

# Panoramic dermatoscopic imaging in hair conditions: Scanning trichoscopy

Dear Editor,

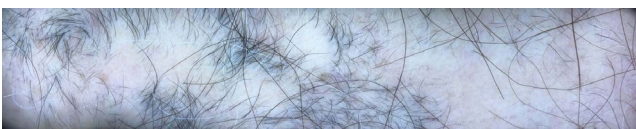
Dermatoscopy is an indispensable diagnostic tool in daily dermatology practice. In large areas, however, it is often not possible to obtain a dermatoscopic image covering the entire area in a single frame. In this case, the dermatoscopic evaluation is usually based on the analyses of multiple separate images. Dellotare et al proposed a method called "wide area digital dermatoscopy" to solve this technical problem. This method is needed a Photoshop software to merge multiple dermatoscopic images obtained using a handheld dermatoscope.<sup>1</sup> Recently, Abraham et al proposed a more practical and time-saving method called "panoramic trichoscopy" to overcome this limitation in hair conditions involving large areas. To obtain a panoramic image, a handheld dermatoscope is attached to a smartphone and "panorama mode" of the mobile camera application is selected. The dermatoscope plate is then moved continuously over the area concerned.<sup>2</sup>

Abraham et al showed panoramic trichoscopic imaging in a case of frontal fibrosing alopecia.<sup>2</sup> To demonstrate the usefulness of this method, we have obtained polarized panoramic dermatoscopic images (via iPhone 7 plus; Apple Inc and DermLite DL4; 3Gen<sup>®</sup> Inc) in various hair conditions including alopecia areata, androgenetic alopecia, and Pseudopelade de Brocq. A high resolution, allowing to observe the findings clearly, has been achieved for all the panoramic images. We propose that the term "scanning trichoscopy" can also be used to describe this method.

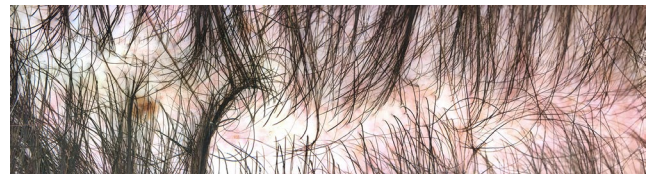
Making possible to observe follicular openings in a wide perspective, scanning trichoscopy may be more useful than multiple



**FIGURE 1** Scanning trichoscopy of a large alopecia areata patch



**FIGURE 2** Scanning trichoscopy of Pseudopelade de Brocq



**FIGURE 3** Scanning trichoscopy of female androgenetic alopecia

separate trichoscopic images for the differential diagnosis between nonscarring and scarring alopecias involving wide areas (Figures 1 and 2). Androgenetic alopecia may be another example in which the method provides a larger scale to detect anisotrichosis clearly. (Figure 3).

Additionally, scanning trichoscopy may be more useful in the selection of the area to be biopsied, and in monitoring disease activity and response to treatment. This method also allows comparing the normal looking and lesional areas side by side.

Panoramic imaging can also be used in dermatoscopic mapping of large melanocytic lesions such as lentigo maligna and congenital nevi involving wide areas.<sup>1,3</sup>

## KEYWORDS

panoramic dermatoscopy, panoramic trichoscopy, scanning trichoscopy

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

None.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None to declare.

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## REFERENCES

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3. Abraham LS, Martins SS, Pirmez R, Duque-Estrada B. Panoramic dermoscopy. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 2019.