



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

DERMOSCOPIIC FINDINGS IN TRICHOThIODYSTROPHY

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Background: A 24-year-old female presented with a previously undiagnosed congenital hair fragility disorder. Clinical exam revealed widespread scalp alopecia and short brown hair strands.

Observation: Polarized dermoscopy revealed numerous translucent silver hair strands with occasional alternating light and dark columns, better visualized at higher magnification. Polarized microscopy of the translucent hair shafts revealed numerous classic tiger-tail hairs, confirming the diagnosis of trichothiodystrophy. Trichothiodystrophy is group of disorders, most of which are autosomal recessive and presents in childhood with short and brittle sulfur-deficient hair. Some patients can present with a variation of the PIBIDS syndrome: photosensitivity, ichthyosis, intellectual impairment, decreased fertility, and short stature.

Key message: In clinical settings that do not allow for genetic testing or polarized microscopy, dermoscopy can be an alternative tool to diagnose trichothiodystrophy.

