



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

## DERMOSCOPY TO THE RESCUE

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**Introduction:** Hypertrophic lichen planus (HLP) , Prurigo nodularis (PN) and Reactive perforating collagenosis (RPC) mimic each other clinically and histopathologically which makes diagnosis difficult . Hence there is a need for diagnostic technique to differentiate these conditions . We performed dermoscopic examination for lesions of HLP , PN and RPC and compared the findings .

**Objective:** To study dermoscopic features of HLP , PN & RPC .  
To differentiate lesions of HLP , PN & RPC .

**Materials and methods:** We studied dermoscopic features of histopathologically proven 30 cases ,10 of each HLP , PN & RPC with videodermatoscope and clinicodermoscopic-histopathological correlation was done .

**Results:** On dermoscopy of HLP , Pearly white areas (Wickham striae), Peripheral striations & Yellow structures were seen in all 10 cases , Comedo-like openings 8 cases and blue gray areas in 5 cases .

On dermoscopy of PN dense white areas with radially arranged white lines “White starburst pattern” was seen in all 10 cases , Red dots in 7 cases & Red areas in 3 cases .

On dermoscopy of RPC Three different zones of yellowish brown structureless area in the center which is surrounded by second zone of white rim with third peripheral zone of erythematous halo and brown delicate pigmentation was seen.

This “Three zones pattern” was seen in all 10 cases of RPC .

This characteristic dermoscopic feature of three zones pattern resembles horizontal cut surface of tree trunk , so we labeled it as “Tree trunk appearance”

**Conclusion:** Thus dermoscope being non invasive instrument is helpful to diagnose and differentiate clinically similar looking lesions of HLP , PN and RPC which also avoids the need for skin biopsy .

