A woman with acquired, diffuse, lanugo-like hair growth

A 79-year-old woman presented with a 3-month history of rapid growth of multiple long, thin, non-pigmented hairs, distributed diffusely over the entire body, preferentially on the face and trunk (Figure, A). After extensive investigations, two neoplasms were detected — a breast mucinous carcinoma and a metastatic endometrial carcinoma (Figure, B) — establishing the diagnosis of paraneoplastic hypertrichosis lanuginosa acquisita.

Acquired hypertrichosis is strongly associated with underlying neoplasm (mainly lung and colorectal cancer). ^{1,2} Therefore,

A

detailed and extensive investigations are mandatory to detect the associated malignancy and to allow early and specific therapy.

Marta Ferran, Dermatologist

Montserrat Gilaberte, Dermatologist

Josep E Herrero-Gonzalez, Dermatologist

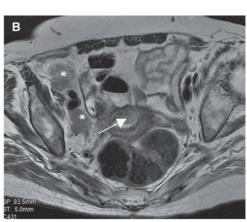
Lara Pijuan, Pathologist

Ramon M Pujol, Dermatologist

Department of Dermatology and Department of Pathology, Hospital del Mar, Barcelona, Spain.

mferran@imas.imim.es

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B: Pelvic magnetic resonance imaging revealed an endometrial tumour (arrow) and multiple enlarged lymph nodes (asterisks).