



Caption: Removal of red blood cells in the liver: false-colour scanning electron micrograph (SEM) showing the phagocytosis of red blood cells (red discs) by a Kupfer cell, a type of tissue-fixed macrophage in the sinusoids of the liver. The lining of the porous capillaries or sinusoids of the liver is composed of 2 cell types: endothelial cells (bronze) and Kupfer cells (yellow), which are highly irregular in shape. The Kupfer cells serve to purge blood of old, redundant red blood cells by engulfing & breaking them down in a process called phagocytosis. Magnification: $\times 1970$ at $6\times 7\text{cm}$ size.
Cover credit: PROF. P. MOTT/DEPT. OF ANATOMY/UNIVERSITY "LA SAPIENZA", ROME/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY.

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