**Figure 9**

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

**4 months 24 months 48 months**

**DSH**

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

**VST**

**Legends and Description: MT 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 represents 25 µm. The age of each specimen is indicated in each column. In the 4-month-old axolotl, the epidermis stained reddish-ochre, while the LCs appeared gray with few black granules (**circles**). The 24-month-old axolotl exhibited a bluish coloration in the epidermis, with LCs displaying a blue-tinged Langerhans network on the cytoplasmic periphery (**yellow arrows)**, surrounding numerous dark-red-brown granules (**red arrows)**. In some skin regions of the 48-month-old axolotl, the LCs contained emerald-green colored granules (**black arrows)** (DSH, VSH), while others had dark-red-brown granules (**red arrows)** (VST/F, DST/F), and some regions showed both types of granules (CRS). The basal membranes were well-defined and blue stained.