

Tinea capitis profunda with secondary bacterial infection

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INTRODUCTION Tinea capitis is a mycotic infection of the scalp, which primarily affects children. It is caused by different infectious agents, in Slovenia most common being *Microsporum canis*.

CASE REPORT A 10-year old boy was admitted to our dermatology clinic due to the alopetic annular lesion in the frontal area of his scalp. It was painful, infiltrated and covered in yellow crusts. It first appeared a month before, when the efflorescence was scaly and erythematous, and later progressed to a purulent lesion. He confirmed to have been in close contact with several different animals including cats. Otherwise, he was healthy and the rest of the examination was within normal limits. A potassium hydroxide exam of the skin scrapings was negative, however, as the clinical picture was characteristic for a deep fungal infection, we prescribed systemic antimycotic therapy. Soon we received confirmation of the disease, identifying the isolate from the culture as *Microsporum canis*. The boy was treated with oral antimycotic itraconazol, antifungal cream and shampoo as well as oral corticosteroids in decreasing doses due to severe inflammation. Moreover, because of the laboratory-confirmed secondary bacterial infection with *Staphylococcus aureus*, additional systemic and local antibiotic therapy were necessary. He was discharged after three weeks when his condition had majorly improved. He was later regularly checked in our outpatient clinic until two successive fungal cultures were negative.

CONCLUSION Deep fungal infection is a rare entity, which has to be promptly treated with systemic antimycotic therapy for an appropriate amount of time as to avoid any further complications.