Figure Legend: Figure 1 A focal ulcer of the urothelium, with inflammation of the underlying submucosa and muscularis layers, from a male B6C3F1 mouse in a chronic study. Figure 2 A focal ulcer with extensive necrosis and acute inflammation from a male F344/N rat in a chronic study.

Comment: Ulcers may result from a number of etiologies, such as direct chemical exposure or as secondary lesions associated with inflammation, calculi, or tumors. Ulcers usually progress from urothelial erosions/necrosis and extend through the width of the urothelium, resulting in subepithelial hemorrhage and inflammation (Figures 1 and 2). The severity of the inflammation depends on the size and the chronicity of the ulcer. Acute ulceration may develop rapidly. Regenerative hyperplasia and/or fibrosis may be observed in chronic cases.

Recommendation: Ulcers should be diagnosed and given a severity grade. Inflammation and/or regenerative hyperplasia, when significant, should be diagnosed along with ulceration as an indicator of the chronicity of the lesion.

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