

Images in clinical medicine



Alopecia revealing a gastric trichobezoar in a child

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Alopecia revealing a gastric trichobezoar in a child

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Image in medicine

A 10-year-old girl, with no particular medical history, consulted the pediatric emergency room for alopecia and pallor observed by the mother for several months. The admission examination found a pale patient with mild alopecia over the frontal scalp but more pronounced at the eyebrows. The abdominal examination revealed a small, painless, and mobile epigastric mass, with no hepatomegaly or splenomegaly. The lymph node areas were free. Height and weight growth were normal according to age. The emergency abdominal ultrasound revealed that the mass corresponded to unidentified gastric contents, requiring additional

computed tomography (CT) scanning. On the abdominal CT scan, the appearance was in favor of an endoluminal gastric mass, suggesting a trichobezoar. The history taken again in the young girl revealed trichophagia, of which the mother

was unaware. The patient underwent surgical treatment after a transfusion due to the discovery of anemia, with good progress. The child was referred for psychiatric consultation for follow-up on her trichophagia.



Figure 1: eyebrow alopecia that revealed a trichobezoar