

## A kitchen utensil as a useful tool for ex vivo trichoscopy



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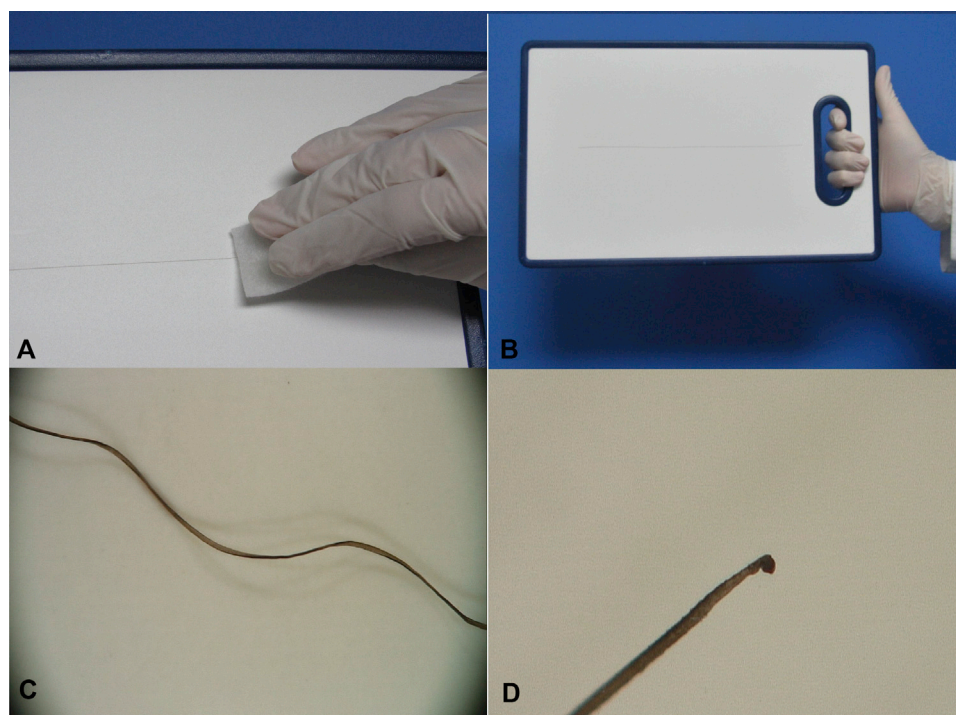
**Key word:** trichoscopy.

### TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE

Trichoscopy is a useful technique for diagnosing hair disorders.<sup>1</sup> Although easy to perform, imaging and examination of ex vivo trichoscopy poses some difficulties. Hairs placed on slides or paper sheets can shift or fly away during the procedure.

### SOLUTION

The use of a white plastic cutting board can be a helpful and inexpensive tool for ex vivo trichoscopy (Fig 1). Once the hairs are cut or pulled, they should be placed over the board and attached by passing an alcohol swab



**Fig 1.** **A**, An alcohol swab is used to stick the hair to the white plastic cutting board. **B**, The hair adhered to the slanted cutting board. **C**, Dermoscopy of woolly hair with the cutting board used as support. **D**, Dermoscopy of anagen hair with the described technique.

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or alcohol cotton ball along the hair shaft's surface. This allows the hairs to stay stationary while the examination/imaging is performed without any need for assistance. The hair shaft can be stabilized on the plastic cutting board without alteration of its morphology, and the white background facilitates adequate contrast for easy identification of pigmented hairs. The technique can be performed with either dermoscopy or videodermoscopy.

**REFERENCE**

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