



HAIR DISORDERS

MALE PATTERN HAIR LOSS: A SEARCH FOR THE IDEAL CLASSIFICATION

Christopher Wirya⁽¹⁾ - Stephen Wirya⁽²⁾ - Jinran Lin⁽¹⁾ - Wenyu Wu⁽¹⁾

Fudan University, Huashan Hospital Department Of Dermatology, Shanghai, China⁽¹⁾ -Boston University, Boston Medical Center Department Of Dermatology, Boston, United States⁽²⁾

Introduction: Male Pattern Hair loss is the most common type of hair loss worldwide. Numerous ways have been proposed to classify male pattern hair loss with various results. A good male pattern hair loss classification is based on three variables: accuracy, concordance, and ease of use. Unfortunately, the numerous classifications currently available are unable to fulfill these criteria.

Objective: Here we propose a novel way to improve the diagnostic and monitoring capability of physicians regarding male pattern hair loss that balances between accuracy, concordance and ease of use. We also propose a standardized method to objectively assess male pattern hair loss classification based on accuracy, concordance and ease of use.

Methods: A total of 140 patients were classified at two different time periods using three different classifications: Norwood Hamilton, Basic and Specific (BASP), and our Improved Norwood Hamilton. Our improved Norwood Hamilton contains one more category (2V) and density parameter for forelock and vertex area compared to the original Norwood Hamilton. All three classifications will be compared based on its accuracy, concordance and ease of use.

Results: The accuracy of our improved Norwood Hamilton classification is higher compared to original Norwood Hamilton but lower compared to BASP classification. In terms of concordance and ease of use, our improved Norwood Hamilton was able to perform better than other classifications.

Conclusions: Our Improved Norwood Hamilton can be the solution that can balance accuracy, concordance and ease of use in the world of MPHL classifications. Our improved Norwood Hamilton was able to perform well in the accuracy variable whereas in the other variables it performed better than other classifications. We also hope that in future searches for the ideal MPHL classification, our standardized assessment method based on the three criteria can be used by other researchers.





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