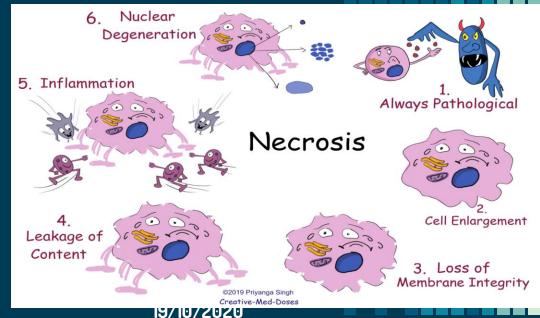
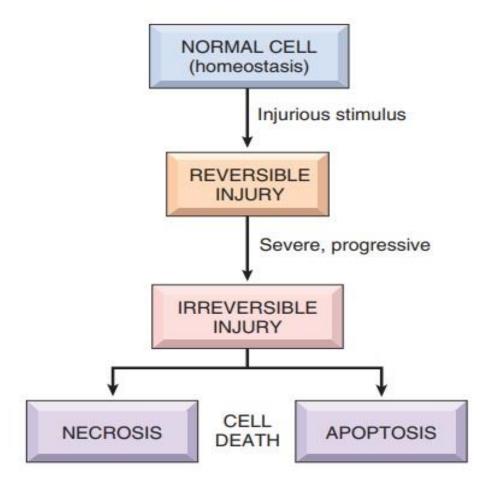
# Cell Injury & Necrosis-2



Ghadeer Hayel, M.D. Pathologist

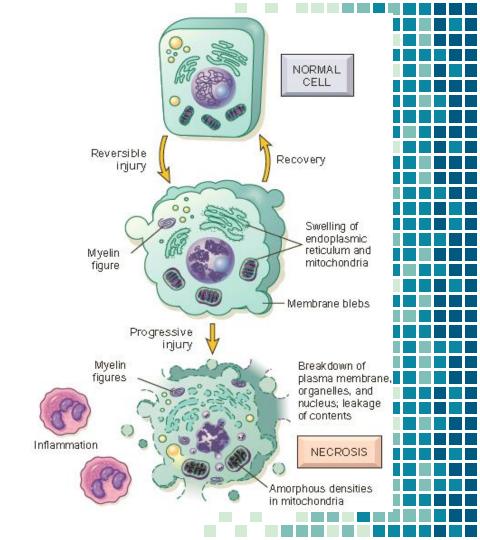


# Cell Death

- Injured cells die by different mechanisms, depending on the nature & severity of the insult:
- Severe disturbances (loss of oxygen & nutrient supply or toxins) cause a rapid & uncontrollable form of death, called "accidental" cell death because injury is too severe to be repaired → Necrosis.
- "Accidental" > not regulated by specific signals or biochemical mechanisms.
- In less severe injury, or <u>cells need to be eliminated</u>
  <u>during normal processes</u> → activate a precise set of
  molecular pathways → culminate in death → Apoptosis

### **Necrosis**

- + a form of cell death in which cellular membranes fall apart, and cellular enzymes leak out and ultimately digest the cell.
- + A sequence of morphologic changes that follow cell death in living tissue.
- + often is the culmination of reversible cell injury that cannot be corrected.
- + elicits a local host reaction, inflammation.



- Microscopic appearance of Necrotic dead cells:
  - Cytoplasmic
  - Nuclear

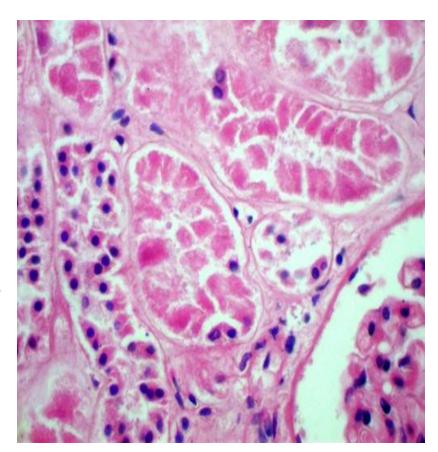
#### *Note:*

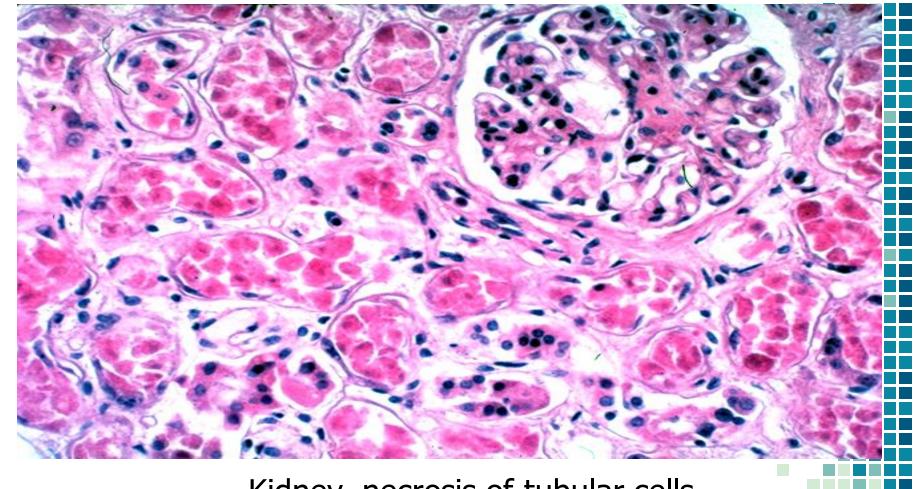
- Eosinophilia: stained red by the dye eosin—the E in [H&E] stain)
- Basophilia: stained blue by the dye hematoxylin—the H in [H&E] stain)

#### Microscopic appearance of Necrotic cell:

#### Cytoplasmic

- Increased <u>eosinophilia</u>, attributable to:
  - +increased binding of eosin to denatured cytoplasmic proteins
- + loss of basophilic ribonucleic acid (RNA) in the cytoplasm.
- A glassy, <u>homogeneous</u> appearance, mostly because of the loss of lighter staining glycogen particles.
- Cytoplasm <u>vacuolated</u> & appears "moth-eaten"; due to enzymes.





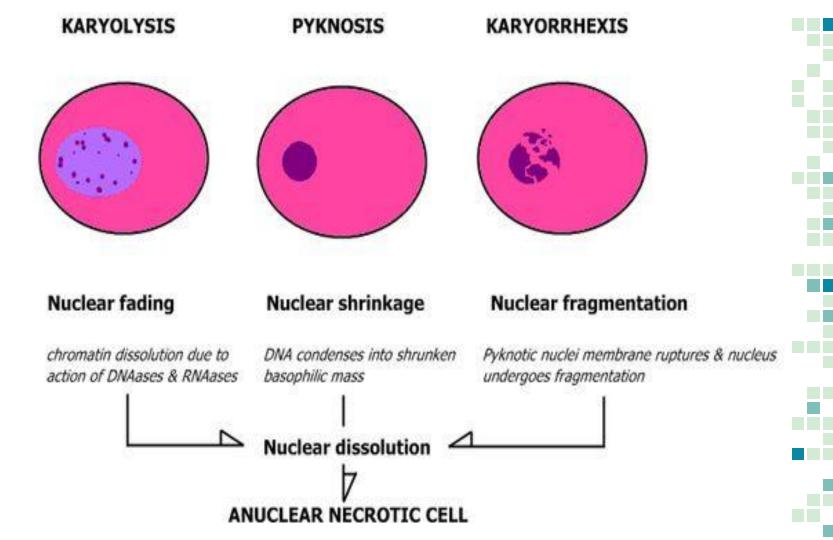
Kidney, necrosis of tubular cells

# Microscopic appearance of Necrotic cell: **Nuclear**

<u>Nuclear changes</u> → due to break down of DNA; three patterns

- + *Pyknosis*: shrinkage and increased basophilia.
- + Karyorrhexis: fragmentation of pyknotic nucleus.
- + *Karyolysis*: decrease basophilia of chromatin, DNAase: (deoxyribonuclease, DNA digestion)

In 1-2 days the nucleus in a dead cell may completely disappear.



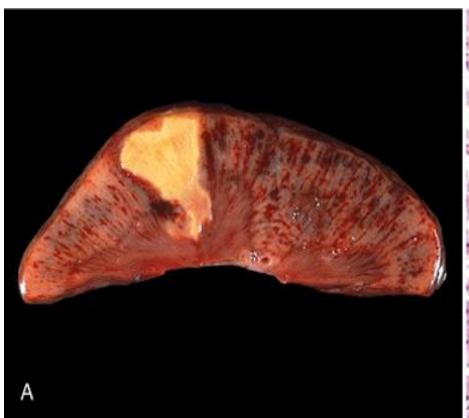
#### Specific Morphologic Patterns of Necrosis

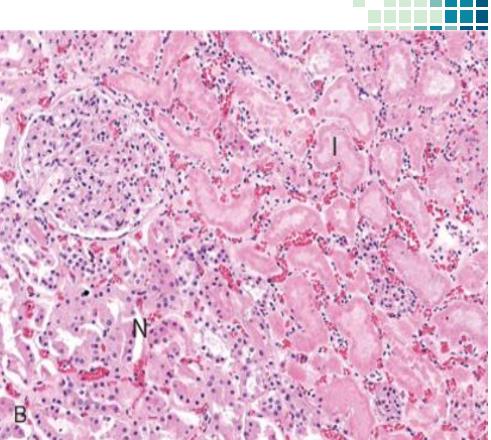
- Coagulative necrosis
- Liquefactive necrosis
- Gangrenous necrosis
- Caseous necrosis
- Fat necrosis
- Fibrinoid necrosis

# Coagulative necrosis

- Preservation of the structural outline of the dead (coagulated) cell for days
- The most common form of necrosis (particularly in myocardium, liver, kidney)
- Characteristic of infarcts (areas of necrosis caused by ischemia) in all solid organs <u>except</u> the **brain**.
- Mechanism: *denaturation* of proteins & enzymes → blocking cellular proteolysis → preserve cell outline.

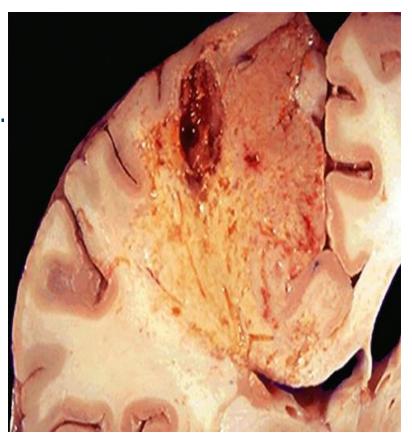
# Coagulative necrosis

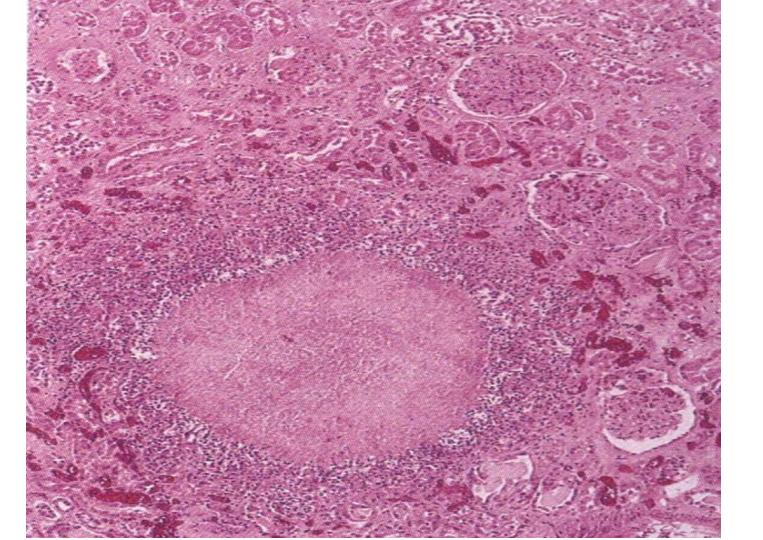




# Liquefactive necrosis

- Focal bacterial and fungal infections.
- Hypoxic & death of cells within the central nervous system.
- Microbes -rapid accumulation of inflammatory cells-enzymes of leukocytes digest ("liquefy") the tissue.
- If acute infection creamy yellow & is called **pus**





#### Caseous Necrosis

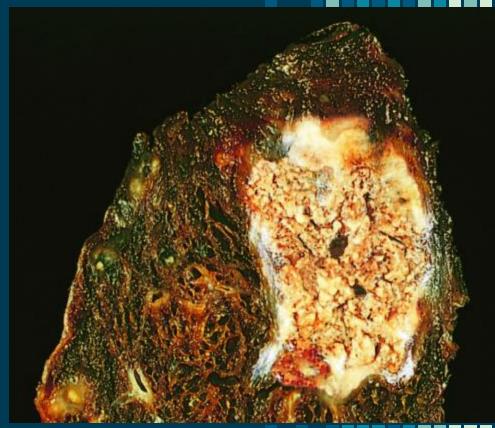
- Most often encountered in foci of tuberculous infection.
- Caseous means "cheeselike": friable yellow-white appearance of the area of necrosis on gross examination.

#### microscopic examination:

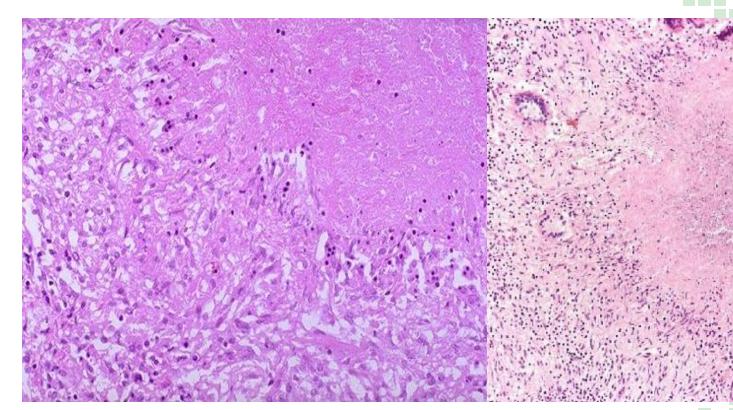
- A collection of fragmented or lysed cells with an amorphous granular pink appearance.
- Architecture -completely **obliterated**, cellular outlines-cannot be discerned
- Surrounded by a collection of macrophages and other inflammatory cells; this is called a granuloma

## Caseous Necrosis





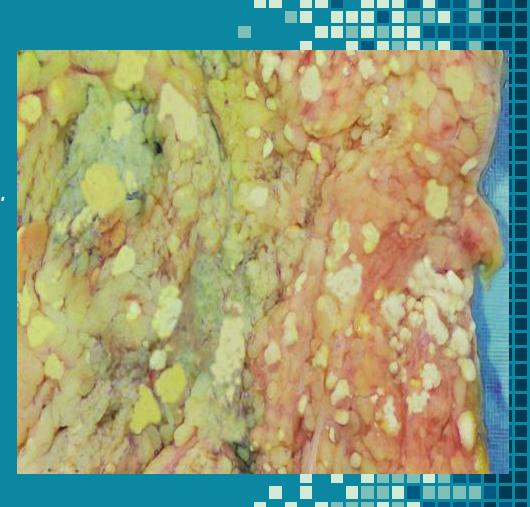
# **Caseous Necrosis**



#### Fat necrosis

- Fat destruction.
- the release of activated pancreatic lipases into the substance of the pancreas and the peritoneal cavity (Acute pancreatitis)
- lipases +adipose tissue = cleaves triglycerides= fatty acids
- fatty acids bind and precipitate calcium ions, forming insoluble salts.

- **66** These salts look:
  - +chalky white on **gross** examination.
  - + basophilic in histological sections stained with H&E

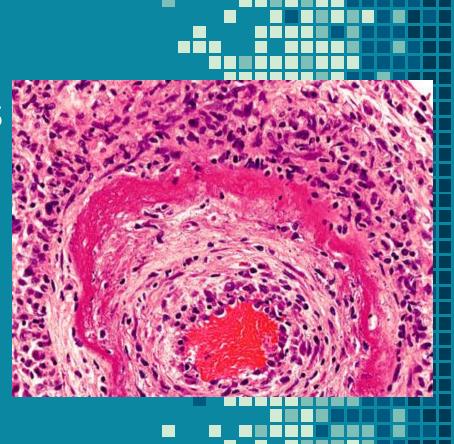


#### Fibrinoid necrosis

- In immune reactions: complexes of antigens and antibodies are deposited in the walls of blood vessels.
- Severe hypertension.
- Deposited immune complexes and plasma proteins that leak into the wall of damaged vessels produce a bright pink, amorphous appearance



A bright pink, amorphous appearance on H&E preparations called fibrinoid (fibrin-like) by pathologists..



# Gangrenous necrosis

- Not a distinctive pattern
- Commonly used in clinical practice.
- Usually refers to the condition of a limb (generally the lower leg) → lost blood supply → coagulative necrosis involving multiple tissue layers.
- Bacterial infection is superimposed → liquefactive necrosis because of the destructive contents of the bacteria & the attracted leukocytes (resulting in socalled "wet gangrene").



#### Fate of Necrosis

- Most of necrotic tissue is removed by leukocyte (Phagocytosis) combined with extracellular enzyme digestion
- If necrotic tissue is not eliminated → it attracts
  Ca<sup>++</sup> salts → dystrophic calcification

Leakage of intracellular proteins through the damaged cell membrane and ultimately into the circulation provides a means of detecting tissue-specific necrosis using blood or serum samples:

- Cardiac muscle, isoform of creatine kinase & troponin.
- Hepatic bile duct epithelium, enzyme alkaline phosphatase,
- Hepatocytes contain transaminases

# THANKS!

Any questions?

