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Folliculitis decalvans



What is Folliculitis Decalvans?

- Folliculitis decalvans is a commonly misdiagnosed scarring hair loss condition that leads to permanent hair loss.
- Both men and women are affected.
- Hair loss starts in the crown with pimple like eruptions and pustules and sometimes bleeding.
- This leads to progressive hair loss.

What are the symptoms of folliculitis decalvans?

- Affected patients may have significant itching, burning and pain.

What is the precise cause of folliculitis decalvans?

- The cause is unknown.
- Bacteria such as *Staphylococcus aureus* may play a role for some patients.

How is the condition diagnosed?

- Sometimes the condition can be diagnosed by visual inspection by an experienced physician.
- Often a scalp biopsy is done to confirm the diagnosis.

What is the treatment for folliculitis decalvans?

- Treatments are mainly centred around use of antibacterial treatments including cephalexin, doxycycline, clindamycin, rifampin, isotretinoin, dapsone
- Topical steroids may be used as well as steroid injections
- Topical antibacterial cleansers are common

