



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

UTILITY OF TRICHOSCOPY IN PEDIATRIC HAIR DISORDERS

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Background: Trichoscopy being a non invasive technique is a useful tool in pediatric hair disorders that can obviate the need for painful and invasive procedures such as trichogram and a scalp biopsy. It can swiftly screen other areas such as eyebrows and eyelashes which can be difficult to evaluate using different methods.

In addition to an aid in the clinical diagnosis, it is also helpful to know the activity of the condition, monitor treatment and prognosticate the patient.

We present a series of cases where in pediatric trichoscopy done using Dermlite DL4N in polarised and non-polarised mode has been a useful aid.

Observation:

Case Number/Condition/Findings/Utility of trichoscopy

- 1/Alopecia Areata (AA)/Exclamation mark hair/Craters on moon/Active disease
- 2/Loss of hair within 2 weeks after birth/Cluster of star appearance/Atrichia with papules
- 3/Hair loss with ichthyosis linearis circumflexa/Trichorrhhexis invaginata/Netherton syndrome
- 4/Silvery hair with neurodevelopmental delay/Irregularly placed clumps of melanin/Elejalde syndrome
- 5/Alopecia with moth eaten appearance/Corkscrew hair/Tinea capitis (TC)
- 6/Alopecia mimicking trichotillomania(TTM)/Morse code hair/TC
- 7/Scaly alopecic plaque mimicking psoriasis/Corkscrew hair within scales/TC
- 8/Alopecic patch mimicking AA/Trichoptilosis, Follicular hemorrhage/TTM
- 9/Stable Alopecic patch since 2 years of age in an 8 year old/Vellus hair/Temporal triangular alopecia
- 10/Alopecia in a child on chemotherapy/Pohl pinkus constriction/Anagen effluvium
- 11/Child with matting of body hair/Twisted and knotted hair/Twisted and knotted body hair
- 12/1.5 year old child with patch of rough light colored hair since birth/Light colored hair with 'crawling snake appearance'/Wooly hair nevus

Key message: A trichoscope is an invaluable tool in pediatric dermatology practice.

