



NTP Nonneoplastic Lesion Atlas

Harderian Gland – Infiltration Cellular, Mononuclear Cell

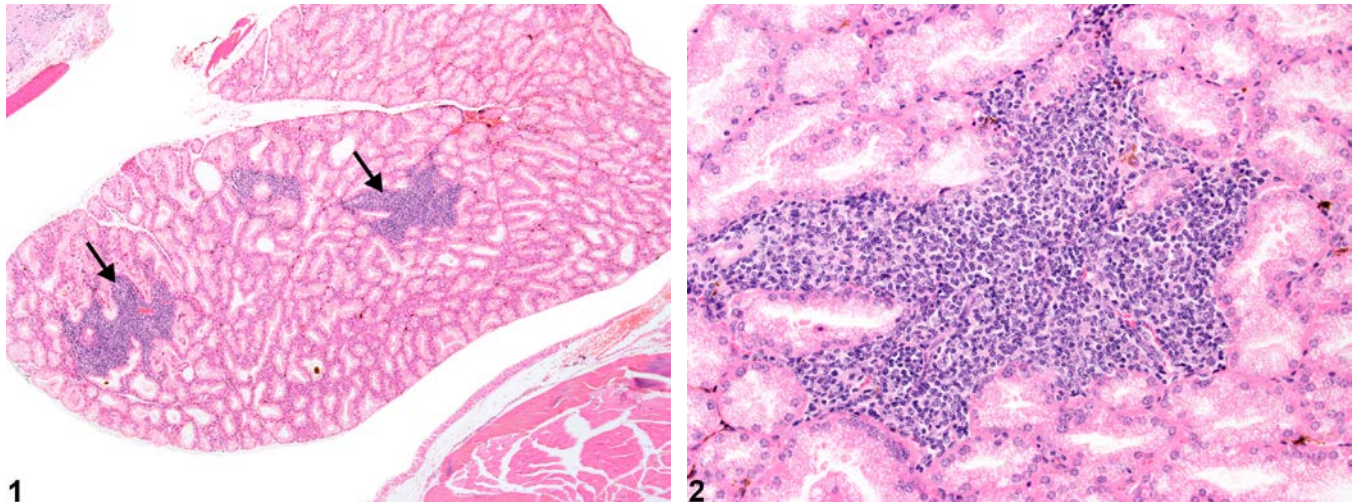
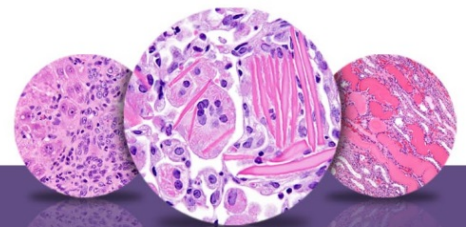


Figure Legend: **Figure 1** Harderian gland - Infiltration cellular, Mononuclear cell in a female B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study. Focal interstitial clusters of mononuclear cells (arrows) in the Harderian gland. **Figure 2** Harderian gland - Infiltration cellular, Mononuclear cell in a female B6C3F1 mouse from a chronic study (higher magnification of Figure 1). There are no other features of inflammation accompanying the mononuclear cell infiltrates.

Comment: Small focal clusters of inflammatory cells in the interstitium are common incidental findings in the Harderian gland of rats and mice. These infiltrates are most commonly mononuclear cells (lymphocytes) (Figure 1 and Figure 2), but other inflammatory cells may also be present. Increased incidences and severity of such infiltrates can also be associated with various pathologic conditions. Cellular infiltrates can be distinguished from inflammation by the presence of other features of inflammation, such as tissue destruction, hemorrhage, fibrosis, edema, or additional types of leukocytes.

Recommendation: Harderian gland infiltrates should be diagnosed and assigned a severity grade, especially when there are treatment-related increases in incidence and/or severity. The predominant type of cell present should be indicated in the diagnosis as a modifier (e.g., Harderian gland - Infiltration cellular, Mononuclear cell). If there is an even mix of cell types (i.e., no one cell type predominates), the modifier “mixed” may be used.



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Author:

Margarita M. Gruebbel, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Senior Pathologist
Experimental Pathology Laboratories, Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC