

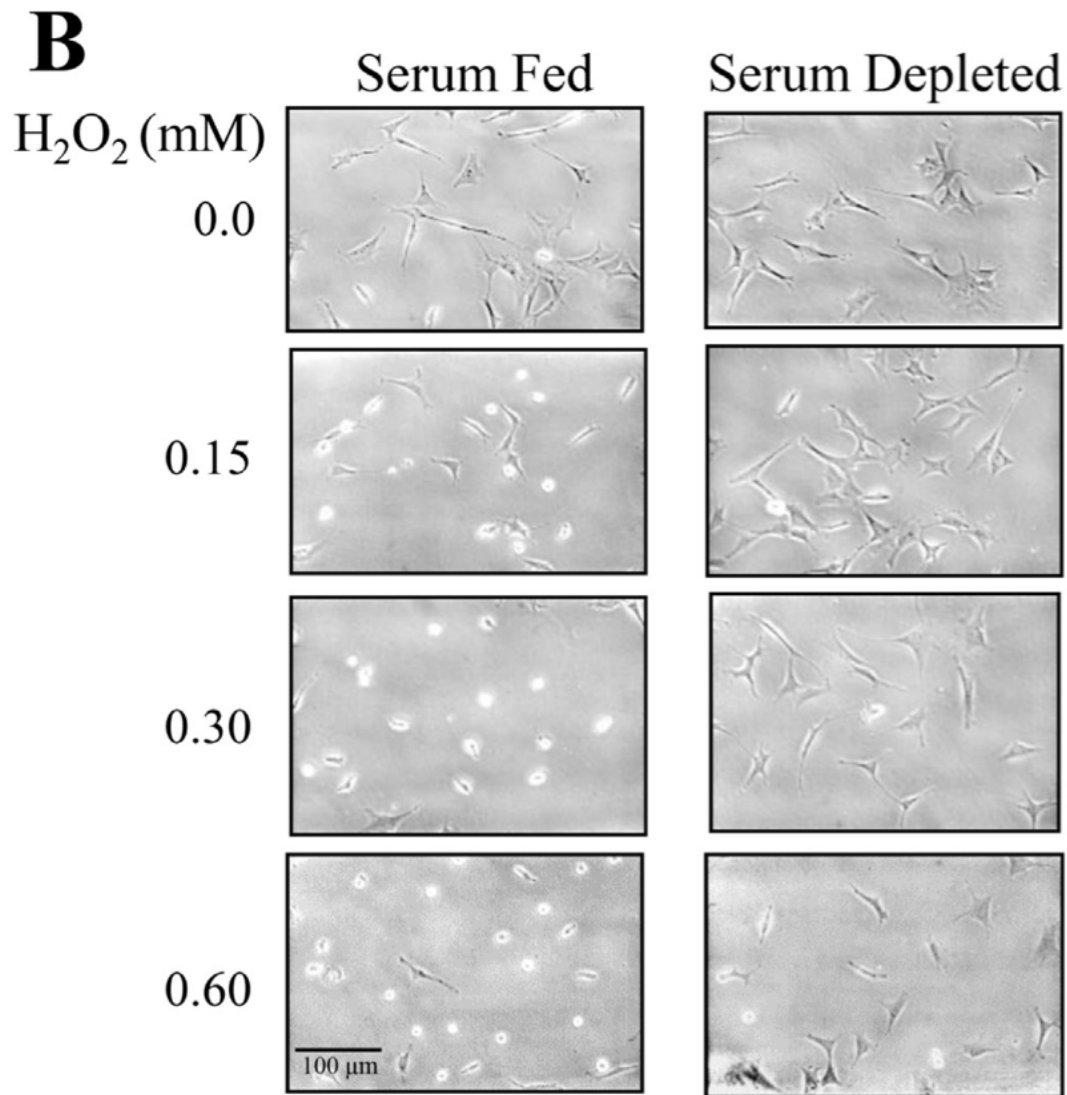


Fig. 6. Serum deprivation inhibits apoptosis induced by hydrogen peroxide. (A) NIH 3T3 cells were serum deprived for 4 h, followed by incubation with different concentrations of H_2O_2 for additional 4 h. Caspase 3 activity was measured with equal amount of cell lysate (100 μg protein); Ac-DEVD-MCA was used as the substrate. The experiment was repeated three times, and the means and standard deviations were shown. (B) Cell images of experiment (A) were acquired by inverted microscopy to show the live (attached) and dead (detached and rounded) cells. (C) After the treatments as done in (B), the cells were changed to serum-fed media (10% fetal bovine serum) and cultured for additional 48 h without H_2O_2 . The experiment was repeated three times, and the cell survival rates were quantitated and shown with the means and standard deviations.