

FRONTAL FIBROSING ALOPECIA

A study of the International Dermoscopy Society

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Aim

To evaluate the epidemiological, clinical, tricoscopic, confocal microscopy and histopathological features of frontal fibrosing alopecia.

Method

International, multicenter, prospective, descriptive and observational study on frontal fibrosing alopecia.

Data collection

Please provide gender, age, family history, smoking habit, menopausal age, associated diseases , (especially other disease of the scalp), history of surgery to the head or facial lifting, hair cosmetic practices (coloring), duration and severity of the disease, taking care to measure the distance between the glabella and the anterior hairline (there are 5 different degrees of severity: I if <1 cm, II if 1-2.99 cm, III if 3-4.99 cm, IV if 5-6.99 cm and V if > 7 cm), extension to the parietal and occipital areas of the scalp, involvement (partial or total) of eyebrows, eyelashes, body hair and/or beard, presence of facial papules, itching and/or trichodynia. Moreover, global photographies and trichoscopic images should be provided for each patient. Confocal microscopic images and histopathological images can be included if available, although they are not mandatory. When images are available, the cases will be reviewed by a Pathologist of the Coordinator centre (Bologna). Please provide only anonymized images.

In the case of any missing data, no further inquiry of the study coordinator will be possible to the sending centre and the case will not be available any more for this study.

Data collection will be closed in 6 months. Being a descriptive study, no minimal number of samples are required for power calculation/analysis.

The images can be submitted to the coordinating center by email or uploading them on a Google drive account created by the coordinator.

The database will involve all the patients enrolled in the clinic after obtaining informed consent, which will be provided by the coordinator center.

Data analyzing

The collected data of frontal fibrosing alopecia will be analyzed to determine the characteristic epidemiological, clinical, tricoscopic, confocal microscopy and histopathological features. The data revealed by the analysis will be processed using

statistics anonymously in order to be able to obtain information which constitute the purpose of the study.

The electronic archive will be stored in a dedicated PC located in the investigator's office. The access to this PC is restricted to authorized personnel. The data already collected from patients who subsequently withdraw from the study will not be processed.

Personal collected data are available to each co-authors, unless you have different suggestion about it taking in account previous studies.

Manuscript for publication

Everyone who sends at least one case will be named in a possible manuscript; if the number of participating colleagues is too high for the journal, the maximum of colleagues according to the number of included cases will be named and the remaining colleagues will be included into the "Frontal Fibrosing Alopecia IDS Study Group", which refers to the list of all participating colleagues into the manuscript.

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