

Cells of the epididymal epithelial wall, in the groups treated with 125, and 250µg/kg were almost thicker than that of the control group (Figure 1); so each epididymal duct was bound by a single layer of specialized epithelium which rest on a thick basement membrane and enclosed a lumen filled with clumps of spermatozoa which are more abundant than that of the control. The epididymal duct had tall columnar epithelium bearing numerous very long microvilli, and basal nuclei (Figure 2). In the group treated with 250µg/kg, apoptotic and pyknotic cells seen frequently.

In groups received 500 µg/kg dose, cells of epididymal duct were seen commonly tall columnar

epithelium, having basal nuclei which were appeared as more crowded at the periphery of the duct, with unusually long micovilli, lined narrow lumina which were noticed to have less population of spermatozoa (Figure 3).

The group treated with 1000 µg / kg dose: The epididymal duct was viewed with thickened basement membrane, some areas showed fibrosis & necrotic changes. There was abundance in the number of spermatozoa , epithelial cells were looked more or less regressed in their height, their nuclei were viewed as less abundant at periphery of the duct, the micrivili also seemed to be shorter, and the lumina were appeared larger (Figure 4).

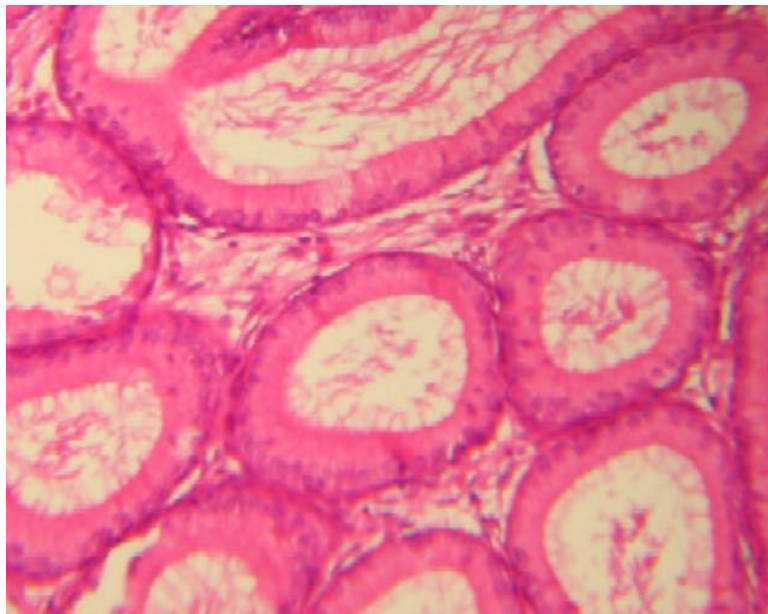


Figure 1: Epididymidis in control adult rat, X 200, H&E.