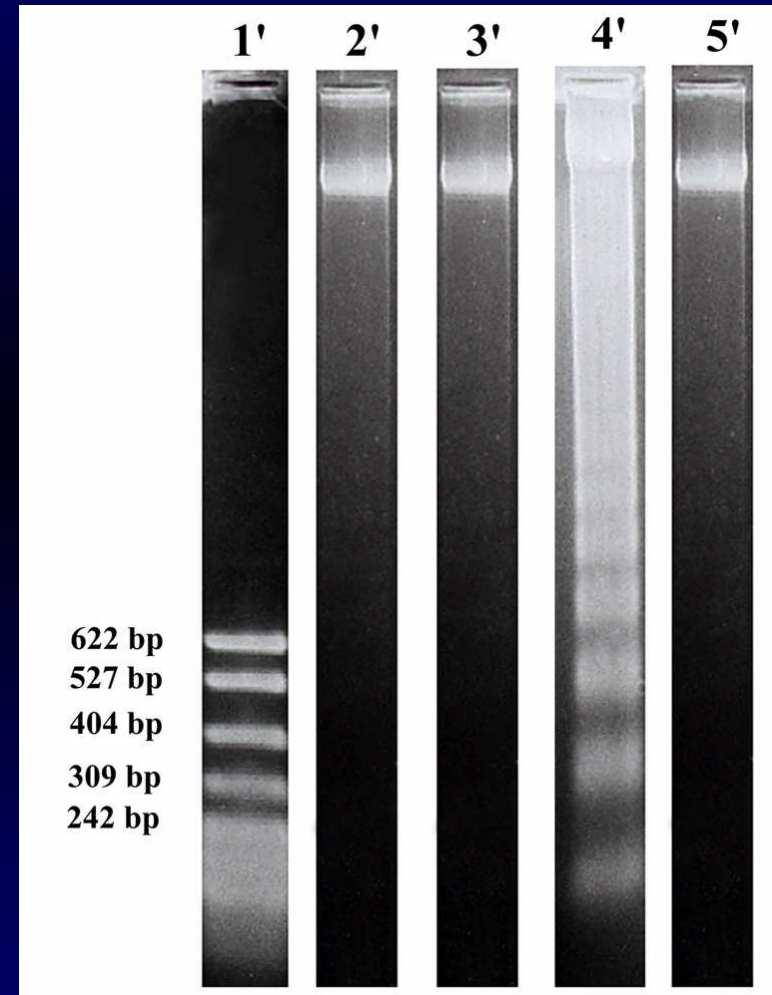




# Large and oligonucleosomal DNA fragmentation in apoptotic cells (M. Fojtová, BFÚ Brno)



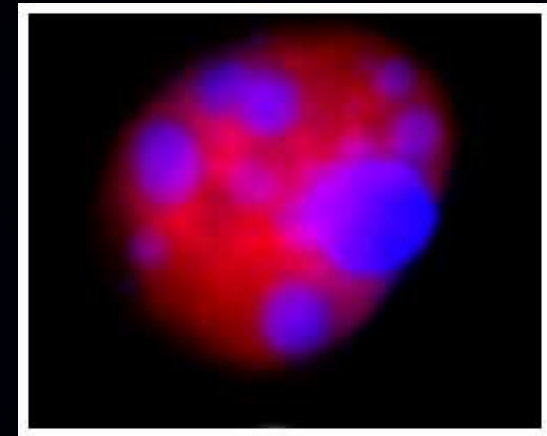
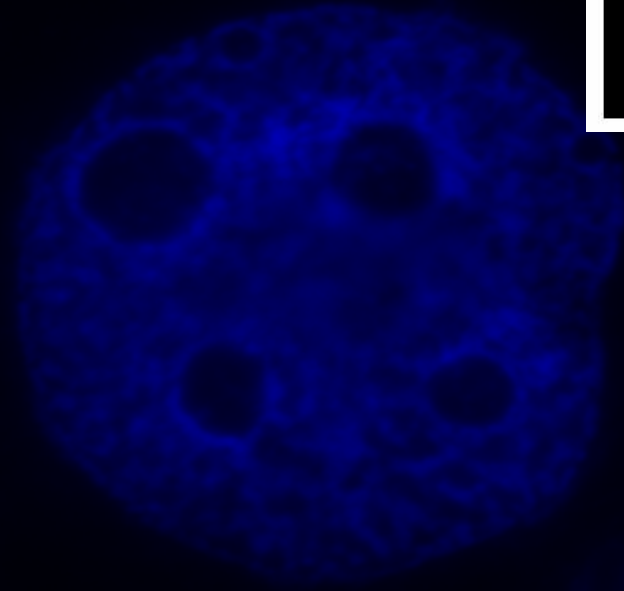
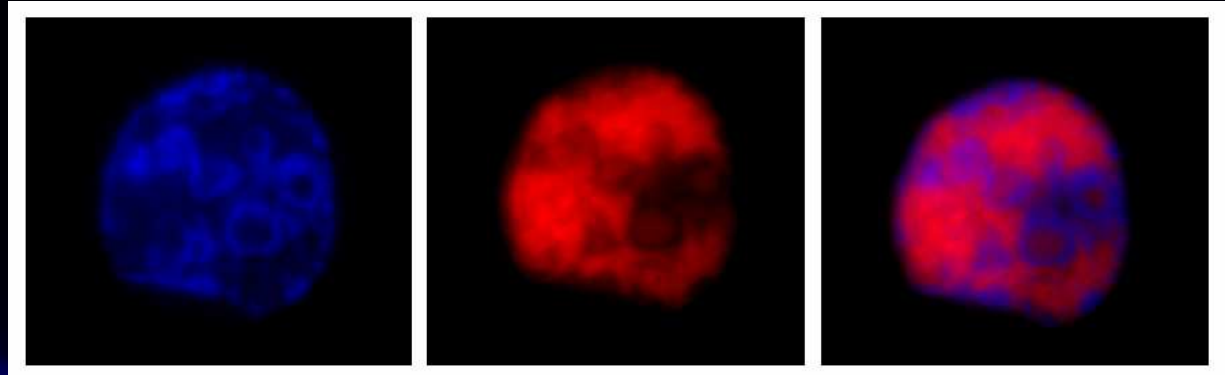
Field inversion electrophoresis (FIGE)



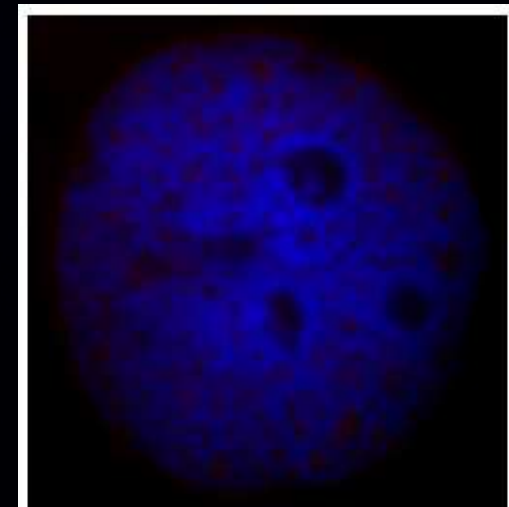
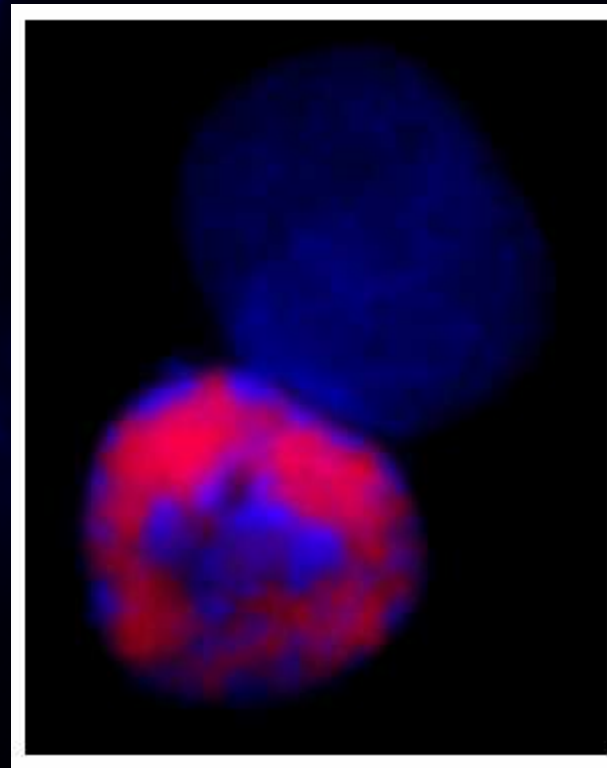
DNA fragmentation test



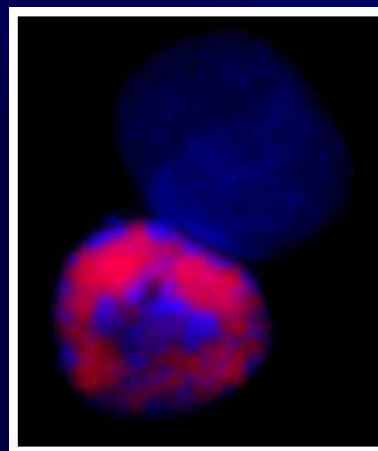
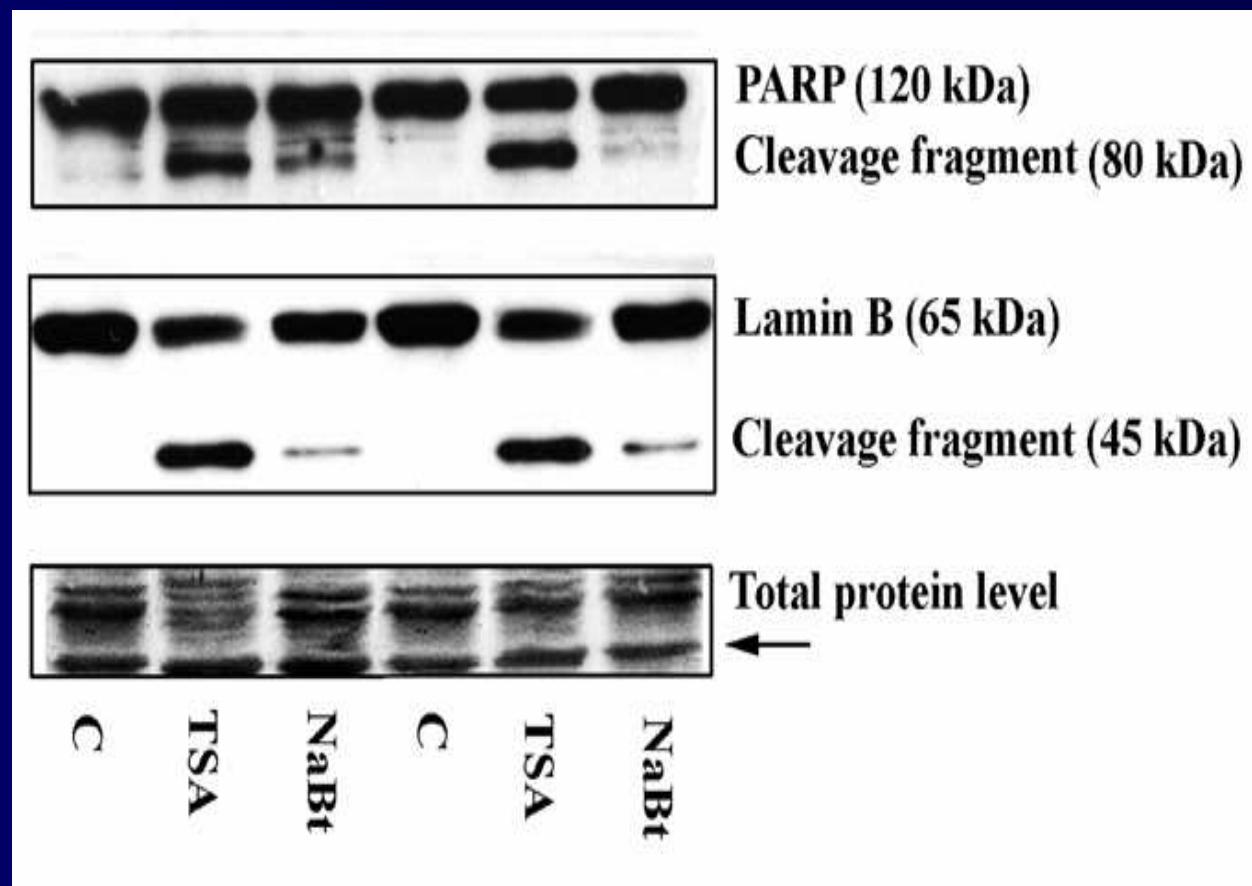
**Anti-PARP p85  
fragment pAb**



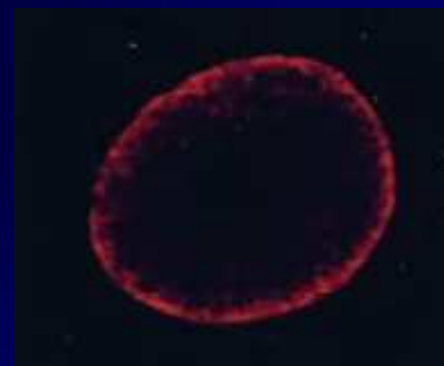
**Poly(ADP-ribosylation)  
and apoptosis**



## Western blots and detection of apoptosis



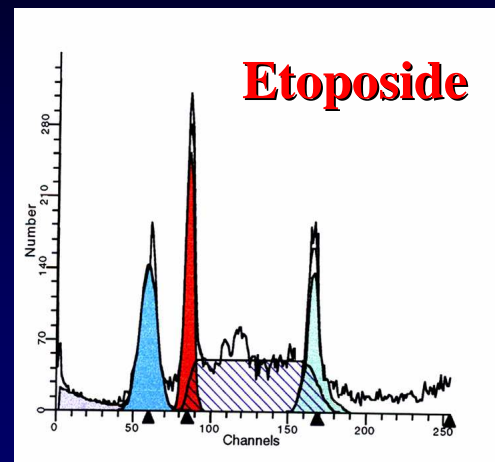
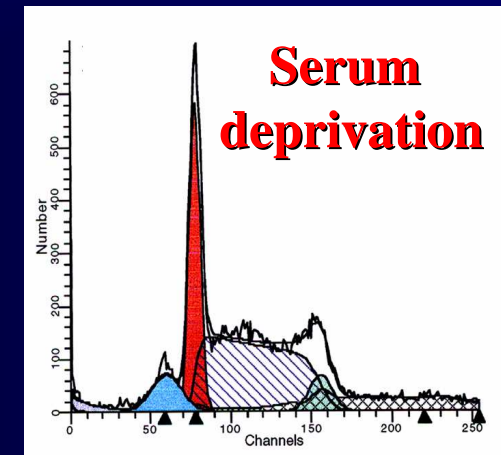
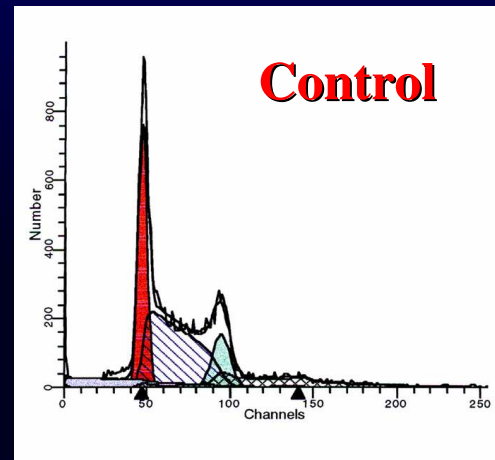
PARP cleavage



Lamin B

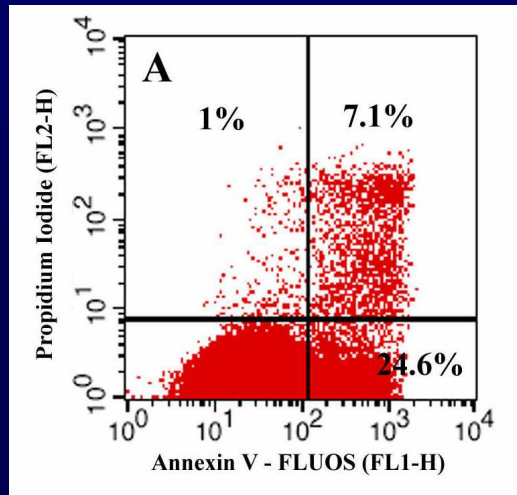
# Apoptosis was detected in human erythroleukemia cell line K-562 and human retinoblastoma cell line Y79

1. Etoposide
2. Cis-platin
3. Vincristine
4. Gamma-irradiation
5. Serum deprivation

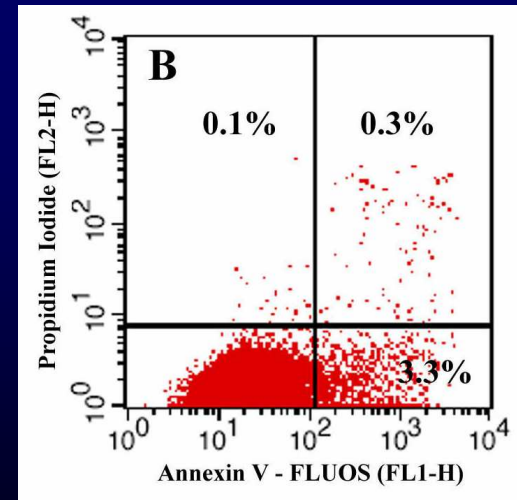


## Etoposide

Annexin V / PI

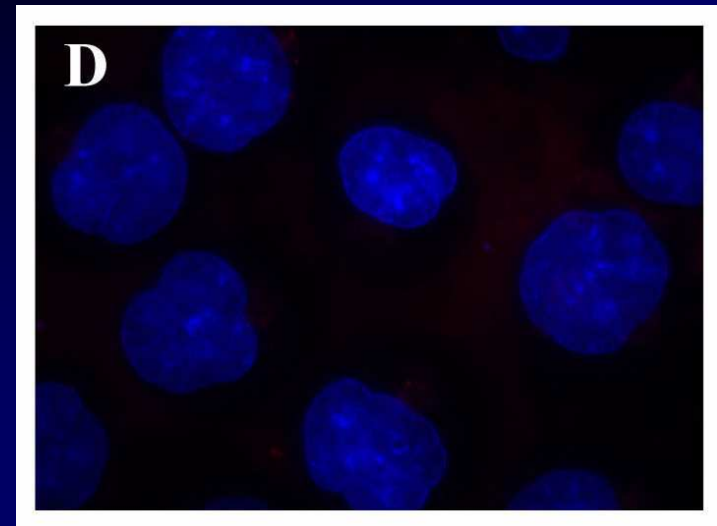
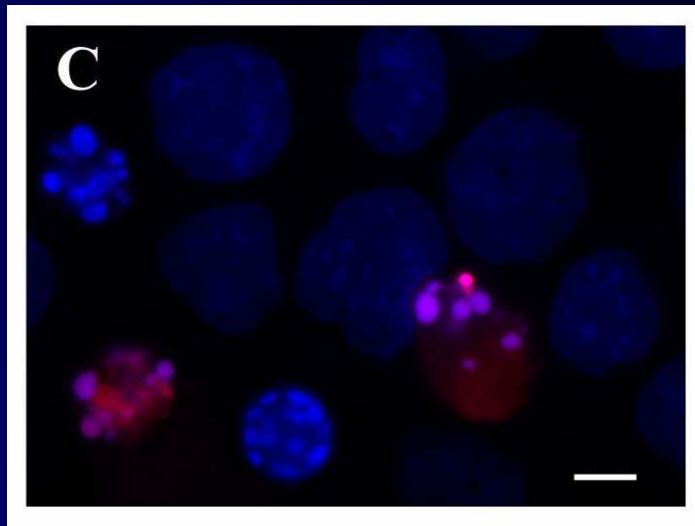


## Control

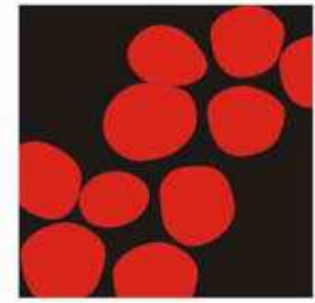
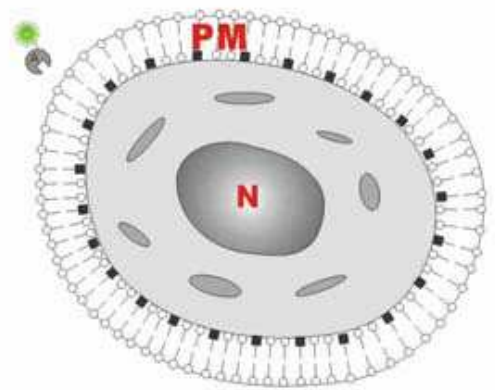


Annexin V binds to phosphatidylserines that are translocated from the inner side of the plasma membrane to the cell surface soon after the induction of apoptosis

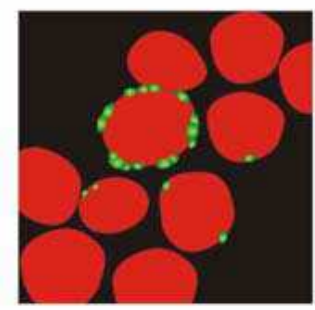
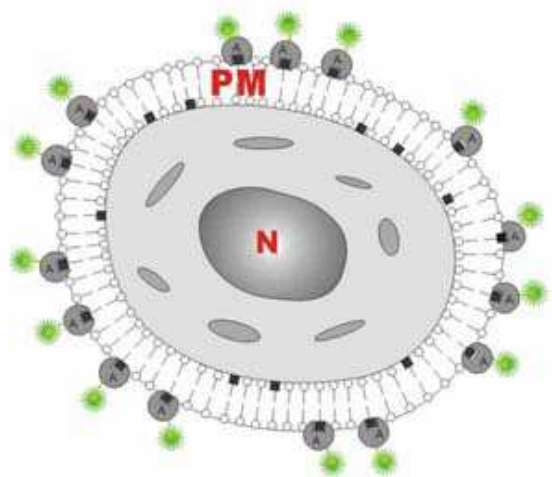
Hoechst33342 / PI



- — ○ Phospholipid
- Phosphatidylserin
- Annexin with a green fluorescent label



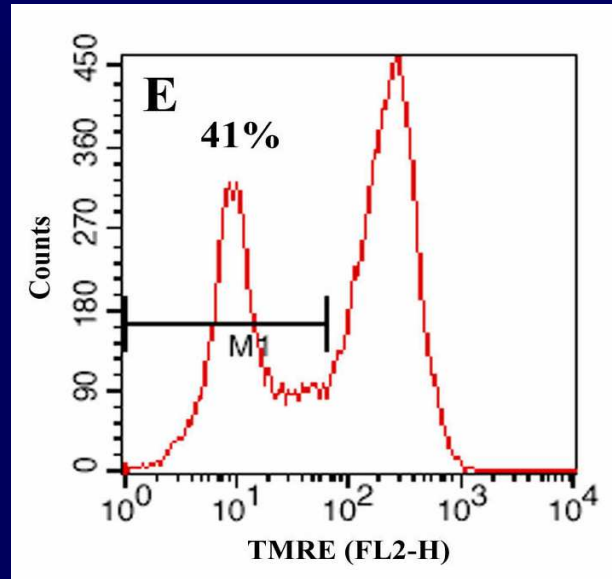
NORMAL, HEALTHY CELL



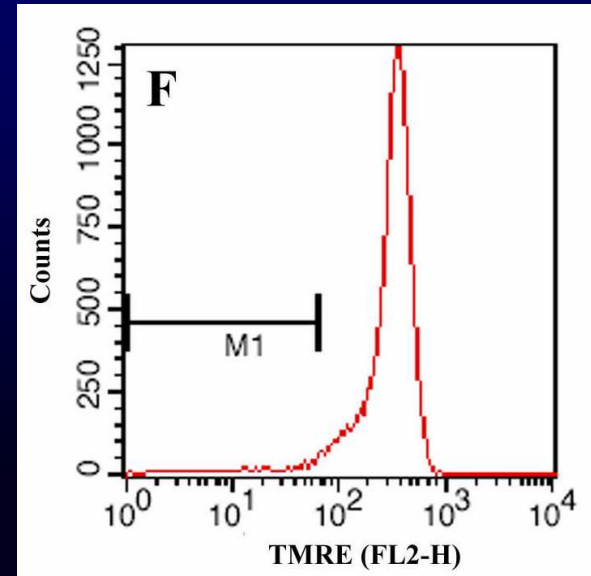
APOPTOTIC CELL

**TMRE**

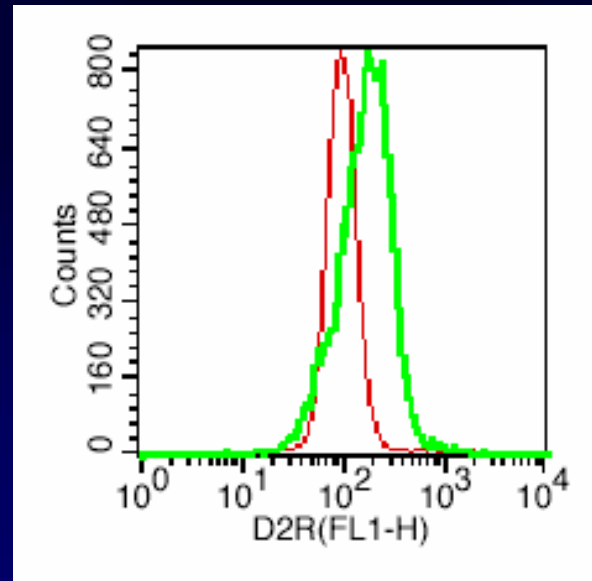
**Etoposide**



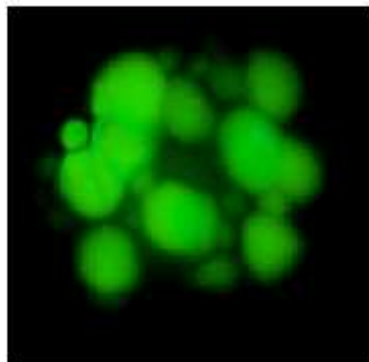
**Control**



**CaspSCREEN (tm)  
BioVision kit**





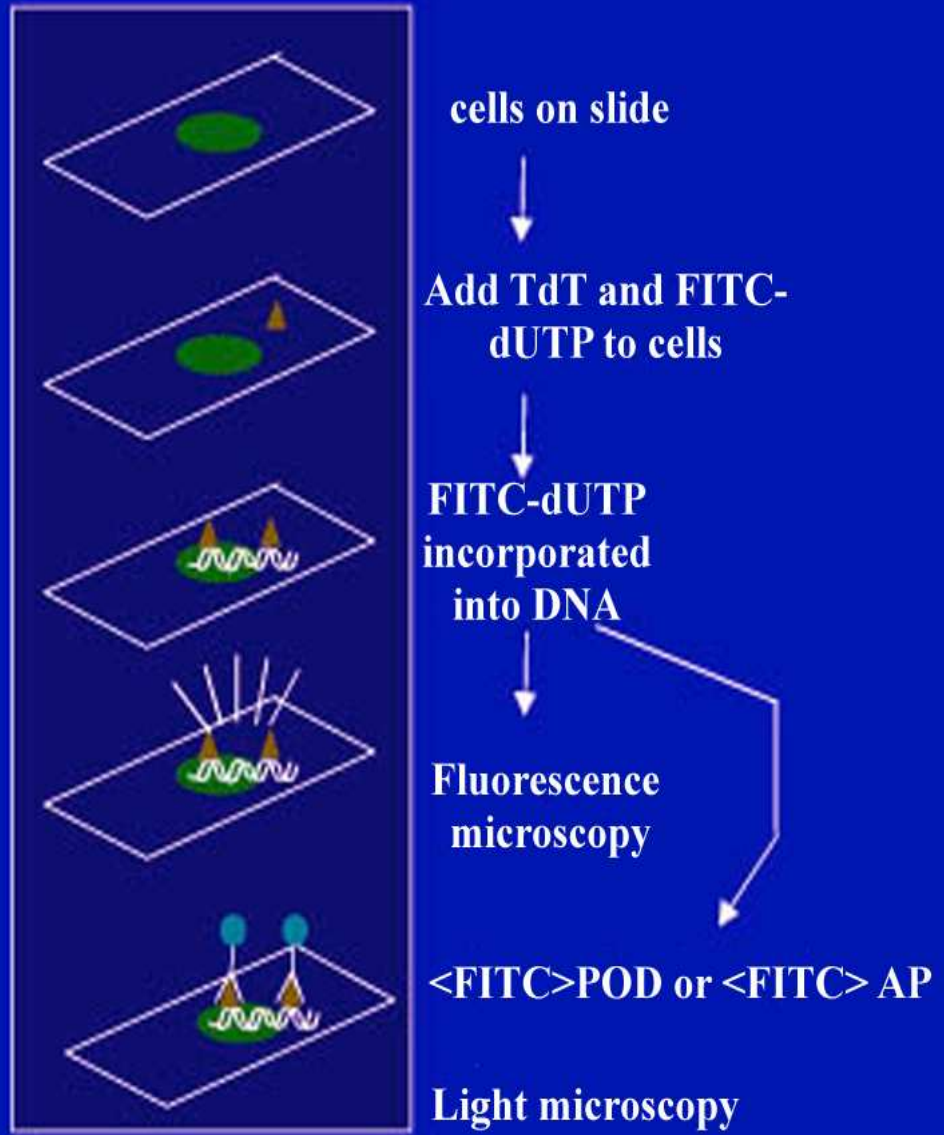


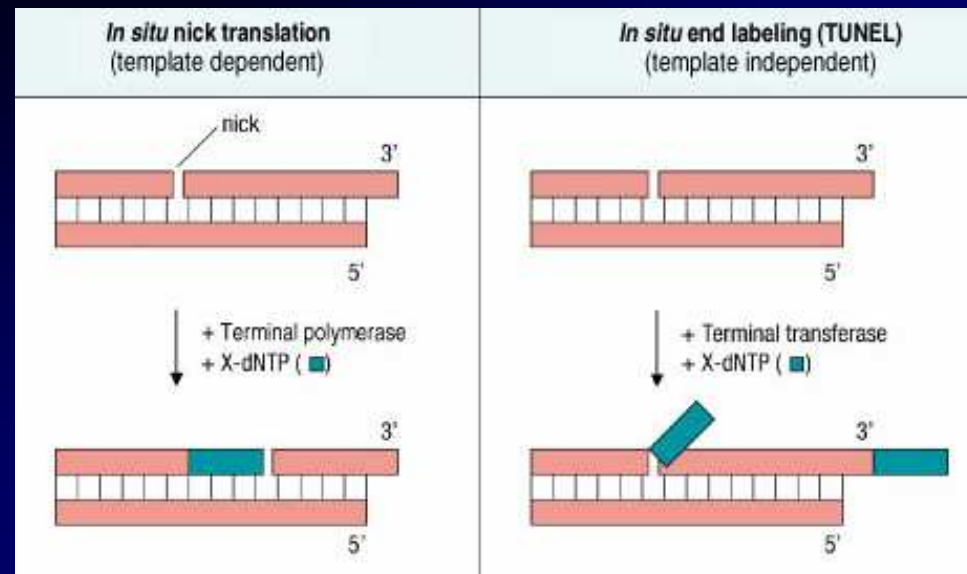
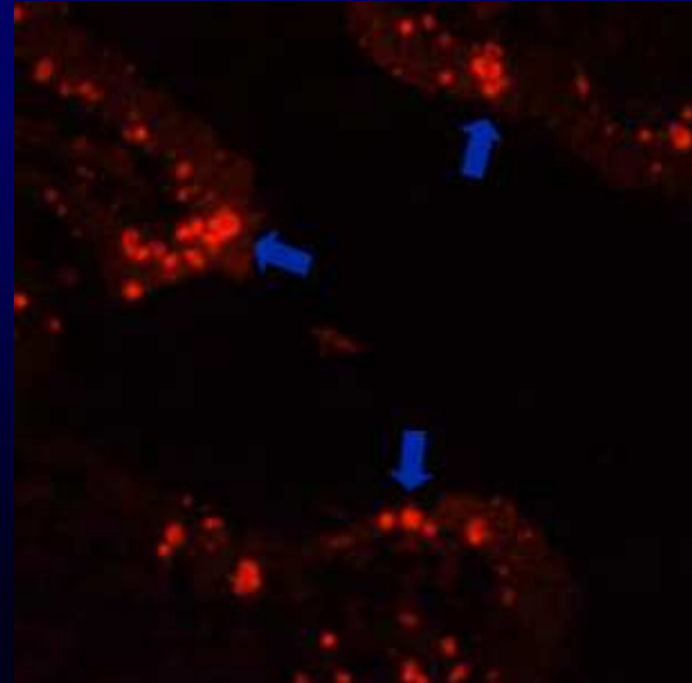
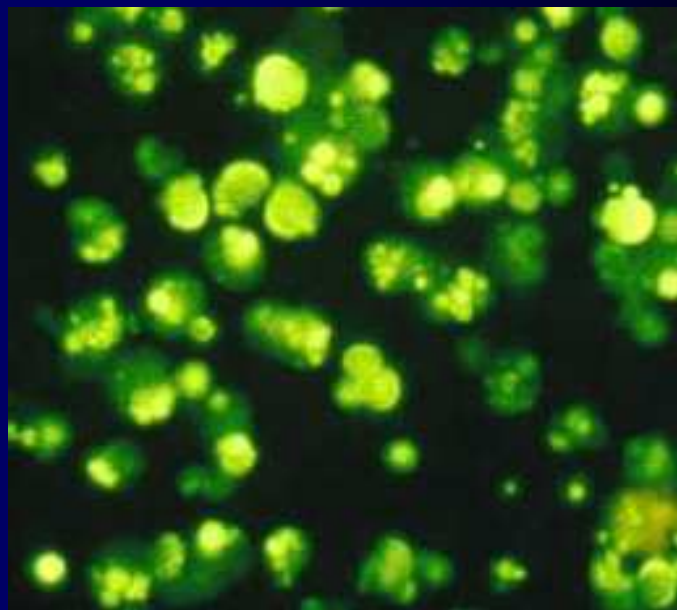
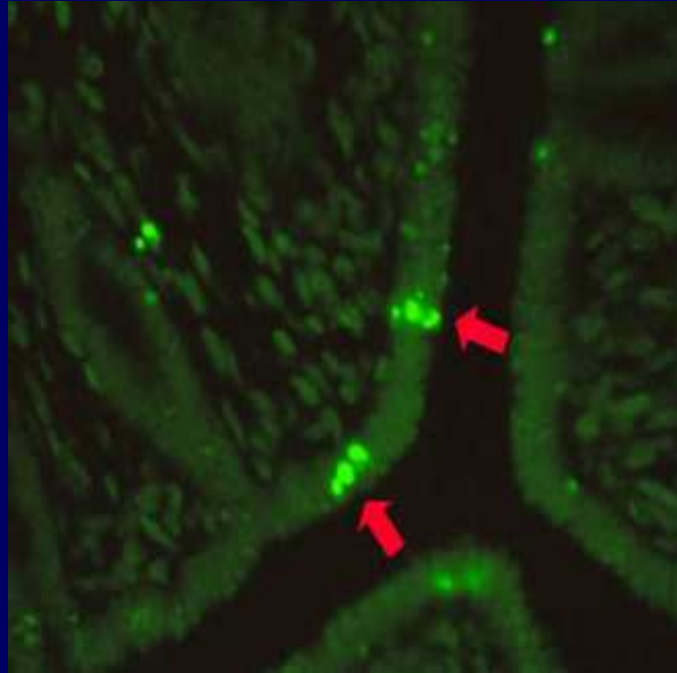


# DNA Fragmentation - TUNEL

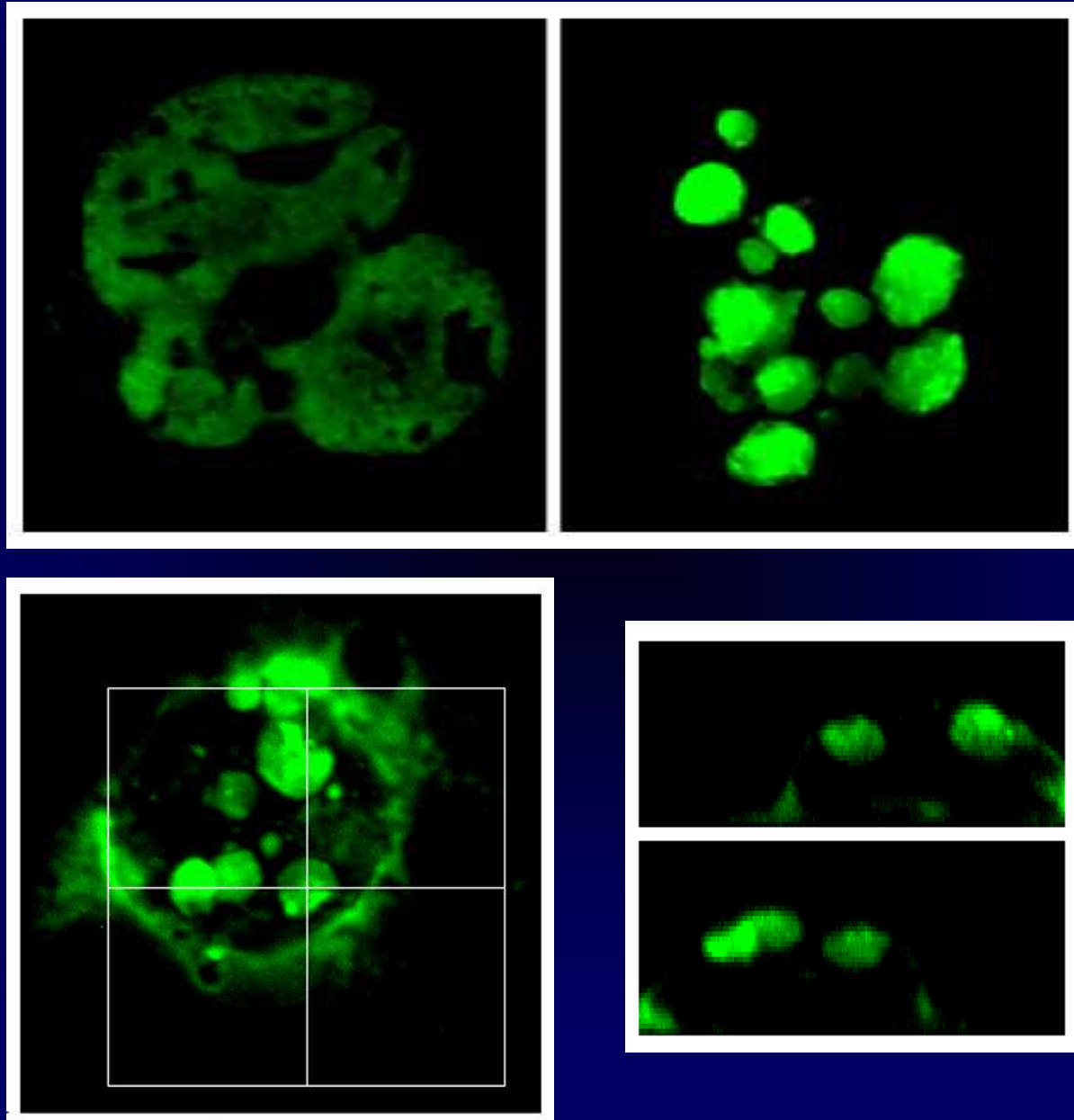


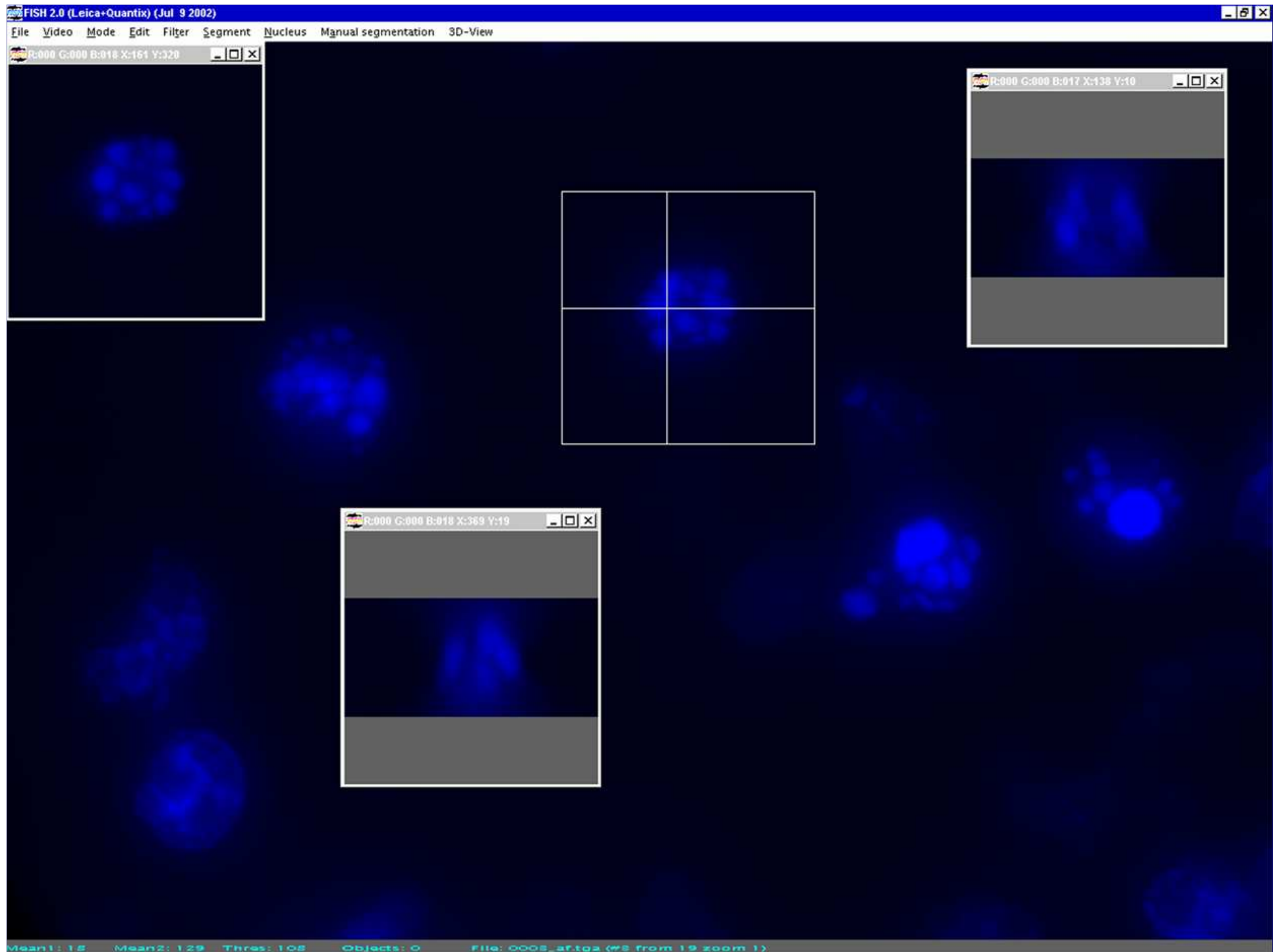
## In Situ Cell Death Detection Kit - Test Principle



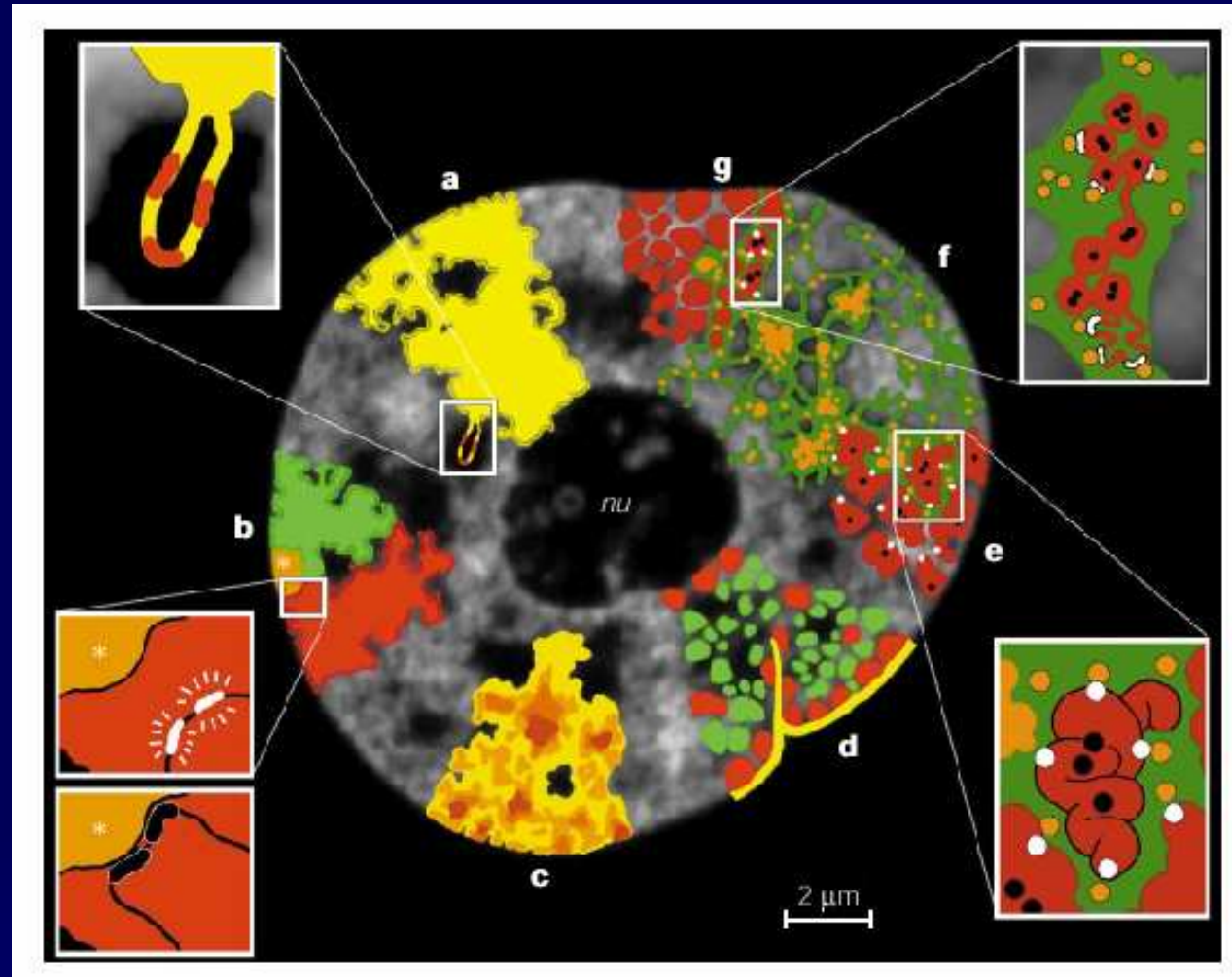
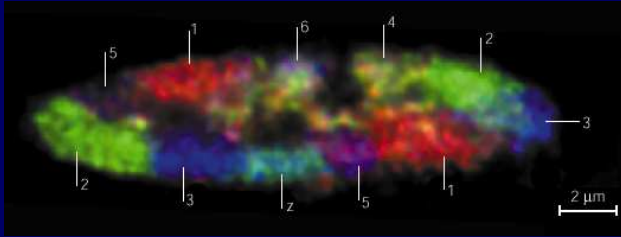


## The results of TUNEL test



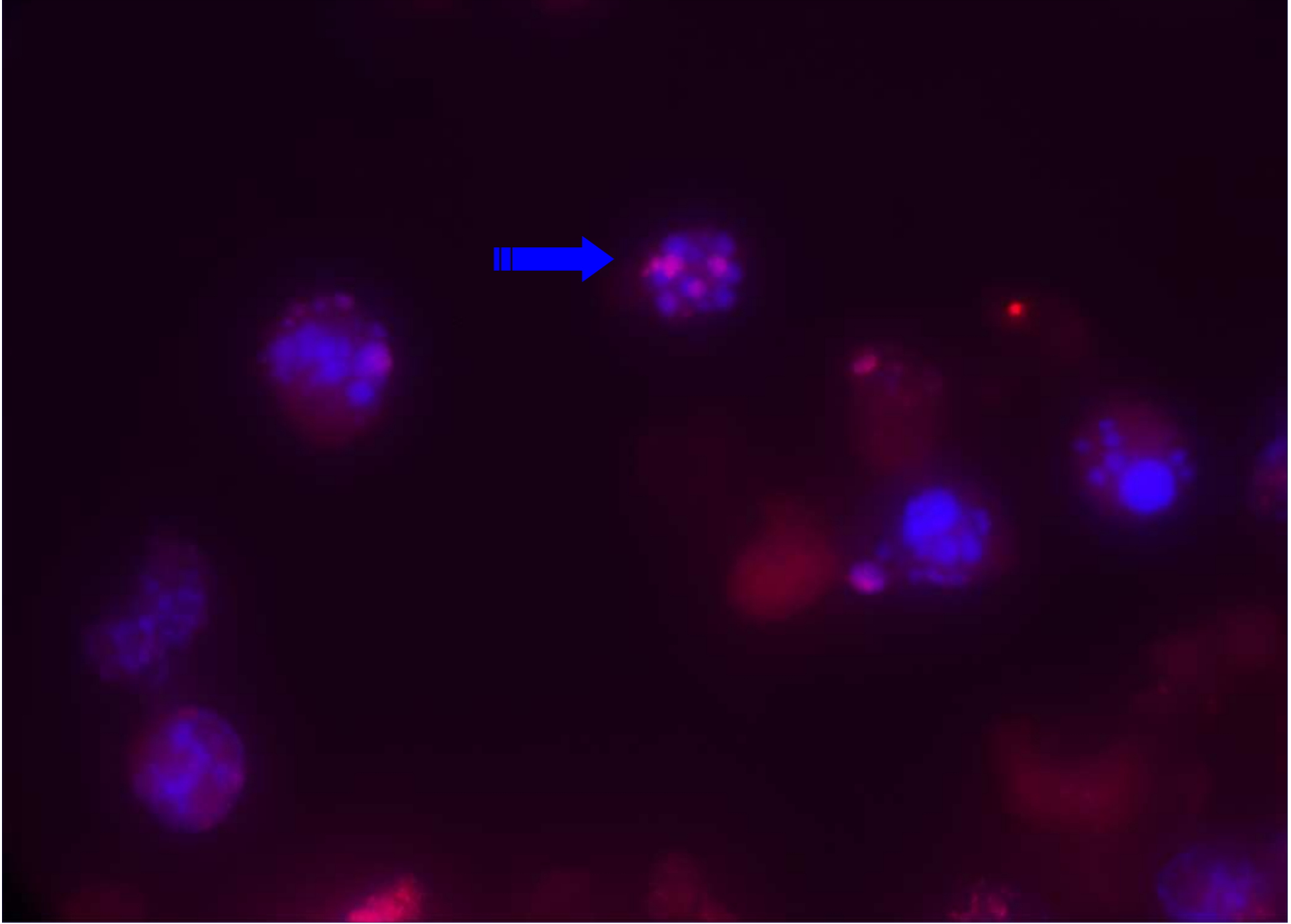


# Nuclear organisation of chromosomal territories

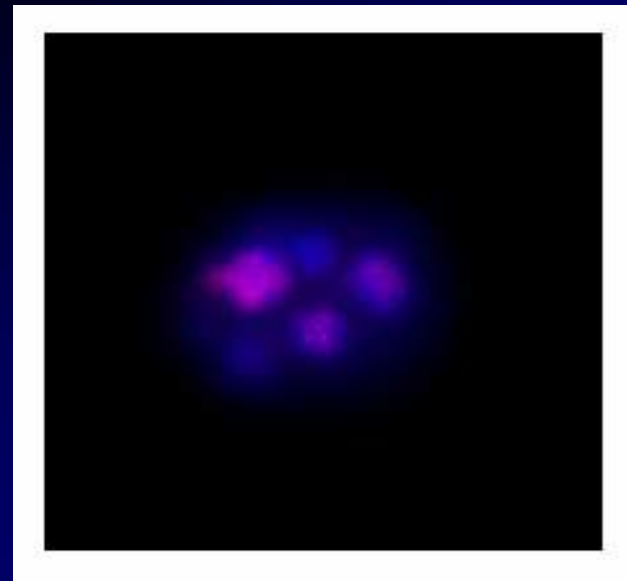
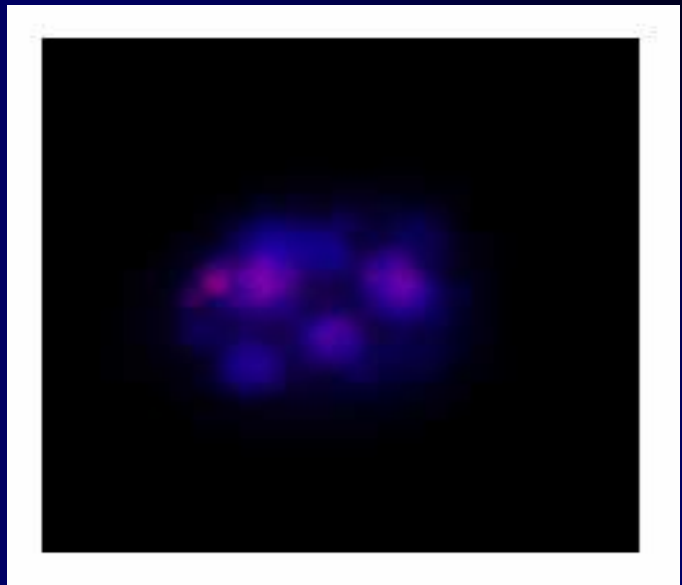
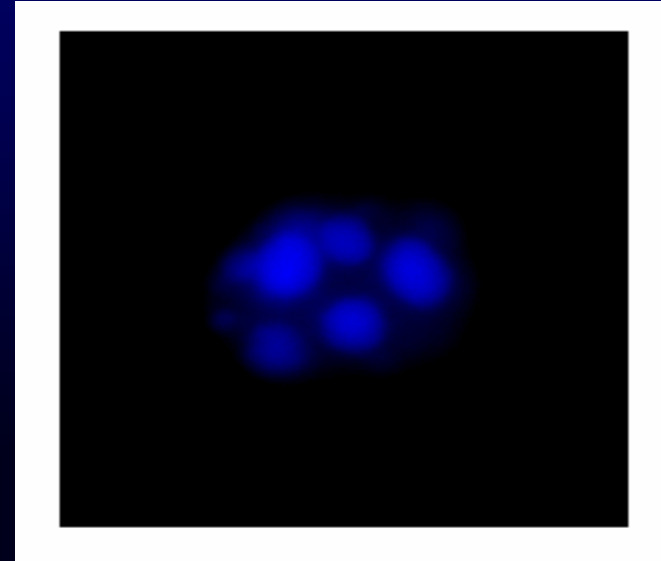
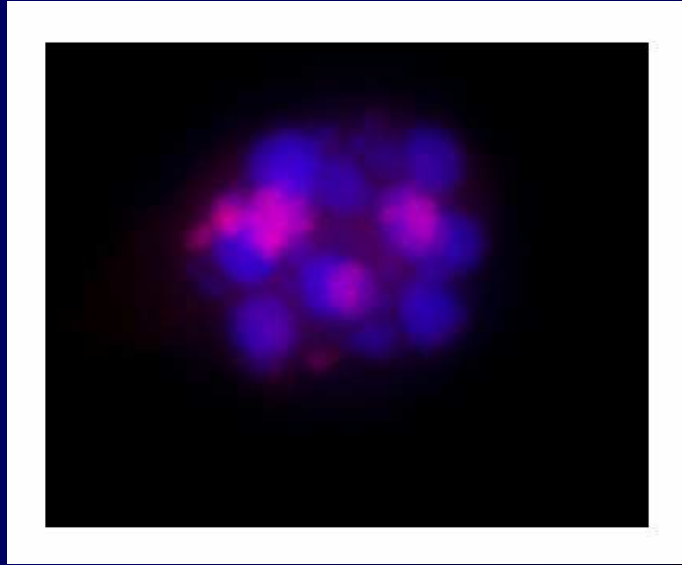


(Cremer T. and Cremer C., 2001)

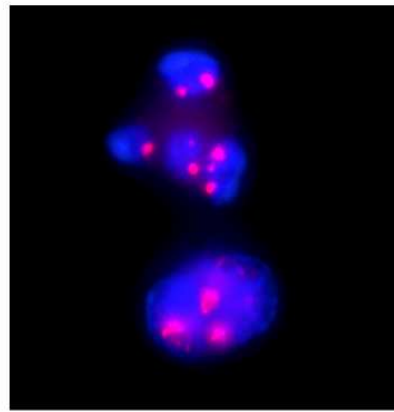
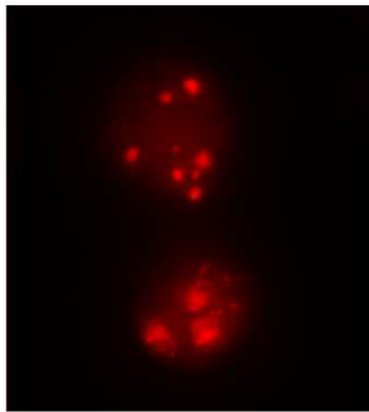
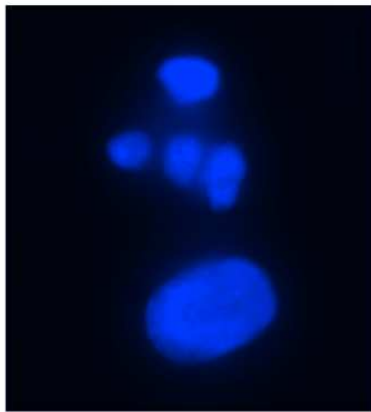




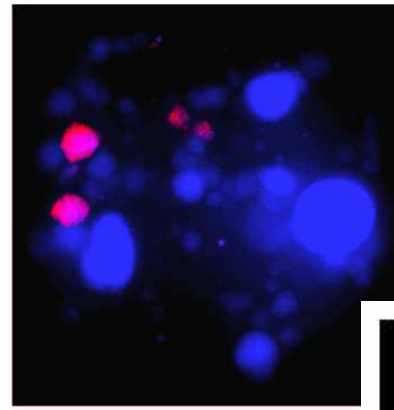
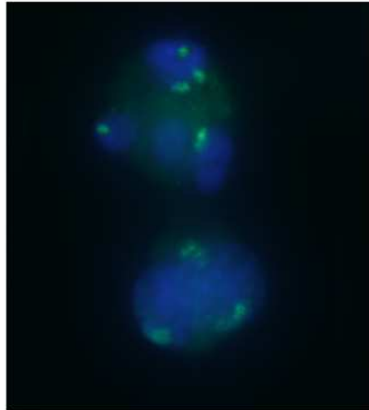
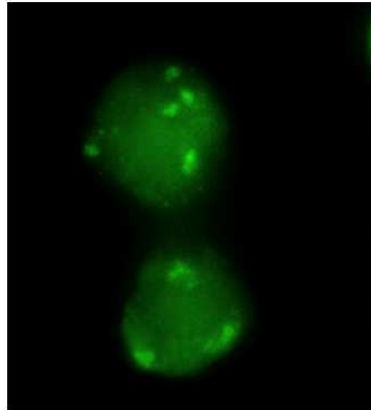
# Apoptotic territory of chromosome 3



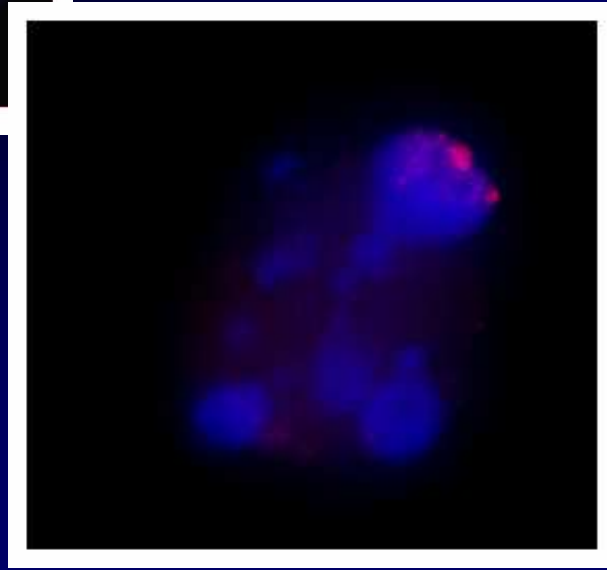




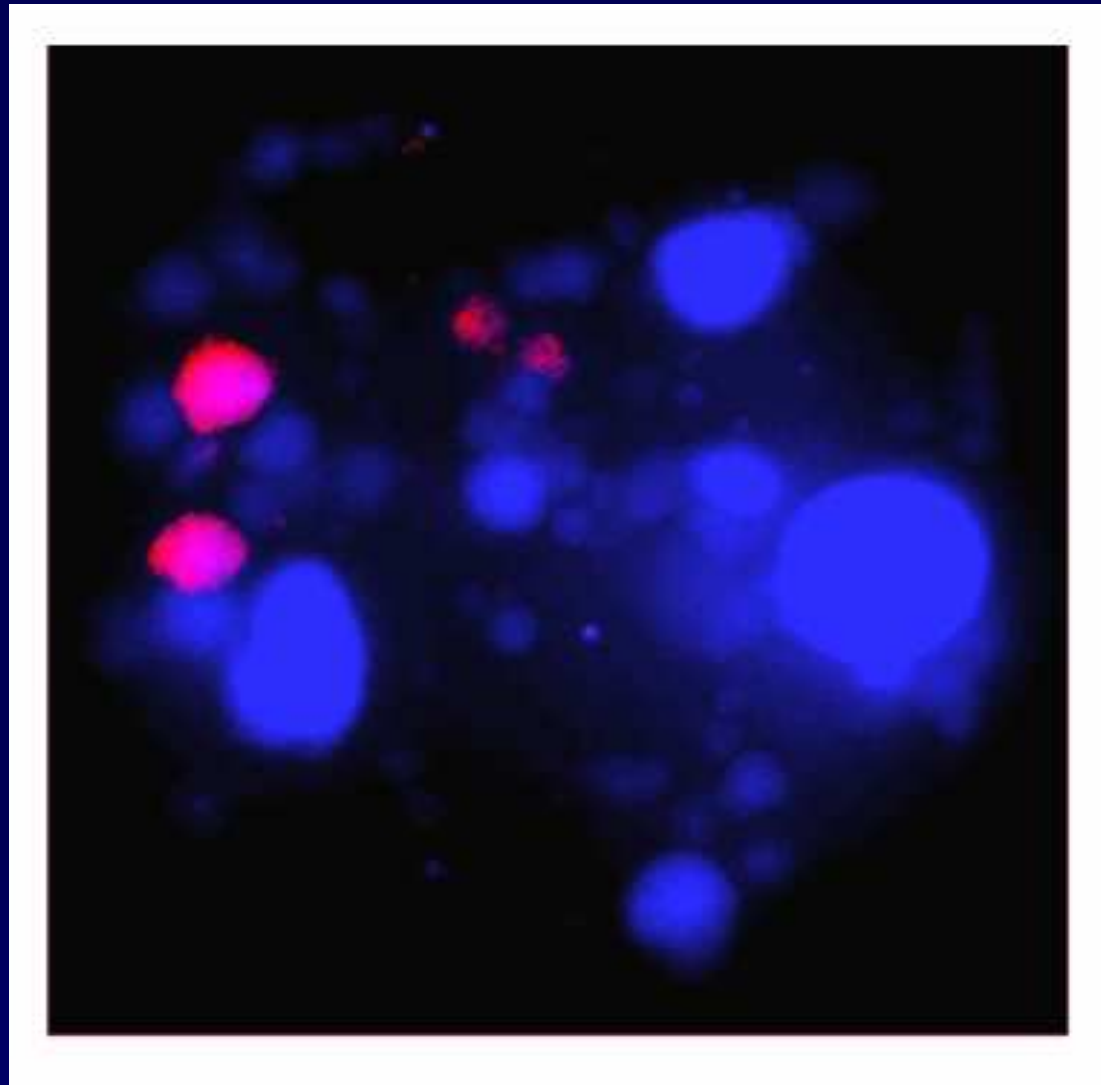
Territory of chromosome  
**11** and **17**



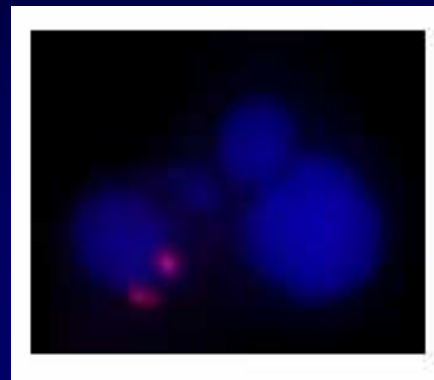
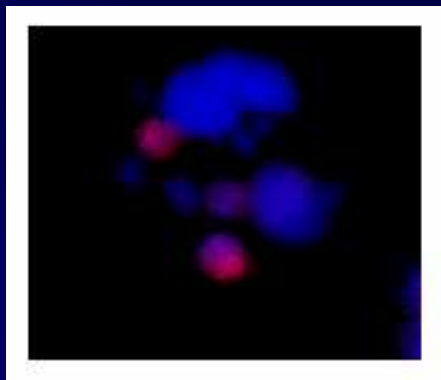
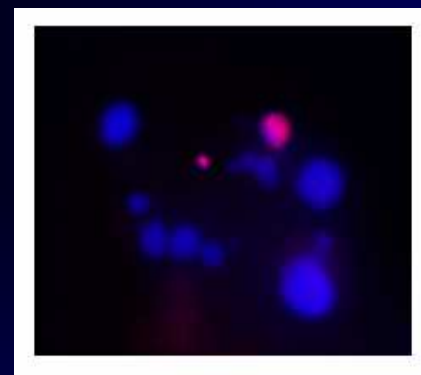
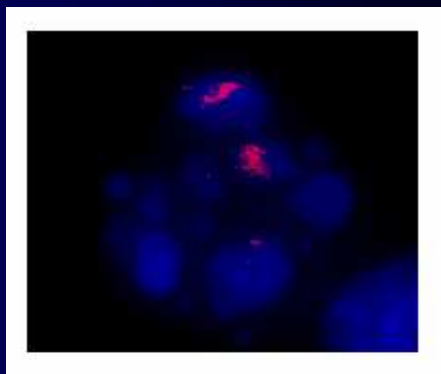
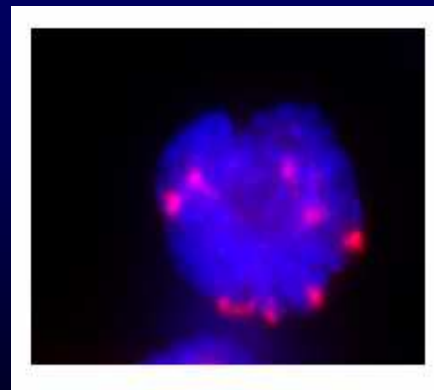
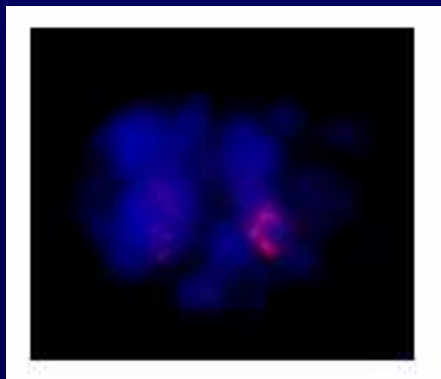
Territory of chromosome **3**



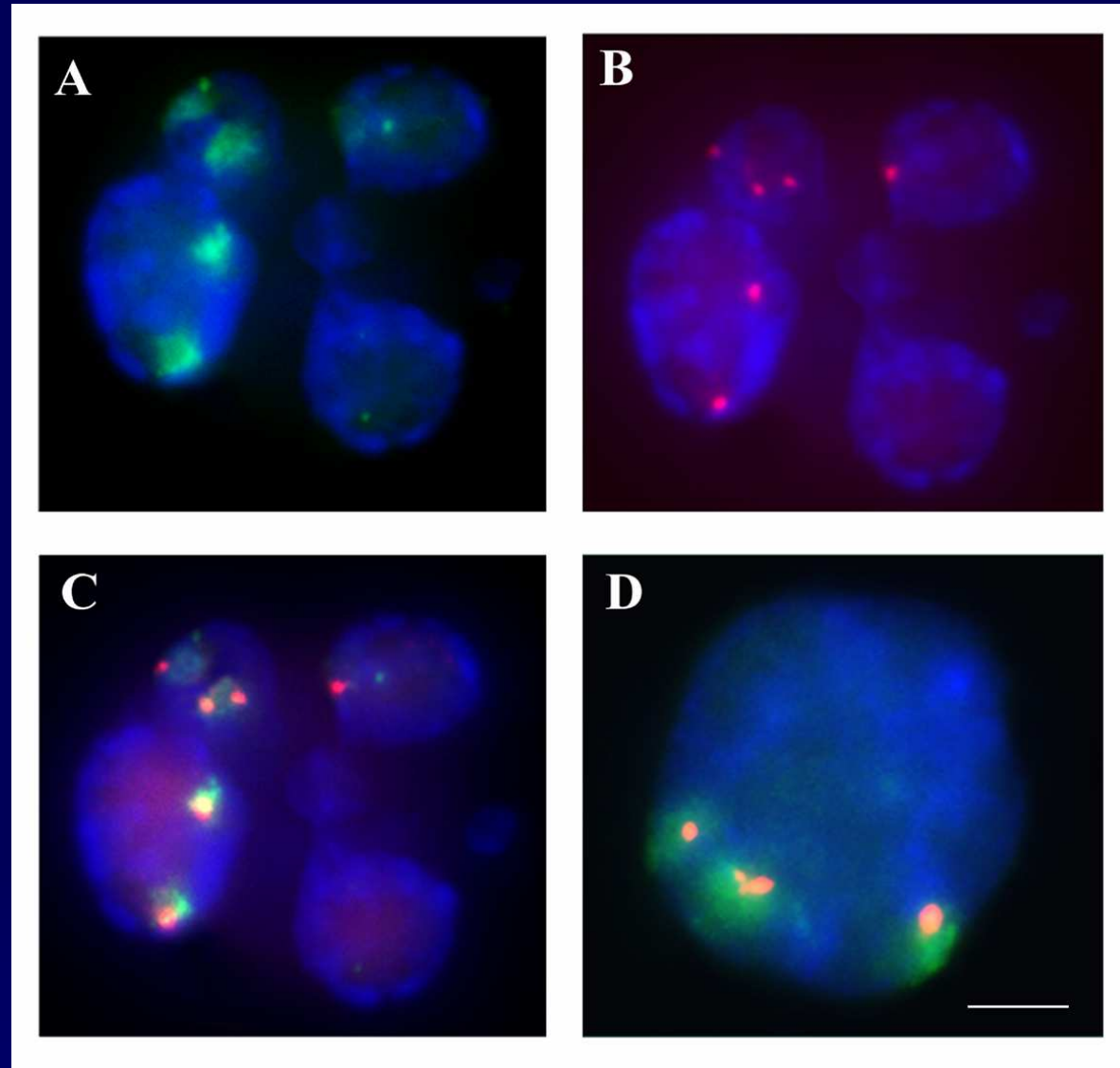
# Arcitecture of chromosomal territories during apoptosis



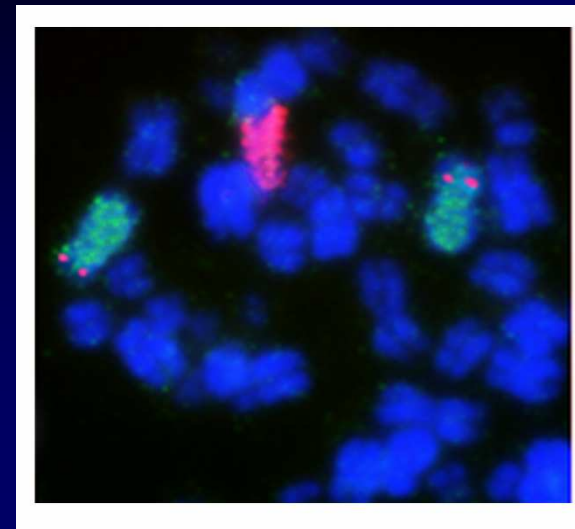
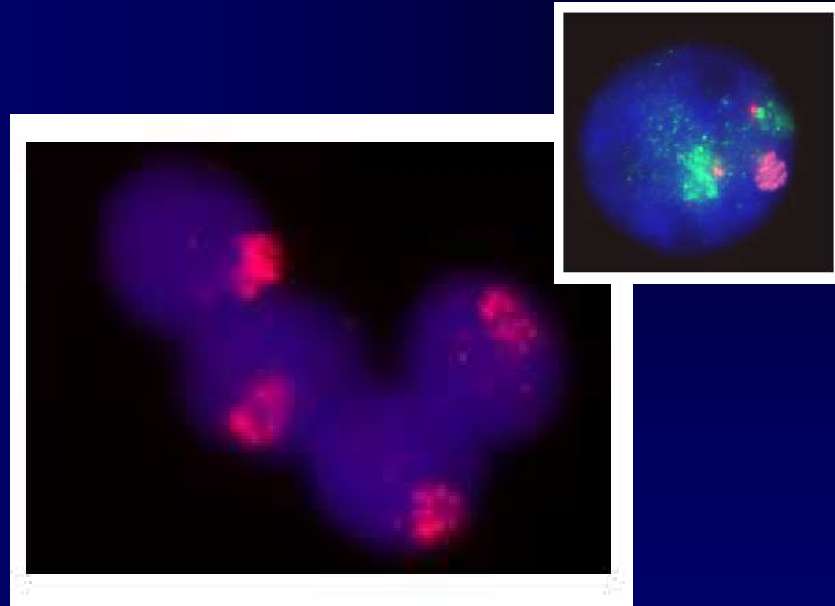
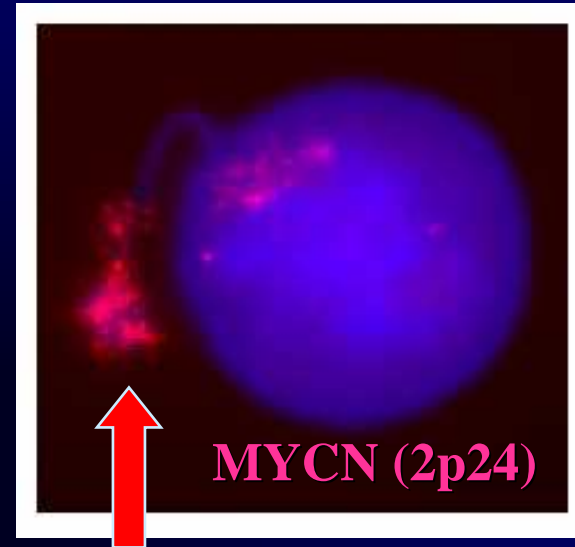
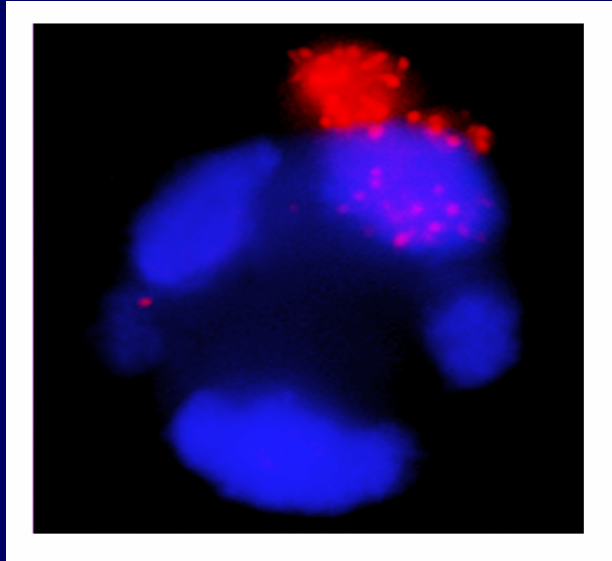
# Apoptosis and HSA 21 in K-562 cells



# Apoptosis and chromosomal territory and centromeric region of HSA 11 in K-562 leukemic cells

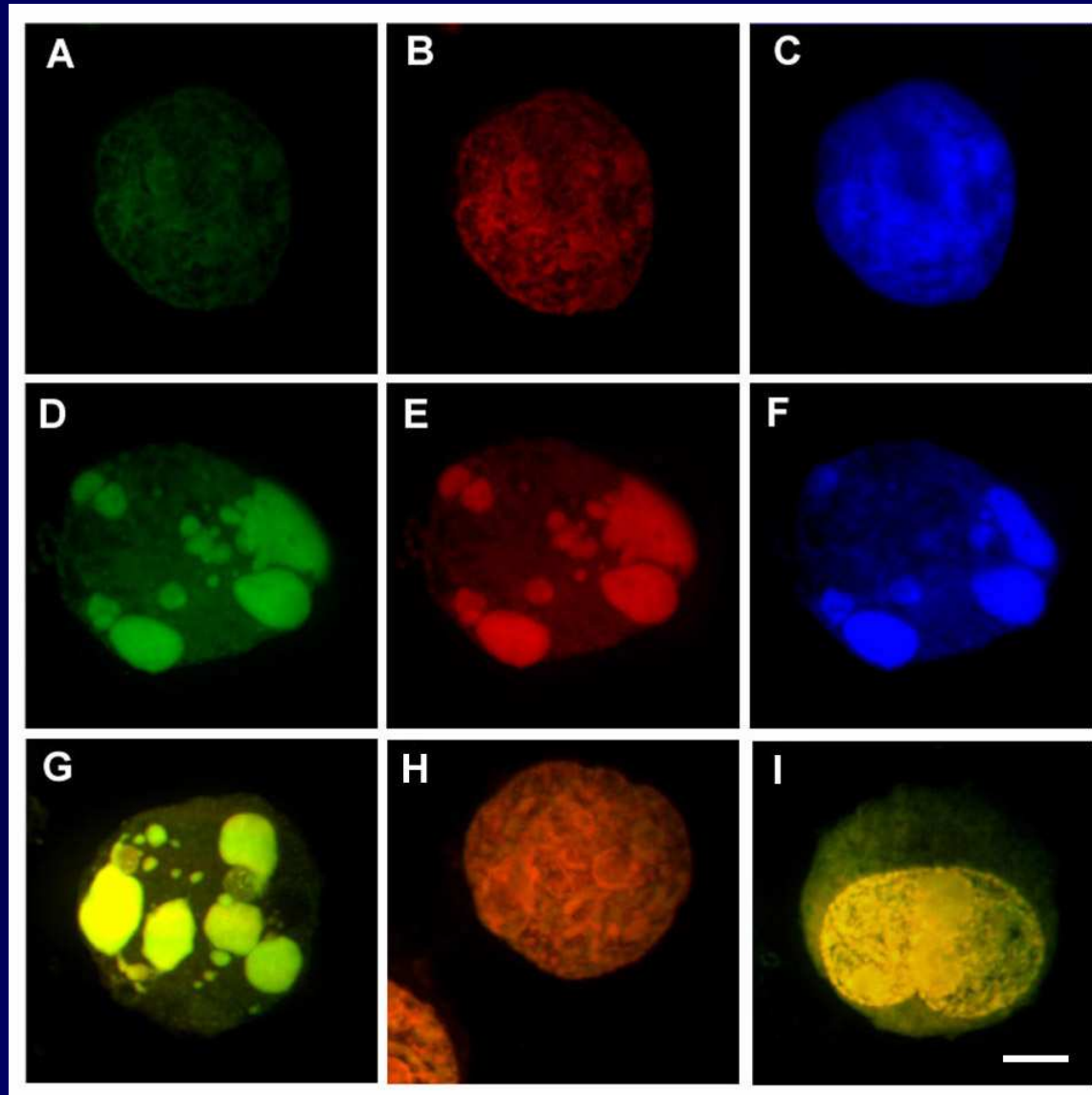


# Retinoblastoma Y79 cells and HSR

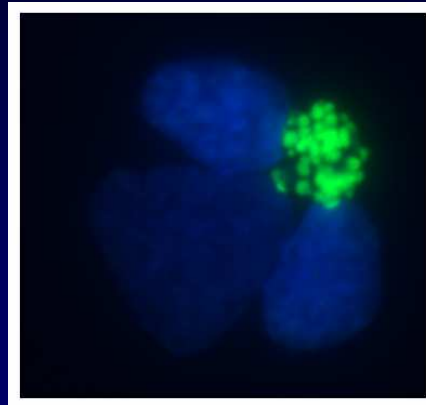
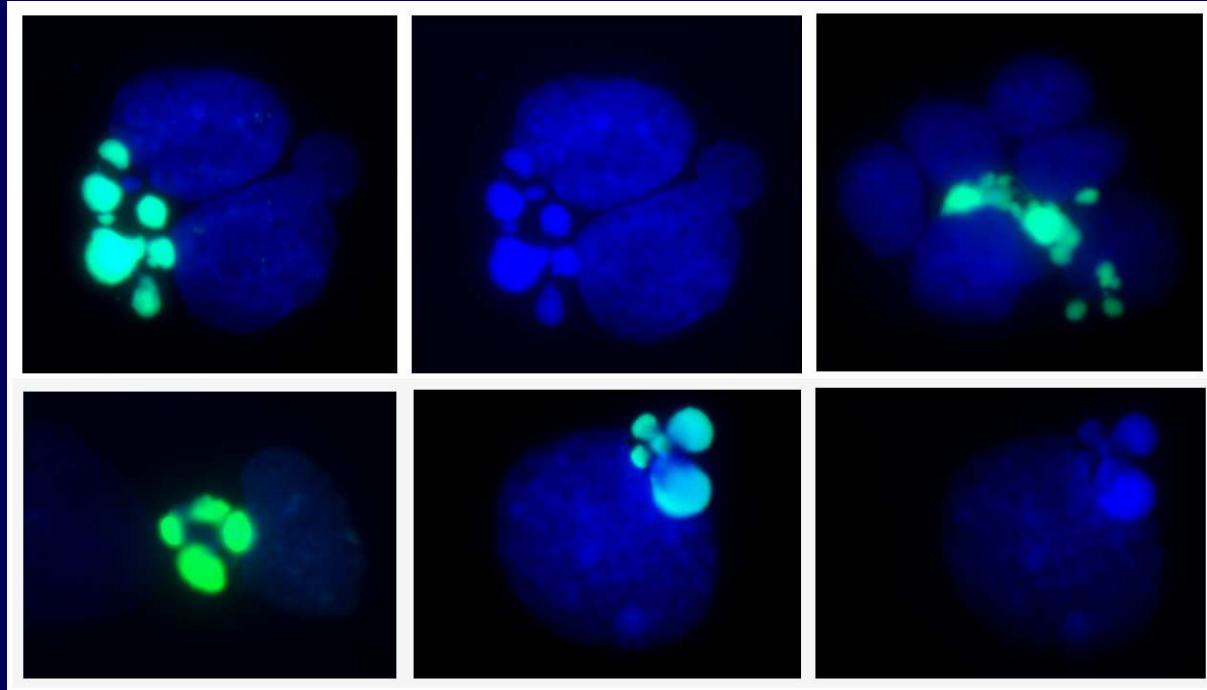




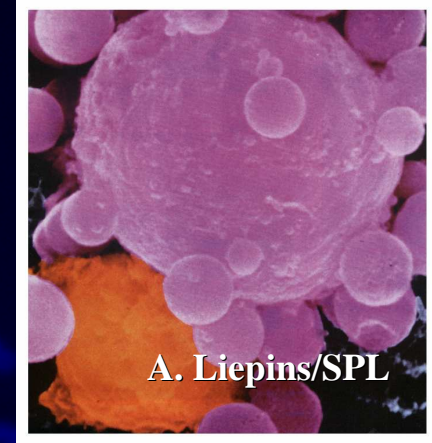
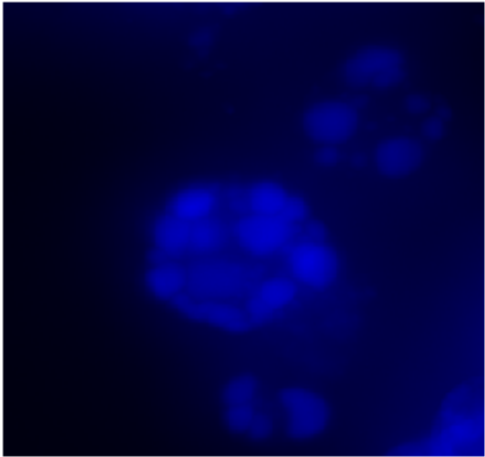
# TUNEL and PI staining of fixed cells



# Apoptosis in patient suffering from retinoblastoma TUNEL and DAPI staining



# Conclusions



- \* Differences in DNA fragmentation
- \* Differences in the number of nuclear apoptotic bodies
- \* Chromosomal territories cleaved into high molecular DNA fragments were variably disassembled into apoptotic bodies whose induction is the main effort of anticancer therapy.
- \* Apoptotic nuclear segmentation can be observed at centromeric regions.
- \* Disassembly of chromosomal territories was also found in pre-apoptotic (TUNEL positive) nuclei.
- \* Apoptosis can be observed not only after experimental and/or clinical treatment but also spontaneously.