



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

THE CASE OF LICHEN PLANUS IN A CHILD.

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Background: Lichen planus (LP) is a mucocutaneous disease of unknown etiology, which is relatively common in adults but rarely presents in children. In children LP is most common in tropical countries. According to the literature, combination of skin and mucosal involvement is most common in childhood LP. There are only single cases describing clinical manifestations of LP on a scalp in a child.

Observation: We present a 7 years old female patient with itchy lesions on the scalp and body for 3 years. Small papules distributed on her trunk and limbs were pale and mild inflamed. On the scalp, there were manifested distinct inflammatory nodules with areas of alopecia around them. Dermoscopy revealed skin atrophy. Visible mucosa was not involved. The patient was diagnosed with various diagnoses (scabies, atopic dermatitis) and treated in different clinics without any result.

The biopsy was performed from the trunk. Histological examination revealed epidermal atrophy, the basal layer vacuolisation and lymphohistiocytic infiltration; a prominent lymphocytic infiltration around follicle and within dermal-epidermal junction, as well melanin-laden macrophages in the dermis was shown.

The diagnosis of LP was made based on the clinical signs and results of histopathology. After 3 weeks treatment with topical corticosteroids, antihistamines and griseofulvin. The clinical improvement was achieved, but not totally resolution of the lesions.

Key message: Prognosis of LP is poorly defined in the literature. Authors emphasize the long term duration of this disease and its resistance to the treatment especially in a childhood. Should be noted the rarity of the presented case –with unusual clinical manifestation on the scalp. As LP represents an uncommon dermatosis among the children especially with multiple lesions histomorphological examination is important to make a correct diagnosis and to treat the patient on time adequately.

