

CLINICAL AND HISTOLOGICAL CORRELATIONS IN ALOPECIA AREATA

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Summary

Alopecia areata is defined as patchy or diffuse loss of hair at the level of the scalp, beard and eyebrows, caused by an immune mechanism interfering with the hair growth cycle.

This study was carried out in 11 patients with the clinical diagnosis of alopecia areata, histologically confirmed on sections stained with hematoxylin eosin, alcian blue and PAS.

The histological examination evidenced different aspects, specific to the three phases (anagen, catagen, telogen), which confirmed the impairment of the hair growth cycle. The presence of mucin deposits observed at the level of the hair follicle (two cases) may indicate the onset or possible evolution toward a mucous degeneration of the pilo-sebaceous follicle, which requires a close clinical and histological follow-up of the patients with alopecia.

Key words: alopecia areata.