8. Camacho F. Hipertricosis. In: Camacho F, Montagna W, eds. Tricología. Enfermedades del folículo pilosebáceo. Madrid: Aula Médica; 1995. p. 123-38.
9. Camacho FM. Hypertrichosis. In: Blume-Peytavi U, Tosti A, Whiting DA, Trüeb RM, eds. Hair growth and disorders. Berlin: Springer Verlag; 2008. p. 333-56.
10. Camacho F. Hypertrichosis and hirsutism. In: Bologna JL, Jorizzo JL, Rapini RP, Horn TD, Mascaró JM, Mancini AJ, et al, eds. Dermatology. London: Mosby; 2003. p. 1051-9.
11. Camacho-Martínez FM. Hypertrichosis and hirsutism. In: Bologna JL, Jorizzo JL, Rapini RP, Callen JP, Horn TD, Mancini AJ, et al, eds. Dermatology. 2nd ed. London: Mosby Elsevier; 2008. p. 1007-18.
12. Trattner A, Hodak E, Sagie-Lerman T, David M, Nitzan M, Garty BZ. Familial congenital anterior cervical hypertrichosis associated with peripheral sensory and motor neuropathy – A new syndrome? J Am Acad Dermatol. 1991;25:767-70.
13. Braddock SR, Jones KL, Bird LM, Villegas I, Jones MC. Anterior cervical hypertrichosis: a dominantly inherited isolated defect. Am J Med Genet. 1995;55:498-9.
14. Tsukahara M, Kajii T. Hairy throat: a dominant trait affecting seen members of a family. Clin Dysmorphol. 1992;1:165-7.
15. Camacho F. Hipertricosis e hirsutismo. In: Camacho F, Montagna W, eds. Tricología. Tricology. Trichologie. Madrid: Garsi; 1982. p. 123-38.
16. Reed OM, Mellette JR, Fitzpatrick JE. Familial cervical hypertrichosis with underlying kyphoscoliosis. J Am Acad Dermatol. 1989;20:1069-72.
17. Lee HW, Lee MW, Choi JH, Moon KC, Kob JK. Familiar anterior cervical hypertrichosis. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2005;53:530-2.

Response

B. Monteagudo, M. Cabanillas, C. de las Heras, and J.M. Cacharrón
Servicio de Dermatología, Complejo Hospitalario Arquitecto Marcide-Novoa Santos, Ferrol, La Coruña, Spain

To the Editor:

We thank Professor Camacho and Professor Moreno for their comments on our article. In fact, in line with articles of a similar sort,[1,2] and even those by these authors themselves,[3] ours did not aim to be a systematic review of the different varieties of congenital localized hypertrichosis (as was stated in the article).[4] Hence we had simplified the classification to four of the primary localized symmetrical clinical forms described in the specialist literature: cubital hypertrichosis, anterior cervical hypertrichosis, posterior cervical hypertrichosis and hypertrichosis of the lumbosacral area[5] (identical to the division made by Vashi et al[6] in the introduction to their article, not only on analysis of their series, as is suggested). This is inevitably involved leaving other conditions aside,[7-9] including those covered by professors Camacho and Moreno in other publications.[10,11] This list could also include hypertrichosis associated to congenital smooth muscle hamartoma,[12-15] tufted angioma,[12,13,16] congenital plaque-like glomangioma,[17] the hair collar sign (that can surround aplasia cutis congenita, be a skin marker for cervical spinal dysraphism, or present with no associated malformations),[5,13,18] ectopic eyelashes,[12] some syndromes with congenital localized hypertrichosis[19] such as H syndrome,[20] pigmentary mosaicism of the Ito type,[9,14,21] (the "twin spotting" phenomenon)[21] and segmental odontomaxillary dysplasia,[22] and even distichiasis,[12] or "physiological" processes such as scrotal skin[12,13]—a benign, self-limiting process with no associated endocrinological abnormalities that occurs in the first few months of life[23,24]—it is not apparent at birth and resolves spontaneously in a manner similar to many cases of cubital hypertrichosis.[25]

Anterior cervical hypertrichosis is a localized congenital variety of hypertrichosis that we have been able to see in 2 patients over a period of 3 months.[4,26] As a result of our publication other members of the faculty have shared a further 2 sporadic cases with us, 1 of them associated with neurological abnormalities; this fact indicates that the syndrome is not as uncommon as previously thought, and that the small number of cases described in the literature could be due to underdiagnosis or the tendency to publish only familial cases or those with associated abnormalities.

It is true that, in 1989, Reed et al published a case of familial cervical hypertrichosis associated with scoliosis; all their patients presented increased hair growth on the posterior aspect of the neck and were therefore included in the posterior cervical hypertrichosis group. Those authors considered this to be the first familial case of posterior cervical hypertrichosis of autosomal dominant inheritance associated with scoliosis, but they indicated in the discussion that they had previously encountered cases of this form of hypertrichosis.[27]

In most publications in English,[3] including several reviews,[1,29-31] Trattner et al[28] are cited as the first to describe ACH. We consider it correct to point out that there are earlier descriptions of the syndrome and of this particular rare variety in the non-English literature,[32] which is more difficult to access, and we are pleased to find that the author of the first article on this subject was in fact

a dermatologist and member of the Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (AEDV).

The comments provided by professors Camacho and Moreno, serve not only to enrich our article, but also to highlight the issue of ACH.

References

1. Heitink MV, Quaedvlieg PJ, van Neer FJ, Frank J. Sporadic nonsyndromal anterior cervical hypertrichosis: case report and review of the literature. Int J Dermatol. 2007;46 Suppl 3:9-12.
2. Lee HW, Lee MW, Choi JH, Moon KC, Koh JK. Familial anterior cervical hypertrichosis. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2005;53:530-2.
3. García-Hernández MJ, Ortega-Resinas M, Camacho FM. Primary multifocal localized hypertrichosis. Eur J Dermatol. 2001;11:35-7.
4. Monteagudo B, Cabanillas M, de las Heras C, Cacharrón JM. Hipertricosis cervical anterior esporádica. Actas Dermosifiliogr. 2009;100:61-4.
5. Trüeb RM. Causes and management of hypertrichosis. Am J Clin Dermatol. 2002;3:617-27.
6. Vashi RA, Manzini AJ, Paller AS. Primary generalized and localized hypertrichosis in children. Arch Dermatol. 2001;137:877-84.
7. León-Muiños E, Monteagudo B, Carballeira I, Corrales A. Nevo de Becker en la cara y el cuello. Piel. 2009;24:164.
8. Monteagudo B, Labandeira J, Peteiro C, de las Heras C, Cacharrón JM. Nevo melanocítico congénito gigante asociado a angiolipomas. Med Cutan Iber Lat Am. 2009;37:55-7.
9. Monteagudo Sánchez B, León Muiños E, Cabanillas González M, Martínez Meléndez G. Hipertricosis localizada y mosaicismo pigmentario tipo Ito (hipomelanosis de Ito). An Pediatr (Barc). 2008;68:307-9.
10. Camacho FM. Hypertrichosis. In: Blume-Peytavi U, Tosti A, Whiting DA, Trüeb RM, editors. Hair growth and disorders. Berlin: Springer Verlag; 2008. p. 333-56.
11. Camacho-Martínez FM. Hypertrichosis and hirsutism. In: Bologna JL, Jorizzo JL, Rapini RP, Callen JP, Horn TD, Mancini AJ, et al, editors. Dermatology. 2nd ed. London: Mosby Elsevier; 2008. p. 1007-18.
12. Rogers M, Wong LC. Hair disorders. In: Eichenfield LF, Frieden LJ, Esterly NB, editors. Neonatal Dermatology. 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Elsevier; 2008. p. 517-35.
13. Rogers M, Tay YW. Hair disorders. In: Schachner LA, Hansen RC, editors. Pediatric Dermatology. 3rd ed. Edinburgh: Mosby; 2003. p. 525-59.
14. Wendelin DS, Pope DN, Mallory SB. Hypertrichosis. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2003;48:161-79.
15. Holland KE, Galbraith SS. Generalized congenital smooth muscle hamartoma presenting with hypertrichosis, excess skin folds, and follicular dimpling. Pediatr Dermatol. 2008;25:236-9.
16. Herron MD, Coffin CM, Vanderhooft SL. Tufted angiomas: variability of the clinical morphology. Pediatr Dermatol. 2002;19:394-401.
17. Rodríguez-Martín M, Sánchez R, Sáez-Rodríguez M, García-Bustínduy M, Sidro M, Pérez N, et al. Congenital plaque-like glomangioma associated with superficial hypertrichosis. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2008;58 5 Suppl 1:S92-3.
18. Roche-Gamón E, Febrer-Bosch I, Alegre de Miguel V. Signo del collar de pelo asociado a aplasia cutis congénita del cuero cabelludo. Actas Dermosifiliogr. 2007;98:442-3.
19. García-Cruz D, Figuera LE, Cantu JM. Inhered hypertrichoses. Clin Genet. 2002;61:321-9.
20. Molho-Pessach V, Agha Z, Aamar S, Glaser B, Doviner V, Hiller N, et al. The H syndrome: a genodermatosis characterized by indurated, hyperpigmented, and hypertrichotic skin with systemic manifestations. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2008;59:79-85.
21. López-Barrantes O, Torrelo A, Mediero IG, Zambrano A, Happle R. Nevoid hypertrichosis and hypomelanosis. Eur J Dermatol. 2002;12:583-5.
22. Koenig LJ, Lynch DP, Yancey KB. Segmental odontomaxillary dysplasia presenting with facial hypertrichosis, commissural lip clefting, and hyperlinear palms. Pediatr Dermatol. 2008;25:491-2.
23. Leung AKC, Hedge HR, Stephure DK. Scrotal hair in identical twin infants. Int J Dermatol. 2005;44:1042-4.
24. Sentchordi Montane L, Quintanar Rioja A, Ayala Bernardo de Quirós L, Martínez Granero MA, Bonet Serra B. Vello escrotal en lactantes. An Pediatr (Barc). 2008;68:146-8.
25. Yuste-Chaves M, Zafra-Cobo MI, Martínez de Salinas A, Bravo-Piris J. Hipertricosis cubital. Descripción de dos casos. Actas Dermosifiliogr. 2007;98:719-21.
26. Monteagudo Sánchez B, León Muiños E, Cabanillas González M, Martínez Meléndez G. Hipertricosis cervical anterior. An Pediatr (Barc). 2008;69:591-2.
27. Reed OM, Mellette JR Jr, Fitzpatrick JE. Familial cervical hypertrichosis with underlying kyphoscoliosis. J Am Acad Dermatol. 1989;20:1069-72.
28. Trattner A, Hodak E, Sagie-Lerman T, David M, Nitzan M, Garty BZ. Familial congenital anterior cervical hypertrichosis associated with peripheral sensory and motor neuropathy— a new syndrome? J Am Acad Dermatol. 1991;25:767-70.
29. Corona-Rivera JR, González-Abarca S, Hernández-Rocha J, García-Cruz D, Corona-Rivera A. Mental retardation in a boy with anterior cervical hypertrichosis. Am J Med Genet A. 2005;135:69-71.
30. Thienpont B, Vermeesch J, Devriendt K. Anterior cervical hypertrichosis and mental retardation. Clin Dysmorphol. 2006;15:189-90.
31. Nanda A, Al-Aradi I, Ali MT, Alsaleh QA. Anterior cervical hypertrichosis (hairy throat): is it a sign to worry about? Clin Exp Dermatol. 2007;32:112-4.
32. Camacho F. Hipertricosis e hirsutismo. In: Camacho F, Montagna W, editors. Tricología. Tricology. Trichologie. Madrid: Garsi; 1982. p. 123-38.