



“Nail-Like Appearance”: Characteristic Feature of Hair Fracture Caused by Hair Dye under Dermoscopy

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Figure 1: A: The hair shaft were neatly-broken; B: Dermoscopy of the broken ends of the patch reveals neatly-broken hair stem and the broken ends curled slightly downward, demonstrating a nail-like appearance (65 × magnification); C: The closeup photo of nails; D: The reddish-brown amorphous plaque and pigmentation mimicking honeycomb-like structure on the scalp was visible (35 × magnification).

A 39-year-old-woman consulted for neatly-broken hair after reddening her hair on forehead margin of the scalp with a 1-day history (Figure 1). (a) The broken ends curled slightly downward under polarized light (b) Analogous to nails used in construction (c) Which has not been observed in previous trichoscopy. The reddish-brown amorphous plaque that resemble excoriated lesions on the scalp and the similar color of surrounding dyed hairs (d) Highly indicated the diagnosis of hair fracture caused by hair dye [1]. This was confirmed considering the absence of high-temperature perm history and should be in differential diagnosis from tinea capitis and trichotillomania.

Reference

1. Angra K, LaSenna CE, Nichols AJ (2015) Hair dye: A trichoscopy pitfall. J Am Acad Dermatol 72: e101-102.

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