Skin – Pigment

Figure Legend: Figure 1 Pigment–accumulation of pigment-laden cells in the dermis in a male B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study. Figure 2 Pigment–accumulation of pigment-laden cells in the dermis in a male B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study.

Comment: The diagnosis of pigment in the skin is characterized by the accumulation of pigment-laden cells (melanocytes or macrophages) in the dermis or subcutis (Figure 1 and Figure 2). Pigment occurs almost exclusively in dermal studies as part of the response to topical application of a test article. Hence, pigment is typically accompanied by other lesions, such as inflammation (usually chronic or chronic active) or fibrosis.

Recommendation: When warranted (based on the judgment of the pathologist), pigment should be documented and assigned a severity grade. If it is a minor component of inflammation, it need not be diagnosed separately but should be described in the narrative.

Reference:

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