Rapid diagnosis of tinea incognito using handheld reflectance confocal microscopy: a paradigm shift in dermatology?

Navarrete-Dechent C, Bajaj S, Marghoob AA, Marchetti MA.

ABSTRACT

Dermatophytoses are common skin infections. Traditional diagnostic tests such as skin scrapings for light microscopy examination, fungal cultures and biopsies remain imperfect due to false-negative test results, cost, time required to perform the procedure, time delays in test results and/or a requirement for an invasive procedure. Herein, we present a case of an 80-year-old female whose tinea incognito was non-invasively diagnosed within seconds using handheld reflectance confocal microscopy (RCM). As non-invasive skin imaging continues to improve, we expect light-based office microscopy to be replaced with technologies such as RCM, which has multiple and continually expanding diagnostic applications. © 2015 Blackwell Verlag GmbH. KEYWORDS: Dermatophytes; diagnosis; reflectance confocal microscopy; tinea corporis PMID:25919861 DOI:10.1111/myc.12333