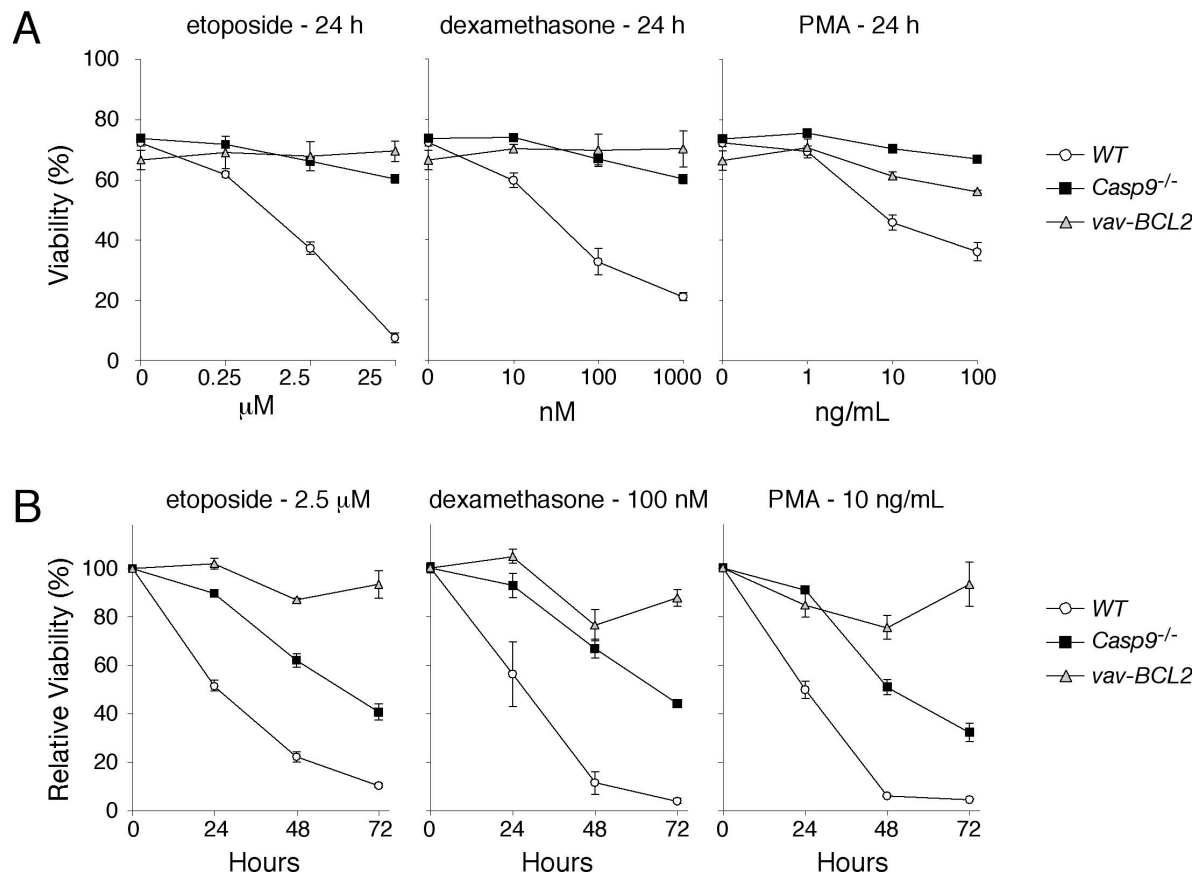


### Apoptotic response of *Casp9*<sup>-/-</sup> thymocytes to dexamethasone and PMA



(A) *WT*, *Casp9*<sup>-/-</sup>, or *vav-Bcl2* transgenic thymocytes were exposed to graded doses of etoposide, dexamethasone or phorbol myristate acetate (PMA) and cell viability was determined after 24 h by PI staining followed by flow cytometry. The data are presented as means  $\pm$  SEM (*WT*, n=3-8; *Casp9*<sup>-/-</sup>, n=5-6; *vav-Bcl2*, n=2).

(B) *WT*, *Casp9*<sup>-/-</sup>, or *vav-Bcl2* transgenic thymocytes were exposed to 2.5  $\mu$ M etoposide, 100 nM dexamethasone or 10 ng/mL PMA and cultured for the indicated times. Cell viability was determined by staining with PI and the data plotted as % viability relative to untreated cells cultured *ex vivo* for the same time. The data are presented as means  $\pm$  SEM (*WT*, n=3-8; *Casp9*<sup>-/-</sup>, n=5-6; *vav-Bcl2*, n=2).