Transient neonatal hair loss.
Clinical findings and trichoscopy

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Hair physiology from intrauterine life to birth (1)

- 16 - 20 weeks gestation: **lanugo** hair is produced
- 32-36 weeks: lanugo hair is shed and **replaced by thicker hair**
- speed of transition from vellus to intermediate and terminal is considerably variable from child to child
- the scalp at birth presents thin, intermediated and thick hair
Hair physiology from intrauterine life to birth (2)

- The first hair on the scalp is all contemporarily in anagen phase.
- From 26th to 28th week, scalp hair follicles undergo catagen and then telogen in a progressive wave, from the frontal to the parietal regions, over a period of 7 to 10 days. Between the 32nd and 36th week of intrauterine life, telogen hair is usually shed in utero.
In some children, hair in the occipital area does not enter telogen until after birth.

These hairs remain on the scalp for 8-12 weeks and then fall, generating the so-defined neonatal occipital alopecia.

Hair in newborns 8-12 weeks (2-3 months after birth)

Alopecia present in 23% of cases

Transient neonatal hair loss

- Neonatal physiologic alopecia
- Halo scalp ring
- Neonatal occipital alopecia
Neonatal occipital alopecia

10 day-old  2 month-old  14 month-old

Totally reversible!