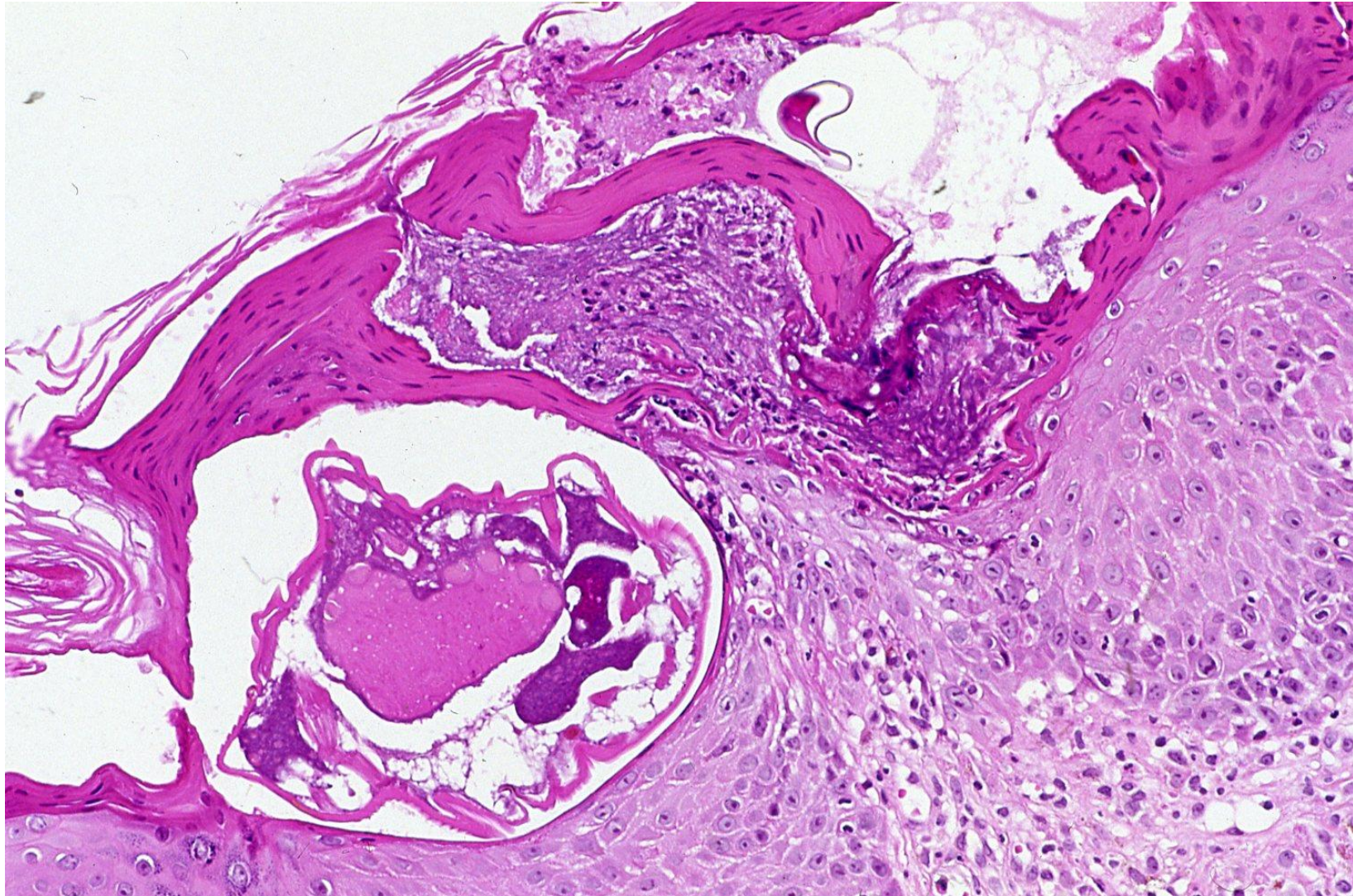


Scraping cytology of scabies: unstained preparations

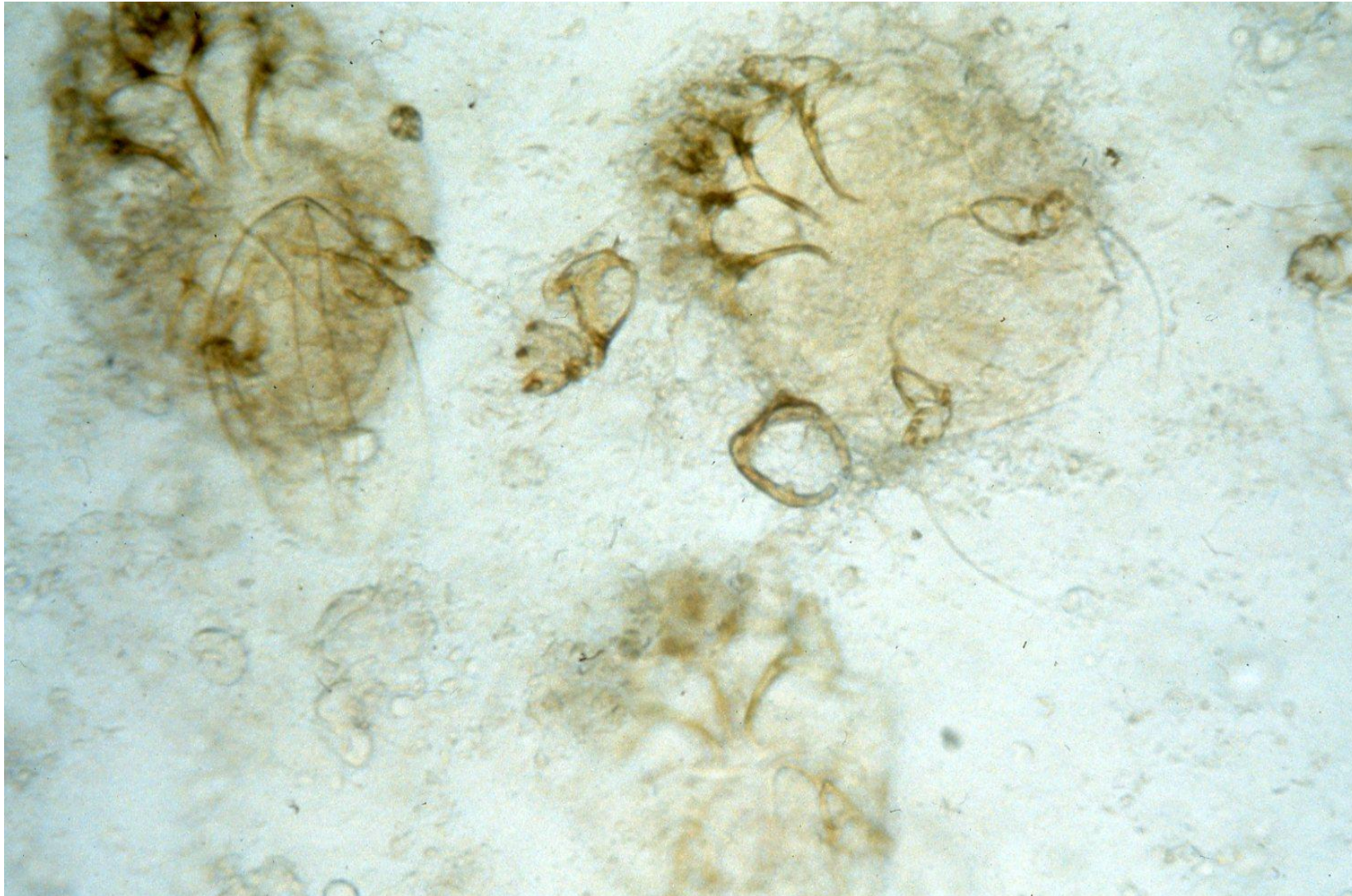
Potassium hydroxide (KOH) solution has the ability to dissolve keratin scraped from the outer layer of skin. The KOH treatment allows the microscopic identification of organisms such as dermatophytes or scabies, and helps to establish the correct diagnosis. Scraping from the mite burrow is useful to identify adult and larval mites, ova and brown-colored feces under the microscope. Unstained preparations are used for evaluation.



Scabies. A mite burrow is seen on the base of the toe.



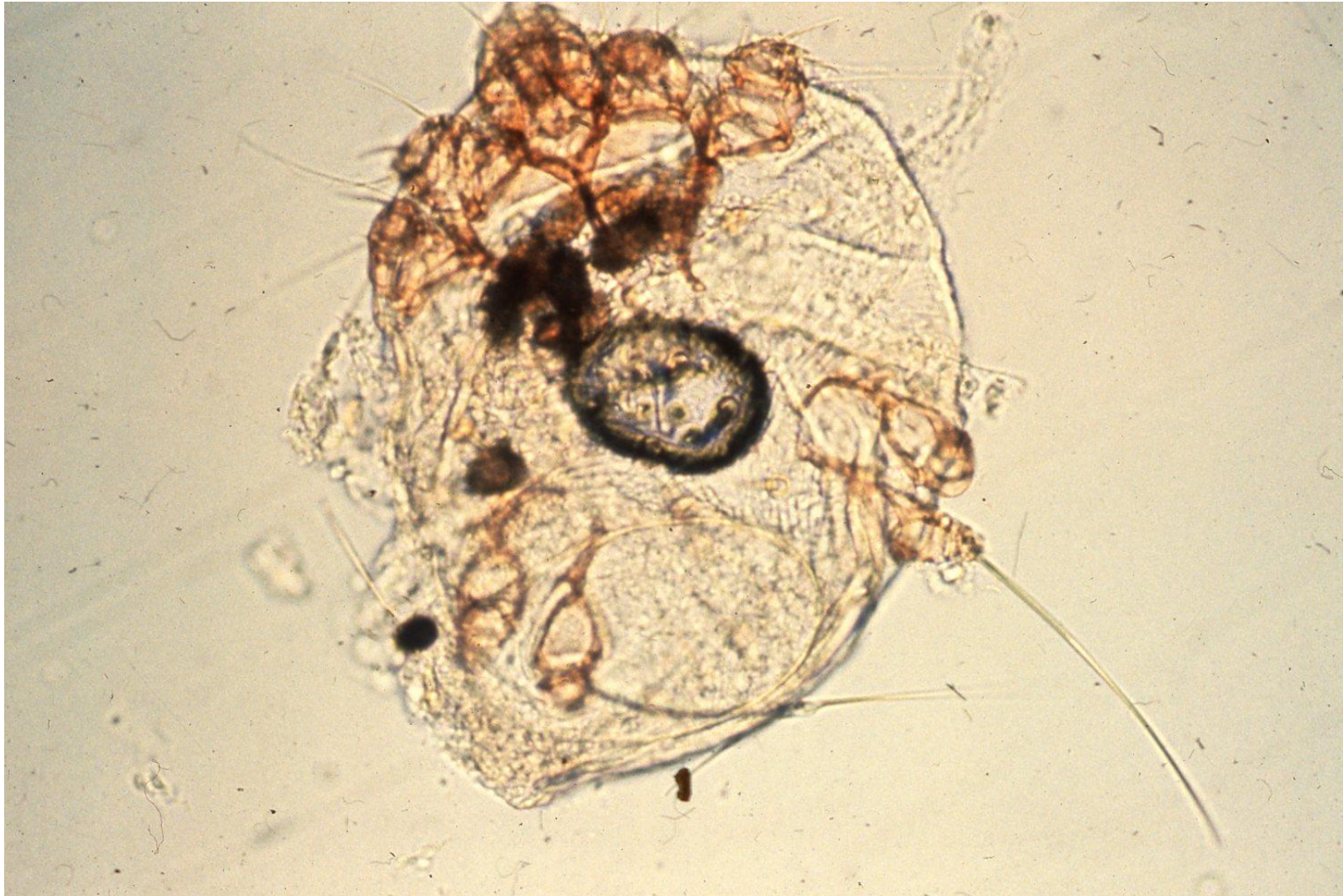
The biopsy from the mite burrow shows an adult mite in the burrow formed within the cornified layer. H&E



KOH-treated skin scrape sampled from the mite burrow shows adult mites and ova. Unstained preparation-1



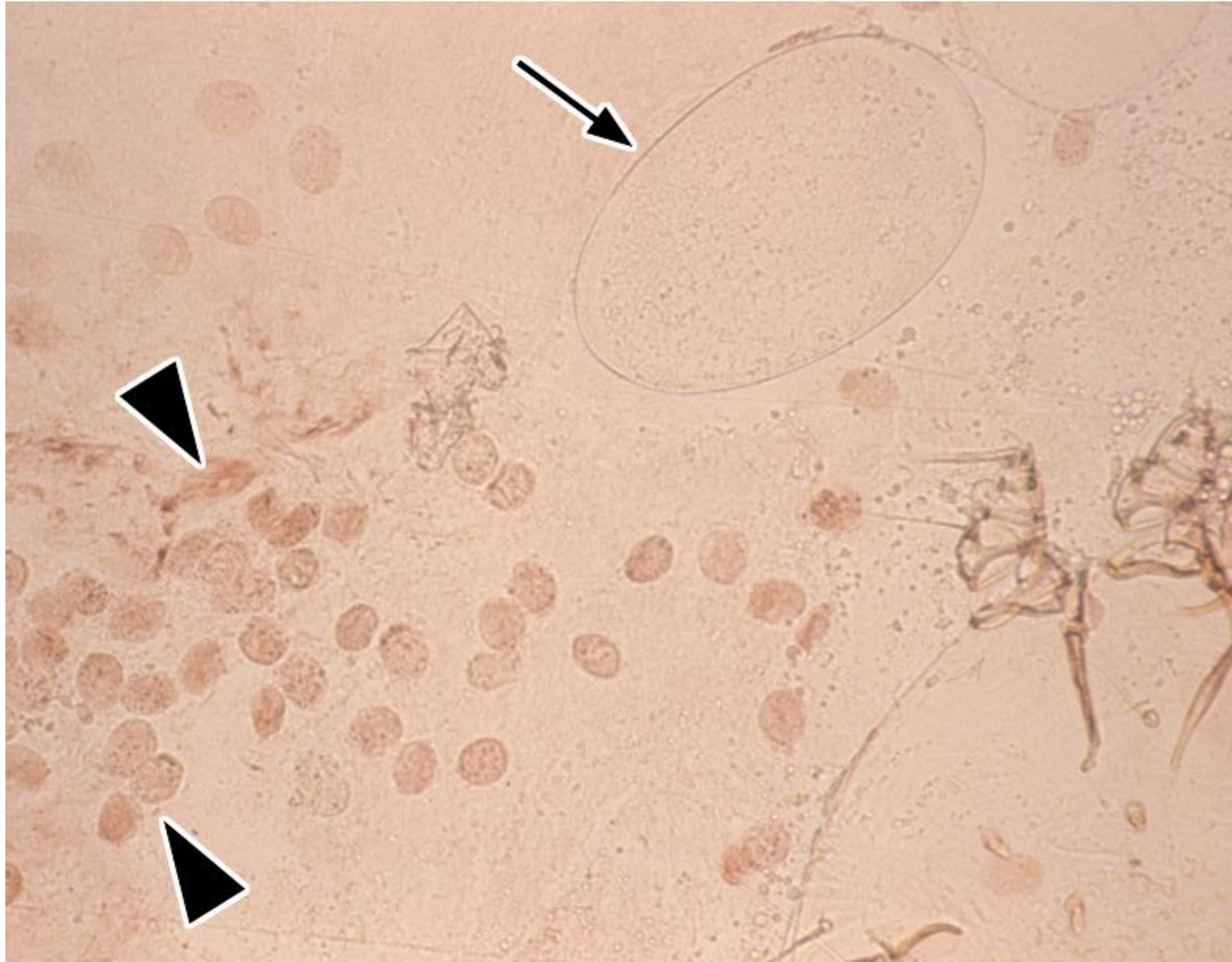
KOH-treated skin scrape sampled from the mite burrow shows an adult mite. Four pairs of legs are noted. Unstained preparation-2



KOH-treated skin scrape sampled from the mite burrow shows an adult mite. Four pairs of legs are noted. Unstained preparation-3



KOH-treated skin scrape sampled from the mite burrow shows an adult mite. Four pairs of legs are noted. Unstained preparation-4



KOH-treated skin scrape sampled from the mite burrow shows an ovum (arrow) and pieces of feces (arrowheads). Unstained preparation