ABSTRACT BOOK
ABSTRACTS

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TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL OUTBREAK: WHITE PIEDRA IN EIGHTEEN GIRLS OF A DISABLED CHILDREN´S HOME IN EL SALVADOR

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Background: White Piedra are common superficial and asymptomatic fungal infection in tropical countries, characterized by the presence of hard nodules located along de hair shaft. We don´t have epidemiologic data or studies of this disease in our country.

Observation: We found eighteen cases of white piedra in girls living in a children´s home. At the time of diagnosis, we notice that all patients were girls with long hair that was tighten with a tail and remained wet during four to six hours after daily bath. Microscopic observation analysis of nodules attached to the hair shaft was performed using direct KOH 10% and culture was performed with Sabouraud Agar. In culture we observed the growth of yellowish-white colonies of cerebriform aspect. Preventive treatment consisted of promoting hygienic measures: man style haircuts and use of a personal hairbrush. Pharmacologic treatment was given during 4 weeks according to their concomitant conditions. Six girls were treated with a combination therapy of oral Itraconazole 100mg/day and topical Butenafine 1.0% solution after daily bath, five girls were treated with oral Itraconazole 100mg/day and seven girls were treated with topical Butenafine 1.0% solution after daily bath. Similar positive results were observed in all therapeutic options.

Key Message: In El Salvador few cases of white piedra have been reported, since in many cases it goes unnoticed or is confused
with other diseases such as pediculosis. By far hygienic measures are key actions for treating and preventing outbreaks. Further evaluations will be needed to prove that topical treatment has the same efficacy as oral or combined treatment.

Keywords: White Piedra, Itraconazole, Butenafine

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