**Liver – Intrahepatocellular erythrocytes**

**Figure Legend:** Figure 1 Intrahepatocellular erythrocytes in a B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study. Figure 2 Intrahepatocellular erythrocytes in a B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study (higher magnification of Figure 1).

**Comment:** Intrahepatocellular erythrocytes are uncommon and may be seen as a spontaneous change in aging mice. However, in some NTP studies, this change appears to have been exacerbated by treatment. At low magnification, it may be confused with angiectasis; at higher magnification, enlarged hepatocytes are filled and expanded by numerous erythrocytes. Speculation that this change occurs by erythrophagocytosis or emperipolesis has not been confirmed by ultrastructural studies.

**Recommendation:** Intrahepatocellular erythrocytes should be documented whenever present, and the pathology narrative should include a description of the extent of the change. Any associated degenerative or other changes in the hepatic parenchyma should be diagnosed separately if warranted by the severity of these lesions; otherwise, they should be mentioned in the pathology narrative.
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References:


Abstract: http://www.cacheriverpress.com/books/pathmouse.htm


Full-Text: http://tpx.sagepub.com/content/38/7_suppl/5S.full

Author:

Robert R. Maronpot, DVM, MS, MPH, DACVP, DABT, FIATP
Senior Pathologist
Experimental Pathology Laboratories, Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC