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# BH2 Domain

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *BH2 Domain*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C13913.

Found in proteins that regulate apoptosis, conserved a-helix BCL-2 Homology (BH1-4) Domains are critical to protein apoptotic function and the protein ability to interact/dimerize with other family members or regulatory proteins. BCL-2 family proteins dimerize among pro- and anti-apoptotic class family members. BCL-2 homodimerization appears to involve head-to-tail interaction of N-terminal BH4 residues with more distal BH1, BH2, and BH3 regions. BCL-2/BAX heterodimerization appears to involve tail-to-tail interaction of the BCL-2 BH1, BH2, and BH3 regions and the BAX BH3 domain region. BCL-2 may suppress cell death partly by binding to BAX via the BH3 domain preventing BAX homodimer formation. (NCI)