



HAIR DISORDERS

FRONTAL FIBROSING ALOPECIA MIMICKING ANDROGENETIC ALOPECIA

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Introduction: Frontal fibrosing alopecia (FFA) is a primary lymphocytic scar alopecia that mainly affects postmenopausal women. Over the last two decades, an increasing number of cases have been reported. Recognizing AFF can be a challenge when it manifests itself with unusual characteristics. We report an observation of unusual clinical presentations of FFA.

Observation: A 52-year-old woman with no significant history, who present 16 years ago an asymptomatic hair loss on the median area of the skull. She was treated as an androgenetic alopecia with 2% then 5% of minoxidil, given the lack of improvement of its condition, she was referred to our department. The physical examination revealed the presence of a receding frontotemporal margin that continues with a band of scarred alopecia on the midline of the scalp. The sign of traction was negative. Dermoscopy showed the absence of follicular opening, erythema and perifollicular dander, and pearly white areas. A biopsy was performed at the level of the temporal edge objectifying an LPP.

Key message: In order to reach the right diagnosis for these atypical forms of FFA and for better clinical evaluation, it is important to use dermoscopy as a non-invasive rapid diagnostic tool to correct errors with the naked eye, guide the biopsy and increase accuracy of clinical examination in hair disorders.

Knowledge of these incomplete or atypical forms of FFA is essential for the differential diagnosis of scarring and non-scarring alopecia, the determination of prognostic definitions and the development of appropriate therapies.

