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 emperiploesis 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

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