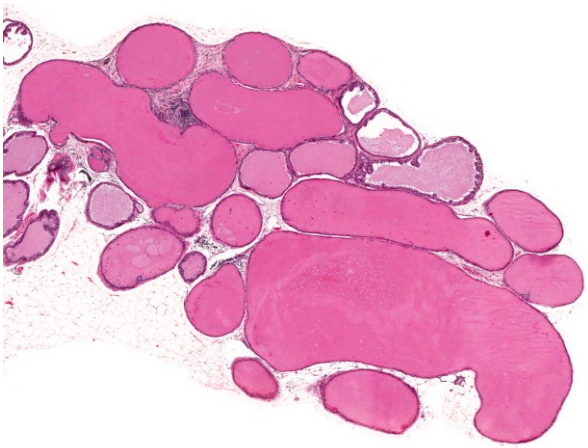
Coagulating gland – Dilation, Acinar



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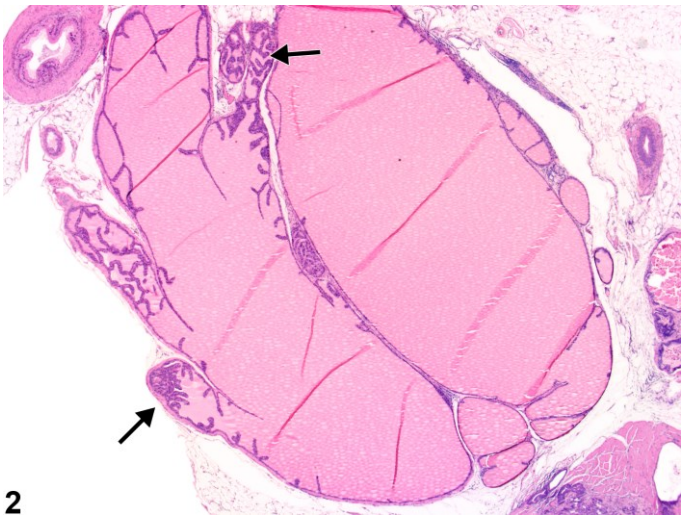

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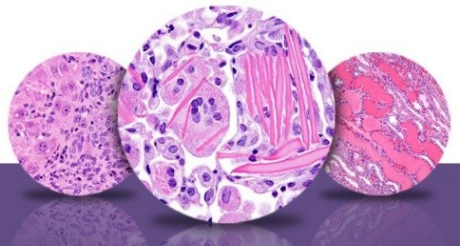
Figure Legend: Figure 1 Coagulating Gland - Dilation, Acinar. Acinar dilation of the coagulating gland in a male B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study. **Figure 2** Coagulating Gland - Dilation, Acinar. Collapsed acini with infolding of epithelial structures are present (arrows) in a male B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study.

Comment: Acinar dilation is characterized by distension of glandular acini with abundant secretory product, reduction or loss of epithelial papillary folds, and flattening of the lining epithelium. Dilated acini may be distinguished by their turgid appearance, increased staining intensity of the retained secretion, and increased acinar size. This is likely an age-related change, and a causal association with chemical administration has not been established. Some pathologists do not diagnose the degree of dilation shown in Figure 1 and consider it to be within normal variation. The degree of ascinar dilation shown in Figure 2 definitely warrants diagnosis.

Recommendation: If a diagnosis of acinar dilation is made for a degree of dilation as shown in Figure 1, this change should be graded and consistently evaluated in all animals. In such a situation, the pathology narrative can provide diagnostic criteria used to support the diagnosis. The degree of dilation shown in Figure 2 is beyond expected normal variation and should be diagnosed and graded.



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