

CosmoDerma





Visual Treats in Dermatology

Demodex mite under microscopy

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Demodex is an ecto-parasitic mite of pilo-sebaceous unit. The body is semi-transparent, made of two fused segments. Four pairs of short, segmented legs with claw-like appendices are present in the anterior segment (podosoma). The posterior segment (opisthosoma) is elongated and tubular. The mouth (gnathosoma) is pin like with segmented palps. The mite anchors itself to the hair follicle using body scales.[1] The prevalence of this mite in humans is 100%, but to diagnose

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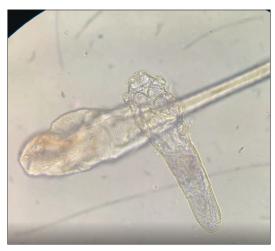
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Figure 1: Demodex mite seen under high power (×40) microscopy.

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Video 1: Alive motile Demodex anchored to hair seen in microscope under high power (×40).

demodicidosis, a density of at least 5 mites/cm² is required in standardized skin surface biopsy (SSSB).[2] The mite demonstrated in [Figure 1 and Video 1] is from a patient of steroid rosacea whose SSSB had 6 mites/cm².

Declaration of patient consent

Patient's consent not required as patient's identity is not disclosed or compromised.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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