LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP OF PREVIOUSLY REPORTED CASE OF TRICHOMEGALY ASSOCIATED WITH ALOPECIA AREATA IN A 3-YEAR-OLD GIRL

To the Editor:

We presented a case of trichomegaly associated with new-onset alopecia areata in an otherwise healthy 3-year-old girl in our case report in Pediatric Dermatology in 2009 (Figs. 1 and 2) (1). We have followed this patient through several exacerbations and remissions since then, noting that the length of her eyelashes has correlated with activity of her alopecia areata. After first presenting to our clinic with trichomegaly and alopecia areata, the patient was initiated on treatment with betamethasone foam and pimecrolimus cream. At follow-up 2 months later, significant regrowth of scalp hair along with normalization of eyelash length was noted. Ten months later, she returned to our clinic with a recurrence of alopecia areata, as well as trichomegaly, similar to that at her initial presentation. The patient returned to clinic 2 months later with considerable scalp hair regrowth and normalization of eyelash length (Fig. 3A,B). The patient is continuing to experience scalp hair regrowth and normal short eyelashes bilaterally. As discussed in our report, cases of trichomegaly in the literature have been associated with various ophthalmic solutions and immunosuppressive agents, as well as acquired conditions such as human immunodeficiency virus, systemic lupus erythematosus, and dermatomyositis and rare inherited conditions such as Oliver-McFarlane syndrome (2–5). Our patient remains the first, to our knowledge, to present with recurrent episodes of trichomegaly with alopecia areata in the absence of any known associated inherited disorder, medical condition, or medication exposures. Follow-up correlation of her alopecia areata

Figure 2. Three-year-old girl with trichomegaly and alopecia areata. Patient during her initial clinic visit with bilateral trichomegaly.

Figure 3. Follow-up of 3-year-old girl with trichomegaly and alopecia areata 1 year after initial presentation. (A) Photograph taken by patient’s parents 1 year after initial presentation revealing significant scalp regrowth and normal eyelash length. (B) Close-up of photograph taken 1 year after initial presentation revealing normal eyelash length.
activity with eyelash length appears to have confirmed the association of these two conditions in our patient.

REFERENCES


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