

## Residents' Corner

# Cyclosporine-induced hirsutism

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A 35-year-old lady, a case of non-severe aplastic anemia diagnosed in June 2020, was treated with cyclosporine A at a dose of 5 mg/kg/day in two divided doses; achieved partial response at 9 months and continued. After 1 year, the dose of cyclosporine A was reduced to 3 mg/kg/day in two divided doses. The patient was doing well but after 18 months of cyclosporine A therapy, she noticed that there was an excess terminal hair growth over the side lock [Figure 1], upper lip [Figure 2], chin, and mid-sternum which affected her mood and social behavior and she isolated herself socially. The Ferriman–Gallwey hirsutism score was 10; a score of 8 or higher is regarded as indicative of androgen excess.<sup>[1]</sup> The incidence of hirsutism following cyclosporine A therapy is around 5%.<sup>[2]</sup> Cyclosporine A was tapered off gradually with other supportive care continued. The physicians must counsel and take care of this not-so-uncommon side effect of cyclosporine A that may compromise the quality of life of a patient.



**Figure 1:** Excess terminal hair growth over side lock.



**Figure 2:** Excess terminal hair growth over upper lip

### Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent.

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Nil.

### Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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