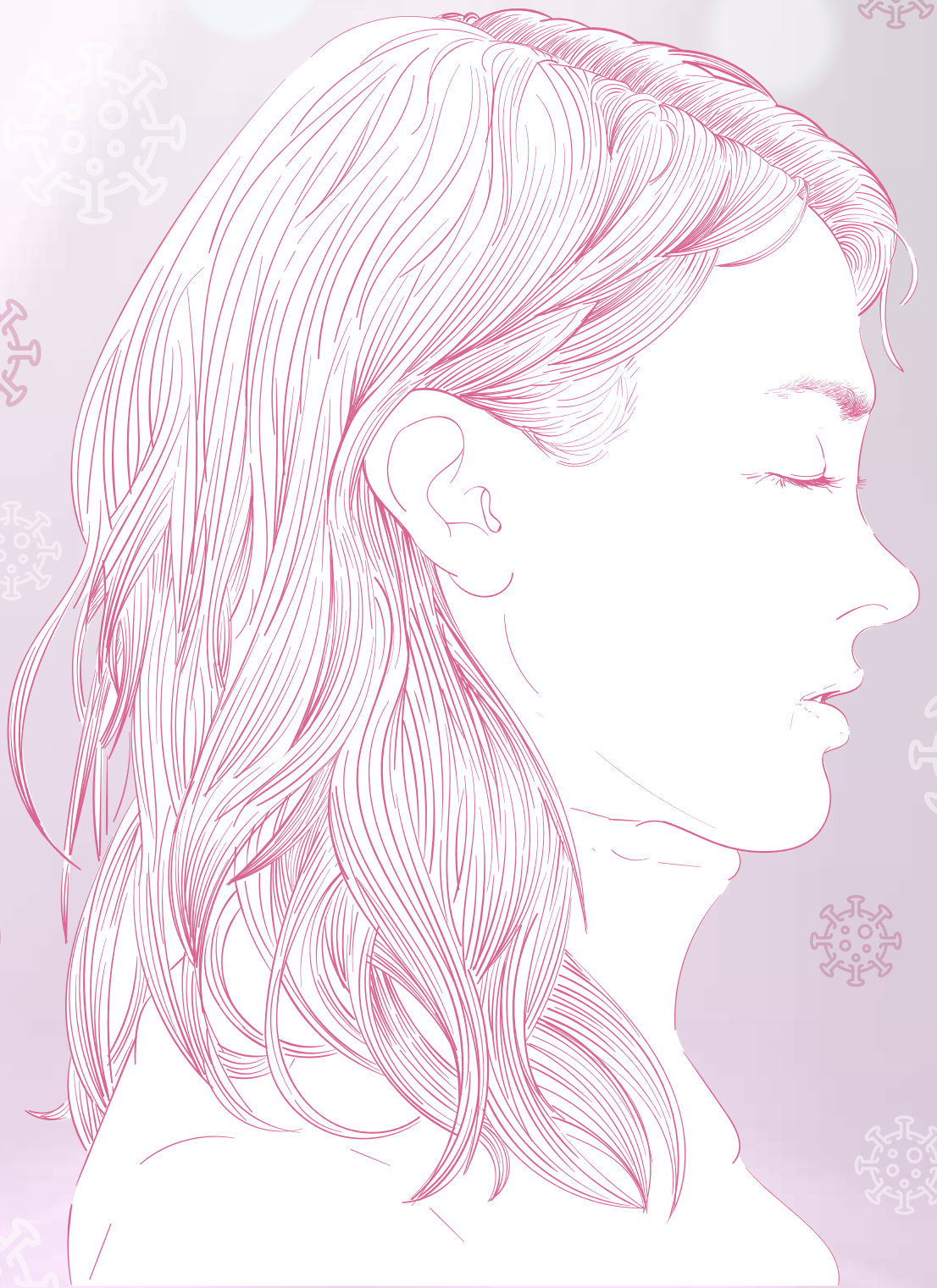
Dr.Reddy's

Hair Loss and **COVID-19:** The correlation exists!



Dr.Reddy's

Telogen effluvium -
A consequence of **COVID-19** infection

Hair loss is highly prevalent among COVID-19 patients

30%

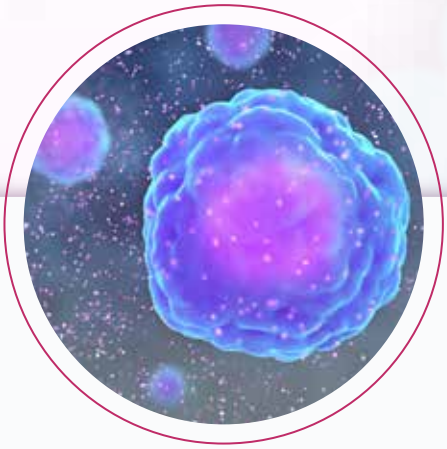
According to 94th SIDEMAST Congress disucssion, **30% COVID-19 patients suffer from hair loss.**[1]

90%

Cases have hair loss after 2 or 3 months of healing, mainly in the form of acute telogen effluvium (TE).[1]

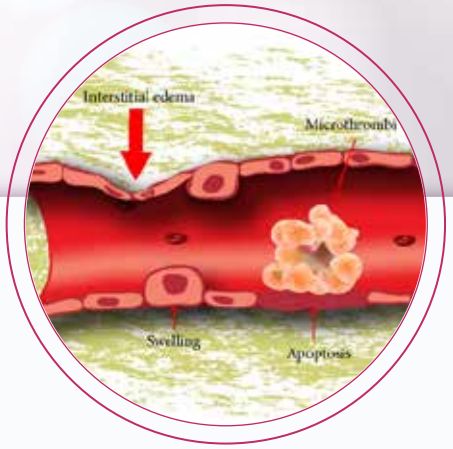
Wambier C et al. in a letter to the editor, reported clinically **significant androgenetic alopecia in all the Indian males** hospitalized with severe COVID-19.[2]

Possible mediators of **TE** in **COVID-19** patients



Inflammation storm

Higher levels of proinflammatory cytokines may correlate to a higher risk of TE in COVID-19 patients.[3]



Microthrombi formation

The **coagulation cascade is activated** in response to COVID-19 infection.

This leads to **concentration of anticoagulant proteins** (decreased production and increased consumption).

These factors lead to **microthrombi formation which in turn may occlude hair follicle blood supply.**[3]

Telogen effluvium in COVID-19 patient: Clinical evidences[4]

Aim

Moreno-Arrones OM et al. in a letter to the editor, assessd the association between acute TE and SARS-CoV-2 infection

Results

About 89.7% of patients with acute TE had a confirmed diagnosis of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection.

In 72.8% cases the acute TE was active four weeks after the diagnosis.

History of fever was associated ($p<0.04$) with an increased hair shedding (Sinclair score of 5 or 6).

Symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection is a risk factor for the development of acute TE.

Telogen effluvium:
A post COVID-19 infection complication[3]

In a case series, researchers described the presentation of patients diagnosed with TE attributed to COVID-19 infection. The findings of the study revealed that:

The mean age of the patients was **48.5 years old**. The vast majority (90%) were female

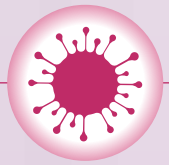
On average, the **hair shedding began 50 days** after the first symptom of COVID-19 infection

Summary

A high prevalence of hair loss is observed in COVID-19 patients

Inflammation storm and microthrombi formation are the proposed mediators for the development of TE among COVID-19 patients

Symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection is a risk factor for the development of acute TE.



On average, the hair **shedding begans 50 days after the first symptom** of COVID-19 infection.

References

1. Rinaldi F, Trink A, Giuliani G et al. Italian Survey for the Evaluation of the Effects of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic on Alopecia Areata Recurrence. Dermatol Ther (Heidelb). 2021;11(2):339-345.
2. Wambier CG, Vaño-Galván S, McCoy J et al. Androgenetic alopecia in COVID-19: Compared to age-matched epidemiologic studies and hospital outcomes with or without the Gabrin sign. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2020;83(6):e453-e454.
3. Olds H, Liu J, Luk K et al. Telogen effluvium associated with COVID-19 infection. Dermatol Ther. 2021;34(2):e14761.
4. Moreno-Arrones OM, Lobato-Berezo A, Gomez-Zubiaur A et al. SARS-CoV-2-induced telogen effluvium: a multicentric study. J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol. 2021;35(3):e181-e183.