MASSIVE SPLENOMEGALY

This specimen shows massive splenomegaly. It is about ten times enlarged. There are no visible necrotic or hemorrhagic areas. Massive splenomegaly (weighing more than 1kg) is usually seen in chronic myeloproliferative disorders (chronic myeloid leukemia, myeloid metaplasia with myelofibrosis), chronic lymphocytic leukemia (less massive), hairy cell leukemia, lymphomas, malaria.

PHOTOGRAPH OF A MASSIVELY ENLARGED SPLEEN

The spleen is enlarged from the normal 300 grams or less to between 500 and 1000 gm. Also note the irregular pale tan plaques over the purple capsule known as "sugar icing" or "hyaline perisplenitis" which follows the splenomegaly and/or multiple episodes of peritonitis. (Curtesy of library.med.utah.edu/WebPath, Mercer University School of Medicine, Georgia, USA)