

Clinical image

Scalp involvement in dermatomyositis

Arriana Gkouvi, Nektarios Marios Liapis, Dimitrios P. Bogdanos

Department of Rheumatology and Clinical immunology, University General Hospital of Larissa, Faculty of Medicine, School of Health Sciences, University of Thessaly, 40500 Larissa, Greece

*Corresponding Author's e-mail: bogdanos@uth.gr



Scalp involvement in dermatomyositis can severely impact a patient's quality of life. Our patient, a 56-year-old woman, has been suffering from dermatomyositis for the past 20 years. At diagnosis, she presented with proximal muscle weakness and rash, and an electromyography study and biopsy consistent with dermatomyositis. She had received methotrexate, azathioprine, hydroxychloroquine and steroids with no improvement regarding the scalp. It is known that the majority of treatments for scalp dermatomyositis result in no or minimal improvement [1].

Currently she remains with no muscle weakness and a Janus kinase inhibitor (JAKi) was initiated, aiming to improve the scalp involvement.

References:

[1] Jasso-Olivares J, Diaz-Gonzalez JM, Miteva M. Horizontal and vertical sections of scalp biopsy specimens from dermatomyositis patients with scalp involvement. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2018 Jun;78(6):1178-1184. doi: 10.1016/j.jaad.2018.01.031. Epub 2018 Jan 31. PMID: 29409918.