Correspondence

Treatment of alopecia areata by topical diclofenac sodium gel in comparison to benzoyl peroxide.
A novel single blind therapeutic clinical trial

To the Editor

I have read with interest the brief communication entitled "Treatment of alopecia areata by topical diclofenac sodium gel in comparison to benzoyl peroxide. A novel single blind therapeutic clinical trial" by Sharquie et al.[1] The author suggested the use of diclofenac gel as an irritant in alopecia areata, which in other words, by causing inflammation of the affected area but diclofenac has an anti-inflammatory effect. How is it possible to use it in alopecia areata? On the other hand, it is known that benzoyl peroxide can cause irritation of the skin in acne vulgaris patients as a side effect but it cannot be considered as a potent irritant especially with a strength of 5%. I think these questions are valuable to answer before considering them as a novel treatment options. I look forward to have the author's response.

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Reply from the Author
No reply was received from the Author.

References

1. Sharquie K, Nuwaimy A, Kadhum W. Treatment of alopecia areata by topical diclofenac sodium gel in comparison to benzoyl peroxide. A novel single blind therapeutic clinical trial. *Saudi Med J* 2006; 27: 1079-1081.

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