

Supplement 2
Definitions of dermoscopic terms used in the study

The following proforma checklist was used, along with freestyle description, for the dermoscopic categories, as per the 2012 paper by Martín et al.¹

Vessel patterns/morphology on dermoscopy

| Vascular pattern | Description |
|---|--|
| Arborising vessels or telangiectasia | In focus large calibre vessels that branch into finer secondary vessels |
| Hair pin vessels | Vessels that double back on themselves and are seen as loops when they are oblique to the surface of the lesion; in keratinising tumors, they are surrounded by a hypopigmented halo |
| Crown vessels | Barely branching peripheral vessels that do not cross the center of the lesion |
| Comma vessels | Thick, linear curved lines with little branching and occasionally one end that is thicker than the other |
| Dotted vessels | Well-defined small-calibre reddish vessels that resemble pinhead |
| Lacunae/lagoons | Well-defined round to oval vessels, larger than dots. No objective size criteria was fixed to differentiate dots from lacunae. |
| Glomerular vessels | Large-calibre reddish dots formed by tortuous capillaries curled up into a ball or resembling glomerular apparatus of kidneys |
| Corkscrew vessels | Linear irregular spiral vessels areas containing atypical linear vessels |
| Milky-red areas/globules | Out of focus pink-reddish oval or polygonal areas containing atypical linear vessels |
| Strawberry pattern | Structureless erythematous areas with heterogenous whitish areas forming a type of pseudonetwork |
| Linear irregular vessels | Straight vessels varying in shape and size, were subjectively divided in to thick/tortuous and thin/serpentine |
| Polymorphous vessels | Different vascular morphologies in the same lesion |
| | |
| Vascular distribution | Description |

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Regular | Vessels distributed evenly through the lesion |
| String of pearls | Dotted vessels arranged linearly in pattern that resembles a string of pearls |
| Clustered | With tendency to group together in a lesional area |
| Radial | Presence of vessels only at the periphery of the lesion; they do not occupy or cross the center |
| Branching | Large vessels that branch into smaller vessels |
| Irregular | Vascular polymorphism without a specific pattern |
| Rope ladder pattern | Short, slightly dilated loops that emerge from the edges of the scar and cross it completely |

Others

| Non-vascular features | Vessel color |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keratotic areas • Whitish veil • Rainbow pattern • Hemorrhagic crust • White collarette • Rail lines | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pink • Red • Dark red/reddish brown • Yellow • Green • Blue • Purple • Black • Any other |

The International Society of Dermoscopy 2016 consensus conference standardization of dermatoscopy had the following terms and definitions for vascular lesions²-

| Descriptive | Metaphorical | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Vessels morphology | | |
| Dots | | Tiny pinpoint vessels |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Clods | Red-purple lacunes | More or less sharply demarcated, roundish, or oval areas with a reddish, red-bluish, maroon, or dark-red to black coloration, separated from each other by intervening stroma, without vessels inside the lacunae |
| Linear | | Linear, mildly curved vessels, considered irregular when different sizes, shapes, and curves with a haphazard, or random, distribution are presented and considered regular when short and fine (thin) linear vessels prevail |
| Coiled | Glomerular | Tightly coiled vessels resembling the glomerular apparatus of the kidney |
| Looped | Hairpin | Two parallel linear vessels forming a half looped or hairpin-like structure |
| Serpentine | Linear irregular | Linear vessels with multiple bends |
| Helical | Corkscrew | Twisted looped vessels with bends twisted along a central axis |
| Curved | Comma | Linear, curved, short vessels |
| Monomorphous | | One type of vessel dominates |
| Polymorphous | | Multiple types of vessels are present |
| Vessel arrangement | | |
| Radial | Crown vessels | Radial, serpentine, or arborizing vessels at the periphery of the lesion that radiate toward the center but do not cross the midline of the lesion |
| Serpiginous | String of pearls | Coiled or dotted vessels arranged in lines |
| Branched | Arborizing vessels | Bright-red, sharply in focus, large or thick-diameter vessels dividing into smaller vessels |
| Clustered | | Coiled or glomerular vessels arranged in groups |
| Centered dot | Targetoid vessels | Red dots (vessels) in the center of hypopigmented space between reticular lines |

The differences in the study definitions compared to the above consensus statement were- both descriptive and metaphorical terms were used instead of all descriptive terms, and the category of centered dot/targetoid vessels were not present in the study definition. Rest terms and definitions were similar.

Another consensus of the International Dermoscopy Society on Standardization of dermoscopic terminology and basic dermoscopic parameters to evaluate in general dermatology (non-neoplastic dermatoses) had the following terms for vessels³-

| |
|------------------------------------|
| Vessels morphology |
| Dots |
| Linear (without bends or branches) |
| Linear, branched |
| Linear curved |
| Vessel distribution |
| Uniform |

| |
|-------------|
| Clustered |
| Peripheral |
| Reticular |
| Unspecified |

It had limited descriptors for vessels, all of which were already included in the study protocol used.

The ISD consensus statement for skin of color patients was published after the conclusion of this study, so it has not been compared.⁴

References

- 1 Martín JM, Bella-Navarro R, Jordá E. [Vascular patterns in dermoscopy]. *Actas Dermosifiliogr* 2012; **103**:357–75.
- 2 Kittler H, Marghoob AA, Argenziano G, *et al.* Standardization of terminology in dermoscopy/dermatoscopy: Results of the third consensus conference of the International Society of Dermoscopy. *J Am Acad Dermatol* 2016; **74**:1093–106.
- 3 Errichetti E, Zalaudek I, Kittler H, *et al.* Standardization of dermoscopic terminology and basic dermoscopic parameters to evaluate in general dermatology (non-neoplastic dermatoses): an expert consensus on behalf of the International Dermoscopy Society. *Br J Dermatol* 2020; **182**:454–67.
- 4 Ankad BS, Behera B, Lallas A, *et al.* International Dermoscopy Society (IDS) Criteria for Skin Tumors: Validation for Skin of Color Through a Delphi Expert Consensus by the ‘Imaging in Skin of Color’ IDS Task Force. *Dermatol Pract Concept* 2023; **13**:e2023067.