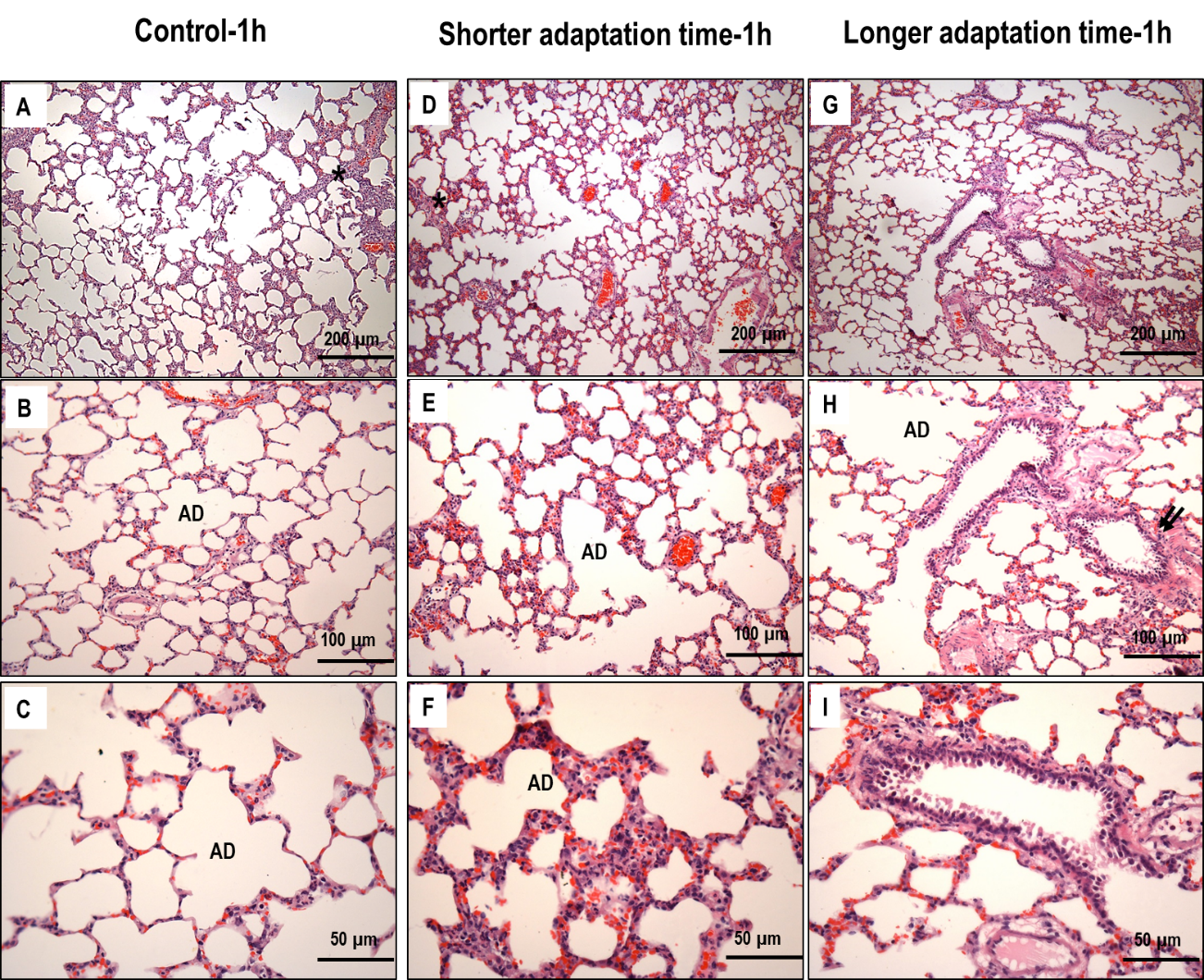
**Supplemental Digital Content 9**



**figure 5.** Representative photomicrographs (light microscopy) of lung parenchyma stained with hematoxylin and eosin. Asterisks show areas of alveolar collapse. Two arrows indicate areas of alveolar/interstitial edema. AD: alveolar duct. Photomicrographs are representative of data obtained from lung sections of eight animals. Control-1h: low tidal volume (VT) – mechanical ventilation with a protective strategy (VT=6ml/kg) for 1 hour; shorter adaptation time-1h: high VT achieved after a short ‘run-up’ adaptation time – VT=6mL/kg during the first 30 minutes followed by a slow VT increase up to 22mL/kg for 30 minutes; and longer adaptation time-1h: high VT with a longer adaptation time – a slow VT increase from 6 mL/kg to 22 mL/kg during 1 hour.