

## THE DIVERSITY OF AUTOPHAGY AND ITS CONTROVERSIAL ROLE IN BIOLOGICAL PROCESSES

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Once arising in evolution, autophagy is found in almost all eukaryotes and takes part in a wide range of biological processes. In particular, participating in the program of the development of the organism and determining the life span of both unicellular and multicellular organisms, autophagy affect evolutionary processes. Autophagy plays a cytoprotective role in the response of cells to stress. At the same time, under other conditions autophagy is a form of cell death. The review is devoted to the analysis of the controversial role of autophagy in normal biological and pathological processes.

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