



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

USEFULNESS OF VIDEODERMOSCOPY IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF DEMODICOSIS

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Introduction: Diagnosis of demodicosis is usually confirmed with a semi-invasive test called 'standardized skin surface biopsy (SSSB)'. However, the skin of the patients with demodicosis is usually very sensitive. There is a gap for new non-invasive diagnostic tests. There have been only one study and two case reports published regarding the usefulness of handheld dermoscopy in the diagnosis. Videodermoscopic findings of demodicosis has not been developed yet.

Objective: Our aim is to determine the videodermoscopic features of demodicosis. These findings may provide a non-invasive and easy method for diagnosis, and to be used instead of SSSB which is semi-invasive, time consuming and irritating.

Materials and Methods: This study included 26 patients with facial demodicosis which were confirmed with SSSB and responded well to anti-Demodex therapy. 26 age- and sex-matched individuals without demodicosis who consulted dermatology clinic for other than facial eruption, constituted the control group. Dermatologic evaluation included clinical observation along with microscopic examination with SSSB. All photographs of the clinical and dermoscopic findings were taken with the videodermoscope.

Results: Microscopic examination revealed that hyperkeratotic cuffs were only present in the patient group (73,1%). Spicules that correspond to the presence of the 'demodex mites' itself was a constant feature which appeared in all of the patients, in our study. Grey dots were described as the second major videodermoscopic feature that correspond to the dilated hyperkeratotic follicular openings. In this study, they were significantly more common (88.5%) in the patient group. Epidermal scale and red dots were also detected with a higher prevalence in the patient group.

Conclusions: Spicules should be considered as sign of demodicosis, whereas detection of grey dots, epidermal scale and red dots may arise the suspicion of demodicosis. We concluded that it seems possible to diagnose demodicosis by videodermoscopy.

