LIVER & SPLEEN

Objectives: By the end of this lecture, the student should be able to describe:

- 1. The histological structure of liver with special emphasis on:
 - Classical hepatic (liver) lobule.
 - Hepatocytes.
 - Portal tract (portal area).
 - Hepatic (liver) blood sinusoids.
 - Space of Disse (perisinusoidal space of Disse)
 - Bile canalculi.
- 2. The histological structure of **spleen** with special emphasis on:
 - White pulp.
 - Red Pulp.

LIVER

Pig's liver

1- Stroma:

a- Capsule: Glisson's Capsule.





- b- Septa (absent in human) & Portal areas (Portal tracts),
- c- Network of reticular fibers.
- 2- Parenchyma; Classical liver (hepatic) lobules.







CLASSICAL LIVER LOBULE (classical hepatic lobule)

It is formed of a polygonal mass of liver tissue, bounded by interlobular septa with portal areas at the periphery & central (centrolobular) vein in the center.

Human liver





Contents of the Classic Liver Lobule

- 1- Anastomosing plates of hepatocytes.
- 2- Liver blood sinusoids (hepatic blood sinusoids): In between the plates.
- 3- Spaces of Disse (perisinusoidal spaces of Disse).
- 4- Central vein.
- 5- Bile canaliculi.



Borders of the Classical Liver Lobule

 Septa: C.T. septa (e.g. in pigs).
 Portal areas (Portal tracts) (Portal triads): Are located in the corners of the classical hepatic lobule (usually 3 in No.).
 Contents of portal area: a- C.T.

- b- Bile ducts (interlobular bile ducts).
- c- Venule (Branch of portal vein).
- d- Arteriole (Branch of hepatic artery)







Hepatocytes (LM)

- Are grouped in interconnected plates.
- Liver sinusoids are located in the spaces between these plates.
- Are polyhedral in shape.
- Nucleus: 1 or 2, vesicular with prominent nucleoli.
- Cytoplasm: acidophilic.





Hepatocytes (EM)

Organelles:

- 1- Mitochondria: ++++
- 2- ER (sER & rER): abundant.
- 3- Golgi complex.
- 4- Lysosomes.
- 5- Peroxisomes.
- **Inclusions (Deposits):**
- 1- Glycogen 2- Lipid (few droplets).
- 3- Lipofuscin (old age)



Liver Blood Sinusoids

(1) Endothelial Cells:

- Fenestrated & discontinuous → free passage of plasma.
 Basal lamina is absent.
 (2) Kupffer Cells:
 - Are macrophages.
 - Are found on the luminal surface of the endothelial cells.
 - Function: phagocytosis.



Space of Disse (Perisinusoidal Space)

Contents:

1- Microvilli of hepatocytes. 2- Plasma of blood. 3- Hepatic stellate cells (Ito **Cells**) (Fat-storing cells): - contain vitamin A-rich lipid. - form reticulin (reticular fibers). **4-** Reticular fibers: (type III collagen). 5-Natural Killer (NK) cells.







Stroma of Spleen

1- Capsule:

- is covered by visceral layer of peritoneum; mesothelium
- Is formed of fibromuscular C.T. (Dense fibrous C.T. + SMCs (smooth muscle cells).

2- Trabeculae:

Are irregular, incomplete, divide the spleen into intercommunicating compartments (lobules).

3- Reticular C.T.



Parenchyma of Spleen

(A) White pulp.(B) Red pulp.

N.B. No cortex, No medulla, No afferent lymphatic vessel.



Parenchyma of Spleen

White Pulp:

- 1- <u>Periarterial lymphatic</u> <u>sheaths (PALS)</u>: housing T lymphocytes.
- 2- Lymphoid follicles (with germinal centers): housing **B** lymphocytes. N.B. Both 1&2 have the acentrically located central artery (central arteriole) (follicular arteriole).





Parenchyma of Spleen

(B) Red pulp:

 Splenic (pulp) cords: Extravasated blood cells, plasma cells, macrophages & reticular cells and fibers.
 Splenic blood sinusoids:

Are lined with elongated fusiform endothelial cells with large intercellular spaces & supported by discontinuous, circular basement membrane.







Cells of parenchyma of spleen

- 1. Lymphocytes.
- 2. Plasma cells.
- 3. Macrophages.
- 4. Blood elements (RBCs, leucocytes and blood platelets).

Splenic Microcirculation





BEST WISHES