



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

## WHITE PIEDRA RESPONDING TO ORAL ITRACONAZOLE

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**Introduction:** White Piedra is an unusual asymptomatic superficial fungal infection of the hair, characterized by the presence of numerous, discrete, soft, asymptomatic nodules loosely attached to the infected hair shafts. White Piedra less commonly affects the scalp hair and is more common on other hairy sites of the body. It is caused by a yeast-like fungus, *Trichosporon beigelii*. Successful treatment of White Piedra has been achieved with clipping of affected hair or tonsuring and use of topical antifungal agents.

**Case report:** A 19-year-old female presented with asymptomatic whitish nodules in the scalp hair since 1 month. Clinical examination revealed multiple whitish to cream-colored, nodules of size 1-1.5 mm present over the shaft of almost all the scalp hairs. On trichoscopy, the nodules were completely encircling the hair shaft and not moving along the hair shaft. Scalp skin and other hairy areas were normal. (KOH 10%) wet mount of the affected hairs showed septate hyaline hyphae arranged perpendicular to the hair shaft. Arthrospores and blastospores were seen. Culture could not isolate the species. We reached final diagnosis of white piedra. Patient was treated with oral itraconazole 100 mg twice a day and topical 2% ketoconazole lotion once a day. After one month, there was complete resolution of nodules and there was no need for clipping of hair.

**Conclusion:** White piedra is rarely reported in our country. Thus we would like to present this rare case. Oral itraconazole should be considered as an effective treatment modality.

