**Figure 7**

**Leydig cells (LCs) and apical stratum of *A. mexicanum* (AB)**

**4 months 24 months 48 months**

**DSH**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| **VSH** |  |  |
| **DST/F** |  |  |
| **VST/F** |  |  |
| **CRS** |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**VST**

**Legends and Description. AB pH 2.5 Stain**. Dorsal skin of the head (**DSH**), Ventral skin of the head (**VSH**), Dorsal skin of the trunk at the forelimb level (**DST/F**), Ventral skin of the trunk at the forelimb level (**VST/F**), Caudal ridge skin (**CRS**) and Ventral skin of the tail (**VST**). The scale bar in the photomicrographs corresponds to 25 µm. The age of each specimen is indicated in each column. In the 4-month-old specimen, intense AB pH 2.5-positive staining was observed in the apical domains (**black arrows**) and a few cytoplasmic granules of cuboidal-shaped cells from the apical stratum. Notably, an AB-positive flocculating material covered all analyzed cutaneous regions. In 24- and 48-month-old adult axolotls, cuboidal cells and more squamous-shaped cells, along with the flocculating material cover (**black arrows**), displayed AB pH 2.5-positive staining, predominantly in ventral cutaneous regions. LC granules were not AB pH 2.5 positive; however, in some cutaneous regions, the cytoplasmic granules exhibited a strong red stain (**yellow arrows**).