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Trichoscopy: An important method for the differential diagnosis of hair and scalp diseases**Mustafa Turhan Sahin**
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Scalp Dermoscopy or 'trichoscopy' represents a valuable, noninvasive technique for the evaluation of patients with hair loss. It allows for magnified visualization of the hair and scalp skin, and may be performed with a manual dermoscope or a videodermoscope. The usual working magnifications are 20-fold to 70-fold. Although the handheld dermoscope with 10-fold magnification may give easy and quick evaluation of hair, it does not precisely measure or document. Trichoscopy is a helpful tool in differential diagnosis of common acquired hair diseases, such as androgenetic alopecia, or diffuse alopecia areata. In androgenetic alopecia, hair diameter diversity, perifollicular pigmentation/peripilar sign and yellow dots trichoscopically observed. This method is simple, quick and easy to perform, reduces the need for scalp biopsy, is well accepted by patients, and is useful for monitoring treatment and follow-up. It represents a valuable link between clinical and histologic diagnosis. New data show that trichoscopy may easily replace light microscopic evaluation of pulled hairs in genetic hair shaft abnormalities. Features such as hair thickness, number of hairs in one pilosebaceous unit, or terminal to vellus hair ratio may be assessed. Visualization of hair follicle ostia allows identification of follicles that appear normal, empty, fibrotic (White dots in trichoscopy), filled with hyperkeratotic plugs (Yellow dots in trichoscopy), or containing cadaverized hairs (Black dots in trichoscopy). Abnormalities of scalp skin color and structure, which include honey-comb type hyperpigmentation, perifollicular discoloration, perifollicular fibrosis, and abnormal perifollicular microvessels, can also be visualized by trichoscopy. As it is important to consider various trichoscopic findings together to establish the diagnosis of different hair and scalp diseases, characteristic trichoscopic features of each of them will be discussed in this presentation.

Biography

Mustafa Turhan Sahin has completed his Medical education in Erciyes University Medical Faculty, Kayseri, Turkey in 1989. His Dermatology residency was in Dokuz Eylül University Medical Faculty, Izmir, Turkey (between 1992 and 1997), during which he has worked hard on Dermoscopy. His thesis was on Dermoscopy, namely "Dermoscopy in Melanocytic Melanotic Lesions". This thesis was the first thesis on Dermoscopy in Turkey. Till now, he has presented many studies and case reports on Dermoscopy in national and international congresses, and given lectures as an instructor in many Dermoscopy courses which were held in national congresses and regional meetings. He is currently working as a Professor in the Celal Bayar University Medical Faculty Department of Dermatology, Manisa, Turkiye. He has won a Poster Award in national congress in 1999. Many of his studies and case reports were published in national and international journals. In 2013, he has attended to the Dermatology Department of UCSF as a visiting Professor, and had given two lectures on Dermoscopy to the residents. He is currently a Member of Dermatovenereology Association of Turkey, Turkish Dermatology Association, Turkish Dermatopathology Association, Turkish Skin and Venereologic Diseases Association, International Society of Dermatology (ISD), European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV), American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) (Since 2001). Moreover, he is also a Board Member in International Dermoscopy Society (IDS).

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