(Table 1). All portions of this study were conducted as a part of an institutional review board—approved study at Washington University School of Medicine.

We found a younger age of HS onset in our patients with DS, and an overall increased prevalence of DS in our HS population. The mean age of HS symptom onset in those with DS was 14.9 years compared with 23.3 years ($P = .018$) for those without DS. We were able to obtain age of HS symptom onset in only 8 of 16 of the patients with DS. However, only 2 of 16 of patients with DS presented with HS after the age of 19 years—the median age of HS onset in general. The 2.4% prevalence of DS in our population of patients with HS was approximately 29 times higher than the 0.083% prevalence of DS in the general population. Although this relationship may be falsely exaggerated as a result of referral bias, we believe that bias alone could not account for such a massive increase in prevalence.

These results support the notion that DS is associated with the development of HS, particularly at a younger age. Further investigation into the nature of the relationship between these 2 disease entities is warranted.

George Denny, BS, and Milan J. Anadkat, MD

Division of Dermatology, Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, Missouri

Supported by the Washington University Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences grant TL1 TR000449 from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.

Disclosure: Dr Anadkat has received honoraria as a speaker and/or consultant from AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Eisai, ImClone, and Therakos. He has also served as an investigator for Hana Biosciences and Xoma. Mr Denny has served as a consultant for Epharmix.

Correspondence to: Milan J. Anadkat, MD, Division of Dermatology, Washington University School of Medicine, 660 S Euclid Ave, Campus Box 8123, St Louis, MO 63110

E-mail: manadkat@dom.wustl.edu

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http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2016.04.045

Clinical and trichoscopic characteristics of temporal triangular alopecia: A multicenter study

To the Editor: Congenital triangular alopecia, also called temporal triangular alopecia (TTA), is an asymptomatic permanent circumscribed noncicatricial alopecia.1,2 It manifests as an alopecic patch without any underlying cutaneous alterations usually confined to one frontotemporal region of the scalp. Fine vellus hairs may be present. TTA is usually noted in children between 3 and 6 years of age and has been associated with Down syndrome, leukonychia, sectorial hyperpigmentation of the iris, woolly hair, mental retardation, epilepsy, and other malformations, such as Dandy-Walker and LEOPARD syndromes.

The genetic basis of TTA is unknown but a paradigmatic trait is suspected.3 The major differential diagnoses are the non-cicatricial circumscribed alopecias including alopecia areata, trichotillomania, traction alopecia, and aplasia cutis congenita.5 To our knowledge neither large series of patients with TTA nor the dermoscopic features of the condition have been published.5,6

The objective of this observational multicenter study was to describe the clinical and trichoscopic findings of patients with TTA. Thirty-one patients with TTA were seen in 2014 at 6 hospitals in Spain: Jaen, Seville, Madrid, Barcelona, Valencia, and Granada. Variables were (1) demographics: age, sex, height, weight, body mass index; (2) clinical characteristics: age at diagnosis, shape (triangular, oval, lancet; unilateral/bilateral), and size (maximum diameter); (3) dermatologic and nondermatologic comorbidities; (4) trichoscopic features with non-polarizing or polarizing dermoscope; (5) treatment regimen: expectant, topical corticosteroids, local injection of corticosteroids, topical minoxidil, surgery; and (6) efficacy of treatment: patient’s perception and dermatologist’s perception.
Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS 15.0 software. Seventeen females and 14 males were included. The major clinical features are listed in Table I. More than half of patients (n=19) were diagnosed at birth. Triangular shape was the most prevalent and was seen in 15 cases (48.4%), followed by oval shape in 12 cases (38.7%) and lancet shape in 4 cases (12.9%). Twenty-one of 28 cases were on the left side and 7 cases were on the right (Fig 1). The rate of bilateral occurrence was 6.5% (2 cases). Of 26 lesions measured, mean maximum diameter was 3.67 cm. Mean size of lesions was 3.6 cm in 20 patients younger than 16 years old and 3.9 cm in patients older than 16 years. Only 5 cases (16.1%) presented with nondermatologic comorbidities, including prematurity at birth, Down syndrome,
and bronchial asthma. One adult patient was referred for deep venous thrombosis and 1 case presented with Gilbert’s syndrome. A history of dermatologic comorbidities, including atopic dermatitis (14/17), psoriasis, contact dermatitis, amyloidosis, SAHA syndrome (seborrhea, acne, hirsutism, and alopecia), and vitiligo, was present in 54.8% (17/31) of subjects.

Trichoscopy was performed in 19 cases (61.3%), mostly using a contact dermoscope (16 cases) (Fig 2). Trichoscopic features are listed in Table II. White hairs and diversity of diameter were the most frequently features observed (18/19), followed by vellus hair (16/19), empty follicles (12/19), and white dots (10/19). Diagnosis was made by clinical appearance, and biopsy was not necessary. No family history of TTA was obtained. No improvement with expectant treatment was apparent after a mean of 81.96 months. Five patients (16.1%) used topical corticosteroids and three patients were treated with intralesional corticosteroids (triamcinolone acetonide) with no evidence of improvement. One patient experienced improvement with topical minoxidil 5% and topical corticosteroids after 6 months of treatment. No patients underwent surgery.

Table II. Trichoscopic features observed in temporal triangular alopecia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trichoscopic sign (N=19)</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>&lt;16 years (N=13)</th>
<th>≥16 years (N=6)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White hairs</td>
<td>18 (94.7%)</td>
<td>12 (92.3%)</td>
<td>6 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity of diameter</td>
<td>18 (94.8%)</td>
<td>12 (92.3%)</td>
<td>6 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vellus hair surrounded by terminal hair</td>
<td>16 (84.2%)</td>
<td>12 (92.3%)</td>
<td>4 (66.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empty follicles</td>
<td>12 (63.1%)</td>
<td>6 (46.1%)</td>
<td>6 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White dots</td>
<td>10 (52.6%)</td>
<td>7 (53.8%)</td>
<td>3 (50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arboriform vascular pattern</td>
<td>4 (21%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow dots</td>
<td>3 (15.8%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epidermal scale</td>
<td>3 (15.8%)</td>
<td>2 (15.4%)</td>
<td>1 (16.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broken hairs</td>
<td>2 (10.5%)</td>
<td>1 (7.7%)</td>
<td>1 (16.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadaveric hairs</td>
<td>1 (5.2%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 (16.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black dots</td>
<td>1 (5.2%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 (16.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclamation point hairs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig 2. Temporal triangular alopecia. Trichoscopic signs observed in our patients. Red arrow, white hairs; red circle, diversity of diameter; blue arrow, vellus hair; green arrow, empty follicles.
Based on our study, TTA affects both sexes with a slight predominance in females. The left side is most often affected but it can be bilateral. Most cases are sporadic and have a triangular shape averaging 3.6 cm in length; other malformations are generally not found. It is usually diagnosed during the first 2 years of life. Trichoscopy is a useful tool for the diagnosis of uncertain cases and may reveal white hairs, vellus hairs, and hairs of diverse diameters. There is no consistently effective treatment.

Pablo Fernández-Crehuet, MD, PhD,a Sergio Vaño-Galván, MD, PhD,b Antonio Martorell-Calatayud, MD, PhD,c Salvador Arias-Santiago, MD, PhD,d Ramón Grimali, MD, PhD,e and Francisco M. Camacho-Martínez, MD, PhDf

Dermatology Service,a Hospital Universitario Reina Sofia, Instituto Maimónides de Investigación Biomédica (IMIBIC), Córdoba, Dermatology Service,b Hospital Ramón y Cajal, Madrid, Dermatology Service,c Hospital de Manises, Valencia, Dermatology Service,d Hospital Virgen de las Nieves, Granada, Dermatology Department,e Universitat de Barcelona, Universitat Internacional de Catalunya, and Dermatology Department,f Virgen Macarena University Hospital, Sevilla, Spain.

Funding sources: None.

Correspondence to: Pablo Fernández-Crehuet, MD, PhD, Hospital Universitario Reina Sofia, Avenida Menéndez Pidal s/n 14004, Córdoba, Spain

E-mail: pablocrebet@hotmail.com

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Effectiveness of the 308-nm excimer laser on hypopigmentation after lichen striatus: A retrospective study of 12 patients

To the Editor: Lichen striatus (LS) is a self-limited skin disease that primarily affects children. However, LS frequently leaves residual hypopigmentation, which has been reported in 25-59.1% of LS patients.1 Although the exact pathogenesis of the hypopigmentation after LS has not been established, histopathologic studies suggest that intense lichenoid inflammation attacks melanocytes in the basal layer of the epidermis. Existing treatments for LS are inadequate. Patrizi et al2 described 36 patients with LS who were treated with topical corticosteroids, which were not thought to influence the duration of the postinflammatory hypopigmentation.

Growing evidence suggests that 308-nm excimer lasers are effective for treating a variety of hypopigmentation disorders, including focal vitiligo, chemical leukoderma, pityriasis alba, hypopigmented scars, and nevus depigmentosus.3,4 The laser induces melanocyte proliferation, migration, and differentiation, and has the additional advantage of allowing targeted treatment of affected areas only.3,4 The most commonly reported side effects are post-treatment erythema and hyperpigmentation localized to the treated areas.4

We conducted a retrospective chart and photographic review of 12 patients with hypopigmentation after LS who underwent treatment with 308-nm excimer laser (XTRAC, PhotoMedex) from May 2009 to December 2014. We included all of the patients with hypopigmentation after LS who were treated with the laser for at least 4 weeks. The treatment was started at 125 or 150 mJ/cm² depending on the site and Fitzpatrick skin type, and was administered twice weekly. The dose was increased by 50 mJ/cm² at each session until posttreatment erythema occurred. Thereafter, the dose was kept constant at the minimal erythema dose. If the erythema persisted for more than 48 hours, the treatment was suspended until the erythema resolved and was resumed with a dose reduction of 50 mJ/cm².

Table I summarizes the patient characteristics and clinical outcomes. Eleven patients (91.7%) demonstrated complete response to the excimer laser treatment after a median treatment duration of 3.3 (range 1.9 to 6.2) months and a median of 17 (range 9 to 35) treatment sessions, while the remaining 1 achieved 85% repigmentation following 202 treatments delivered over 41.9 months (Fig 1). Persistent