

DERMA PEARLS : DERMOSCOPY-9

CICATRICIAL ALOPECIA-2 : FRONTAL FIBROSING ALOPECIA

- Frontal fibrosing alopecia (FFA) is a **primary lymphocytic cicatricial alopecia** within the spectrum of lichen planopilaris usually affects postmenopausal women
- It is characterized clinically by slowly progressive symmetric hairline recession in the frontotemporal and/or frontoparietal region.



DERMOSCOPIC FINDINGS

SCALP:

- ✓ Lack of follicular openings
- ✓ Absence of Vellus hair
- ✓ Minor perifollicular scaling
- ✓ Perifollicular erythema- chracteristic feature
- ✓ Homogenous ivory-colored background
- ✓ Lonely hairs- hair margin
- ✓ Follicular hyperkeratosis
- ✓ Perifollicular brown or brown-violet areas
- 🗸 Pili torti

EYE BROWS:

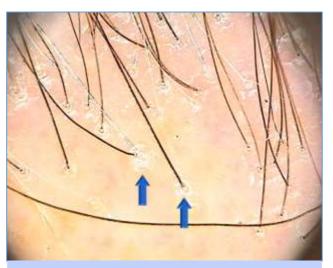
- Multiple regularly distributed red dots (early phase of disease)
- Multiple regularly distributed red or gray to gray-brown dots (advanced disease)



Loss of follicular openings and absent vellus hair with ivory-colored background



Brown and brown-violet perifollicular discoloration(blue arrow); Empty Hair follicle (white arrow)



Mild perifollicular scaling and Subtle tubular scaling- blue arrows



"Lonely hairs" in homogenous ivory background

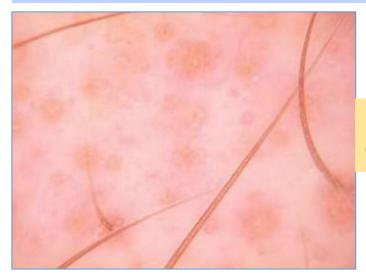


Follicular hyperkeratosis-white arrow Perifollicular erythema- black arrow



Pili torti

Lateral loss of eyebrows in frontal fibrosing alopecia Partial or complete loss of eyebrows is observed in 50–83 % of patients with FFA



Red dots - multiple empty hair follicles in early phase of FFA

Gray dots - Several densely packed empty follicles in advanced FFA



✓ Red dots- early phase

✓ Gray dots-advanced phase

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Ref:Atlas of Trichoscopy; L.Rudnicka et al Rubegni P, Mandato F, Fimiani M. Frontal fi brosing alopecia: role of dermoscopy in differential diagnosis. Case Rep Dermatol. 2010;2(1):40–5.