Cell death, Apoptosis, Necrosis and exudates

Cell death

- Cell death is the event of a biological cell ceasing to carry out its functions.
- There are two forms of cell death, **apoptosis** and **necrosis**.
- Apoptosis is controlled (programmed) breakdown of cells occurring in response to damage to DNA or as part of normal growth and development.
- Necrosis is uncontrolled breakdown of cells in response to injurious stimuli.

APOPTOSIS

- Basic description: Programmed cell death.
 Patterns of occurrence of apoptosis
- During growth and development, some cells serve a function in the growth phase but need to be removed after their purpose is fulfilled.
- In neonates, a rapid cell growth rate is necessary; in adults, however, unrestrained cell growth can lead to cancer.
- When DNA sustains irreparable damage (e.g., after low-dose radiation exposure), the cell must be destroyed so mutations that have developed will not be propagated.
- In this manner, apoptosis serves as a safety step by removing damaged cells from the body.

Mechanism of apoptosis

- There are two pathways by which apoptosis is initiated:
- 1. Extracellular or Extrinsic apoptosis pathway
- 2. Intracellular pathways or Intrinsic apoptosis pathway







FasL-Fas ligand, **FADD-** Fas-associated protein with dead domain, DED-Dead domain, **DISC-** Dead inducing signal complex.

CASPASE- protease enzymes.



CAD-Caspase Dependent DNase.

Apoptotic effectors- Activated DNase, Activated Proteolytic enzymes



Apoptosis regulator BAX, also known as **bcl-2-like protein 4**, is a protein, functions as an apoptotic activator.

PUMA-p53 Up regulatory Modulator of Apoptosis.

- Farther increase the opening of the mitochondrial voltage-dependent anion channel (VDAC), which leads to the loss in membrane potential and the release of cytochrome c.
- MAC-mitochondrial Apoptotic inducing channel.



APAF-1: Apoptotic Protease Activating Factor-1dATP-Deoxyadenosine TriphosphatedADP-Deoxyadenosine Diphosphate



Necrosis

- Basic description: Necrosis is a term used to describe uncontrolled death of cells due to one of the various causes of cellular injury.
- **Gross morphology of necrosis:** Necrosis is typically manifested by softening and discoloration of the organ.

Types of Necrosis

- 1. Coagulative necrosis
- 2. Liquefactive necrosis
- 3. Fat necrosis
- 4. Caseous necrosis

Coagulative necrosis

- Coagulative necrosis is the type of necrosis in which protein denaturation is more prominent than enzymatic breakdown.
- Coagulative necrosis may occur in any organ.



Liquefactive necrosis

- Liquefactive necrosis occurs in situations in which enzymatic breakdown is more prominent than protein denaturation.
- Liquefactive necrosis is most commonly associated with organs that have a high fat and low protein content (e.g., the brain), or those with a high enzymatic content (e.g., the pancreas).



Fat necrosis

- Fat necrosis is a term applied to a change in adipose tissue due to trauma or the release of enzymes from adjacent organs (e.g., the pancreas).
- The trauma or enzymatic action causes a breakdown of lipid and a release of fatty acids, which combine with calcium to form chalky deposits.



Caseous necrosis

- Caseous necrosis is a "cheesy-looking" necrosis associated with tuberculosis infections and other granulomatous disease processes.
- Granulomas are a form of chronic inflammation due to some infections (e.g., mycobacterial), foreign bodies, and other chronic stimuli.





Necrosis

Morphology -> Nuclear Changes



Three types of nuclear changes can be seen during cell necrosis

- 1. Karyolysis
- 2. Pyknosis
- 3. Karyorrhexis





Exudate

- An exudate is any fluid that filters from the circulatory system into lesions or areas of inflammation.
- It can be a pus-like or clear fluid.
- When an injury occurs, leaving skin exposed, it leaks out of the blood vessels and into nearby tissues.
- The fluid is composed of serum, fibrin, and white blood cells.

Types of exudate

- 1. Purulent or suppurative exudate
- 2. Fibrinous exudate
- 3. Catarrhal exudate
- 4. Serous exudate
- 5. Malignant (or cancerous) exudate

1. Purulent or suppurative exudate

- It consists of plasma with both active and dead neutrophils, fibrinogen, and necrotic parenchymal cells.
- This kind of exudate is consistent with more severe infections, and is commonly referred to as pus.

2. Fibrinous exudate:

• It is composed mainly of fibrinogen and fibrin.

3. Catarrhal exudate:

• It is typical origin from mucous surfaces as in skin.

4. Serous exudate:

• It is usually seen in mild inflammation, with relatively low protein.

5. Malignant (or cancerous) exudate:

• It is effusion where cancer cells are present