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Clinical History: Two 5-week-old male Sprague Dawley research rats, housed in the same cage, were euthanized on the same day due to “infected cuts on their front fingers” (history per contributor). Bacterial cultures of joint fluid had no growth.

Necropsy Findings: On necropsy, both rats had variable swelling of the front feet and digits with purulent discharge and crusted ulcers (Figure 1).

Gross and Microscopic Image:

Follow-up Questions: Morphologic diagnosis, condition, etiologic agent, and sequelae.

*The Diagnostic Exercises are an initiative of the Latin Comparative Pathology Group (LCPG), the Latin American subdivision of The Davis-Thompson Foundation. These exercises are contributed by members and non-members from any country of residence. Consider submitting an exercise! A final document containing this material with answers and a brief discussion will be posted on the CL Davis website (http://www.cldavis.org/diagnostic_exercises.html).

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