



DERMAPEARLS: DERMOSCOPY -14  
CICATRICALA ALOPECIA -7:  
ACNE KELOIDALIS NUCHAE/FOLLICULITIS KELOIDALIS NUCHAE

- Acne keloidalis nuchae (AKN) / folliculitis keloidalis nuchae (FKN) is a chronic inflammatory condition which involves hair follicles localized predominantly in occipital scalp and posterior neck area leading to hypertrophic scarring alopecia.

- It is believed that chronic local mechanical irritation to the nuchal and the occipital area, by frequent shaving, picking or friction to hair that is kinky, leads to follicular irritation, exposure to follicular alloantigens that evoke an immune response with inflammation, follicular destruction.

- predominantly seen in males, suggesting that androgens may be a factor which contributes directly or indirectly.

Erythematous papules, with pustules on the occipital scalp.



Trichoscopic features:

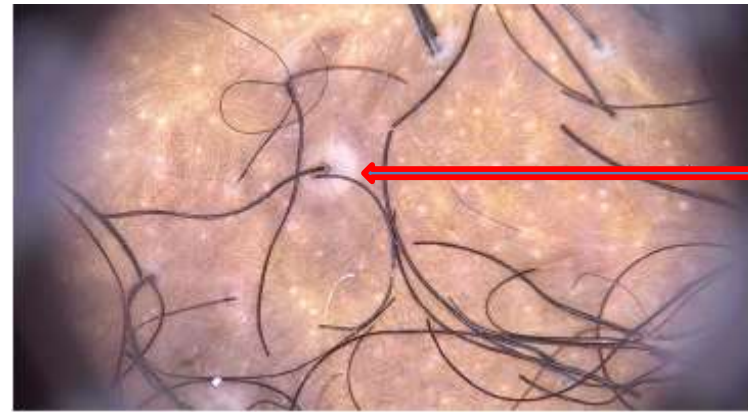


(A) A white halo surrounding hair follicles and dilated follicular ostia filled with keratin associated with black dots.

(B) Perifollicular pustules and tufted hairs.



Early AKN: folliculocentric papules with a red rim.



These late lesions show white folliculocentric papules and irregular pigmented network



Early AKN: Folliculocentric papules with crown vessels

### Trichoscopy the features depend on the stage:

- **Early stage** shows folliculocentric pink papules and pustules with a red rim and white streaks and crown vessels, which correspond to chronic inflammatory infiltrate and perifollicular fibrosis; broken hairs and peripilar casts ensue from the follicular destruction.
- **Later stage** shows white follicular papules, white patches at the site of loss of follicular openings and irregular pinpoint white dots. Intact hair follicles at the margins may exhibit tufting.