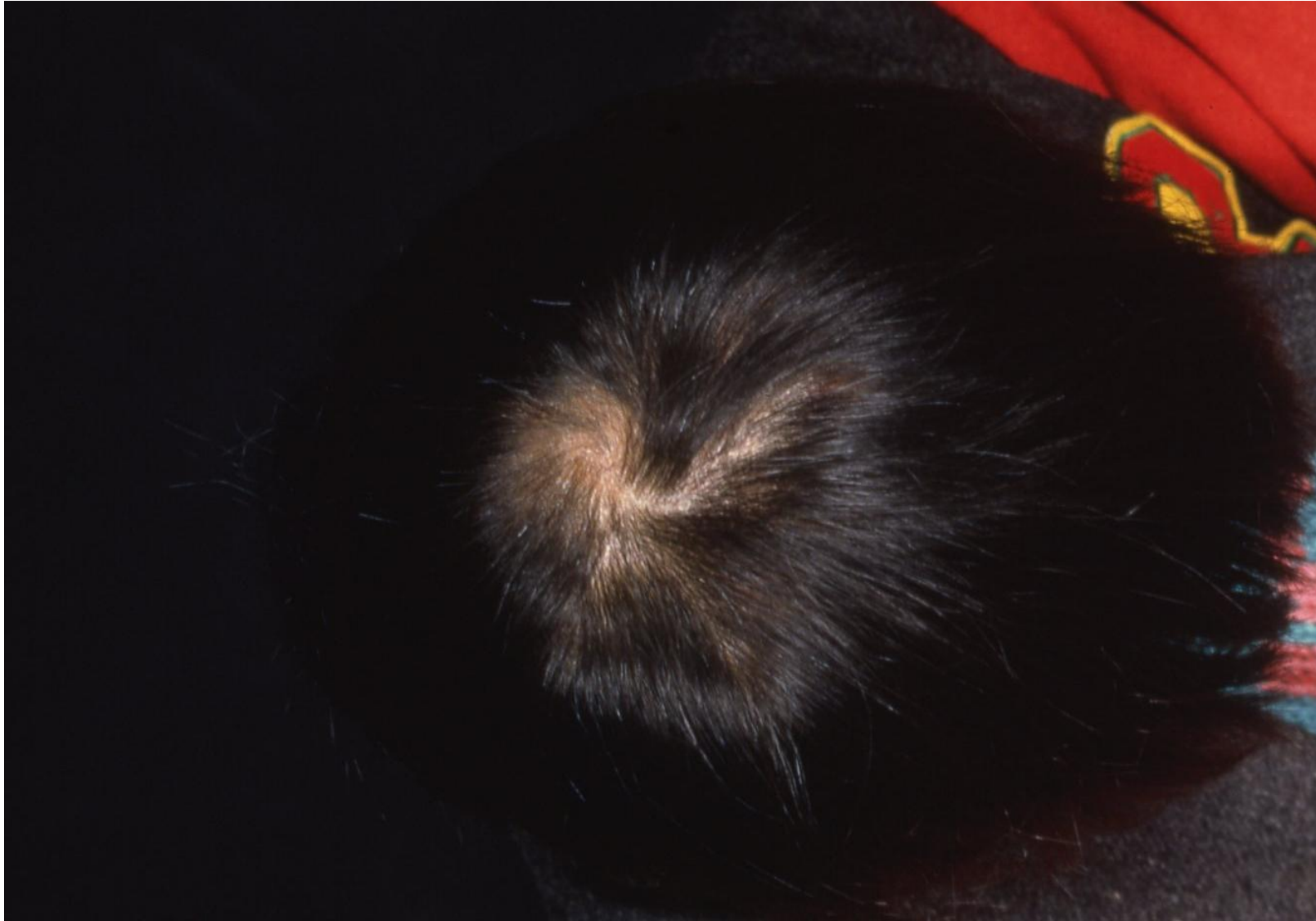


# Kerion celsi

Scalp ringworm (tinea capitis) is the most common dermatophytosis in children. Kerion celsi is an inflammatory variety of tinea capitis mainly seen in children. “Kerion” means alopecia. The most common causative agents are *Microsporum canis* and *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*. Hypersensitivity reaction to dermatophytes leads to a severe inflammatory response with follicular pustules and neutrophilic infiltration around hair follicles. A painful inflammatory mass is formed, and occasionally accompanied by lymphadenopathy in posterior auricular nodes. The hair shaft and hair follicle are constantly involved, resulting in scarring alopecia. Microscopically, spores and short hyphae are observed within and surrounding the hair shaft. Granulomatous reaction may be seen in the perifollicular dermis.

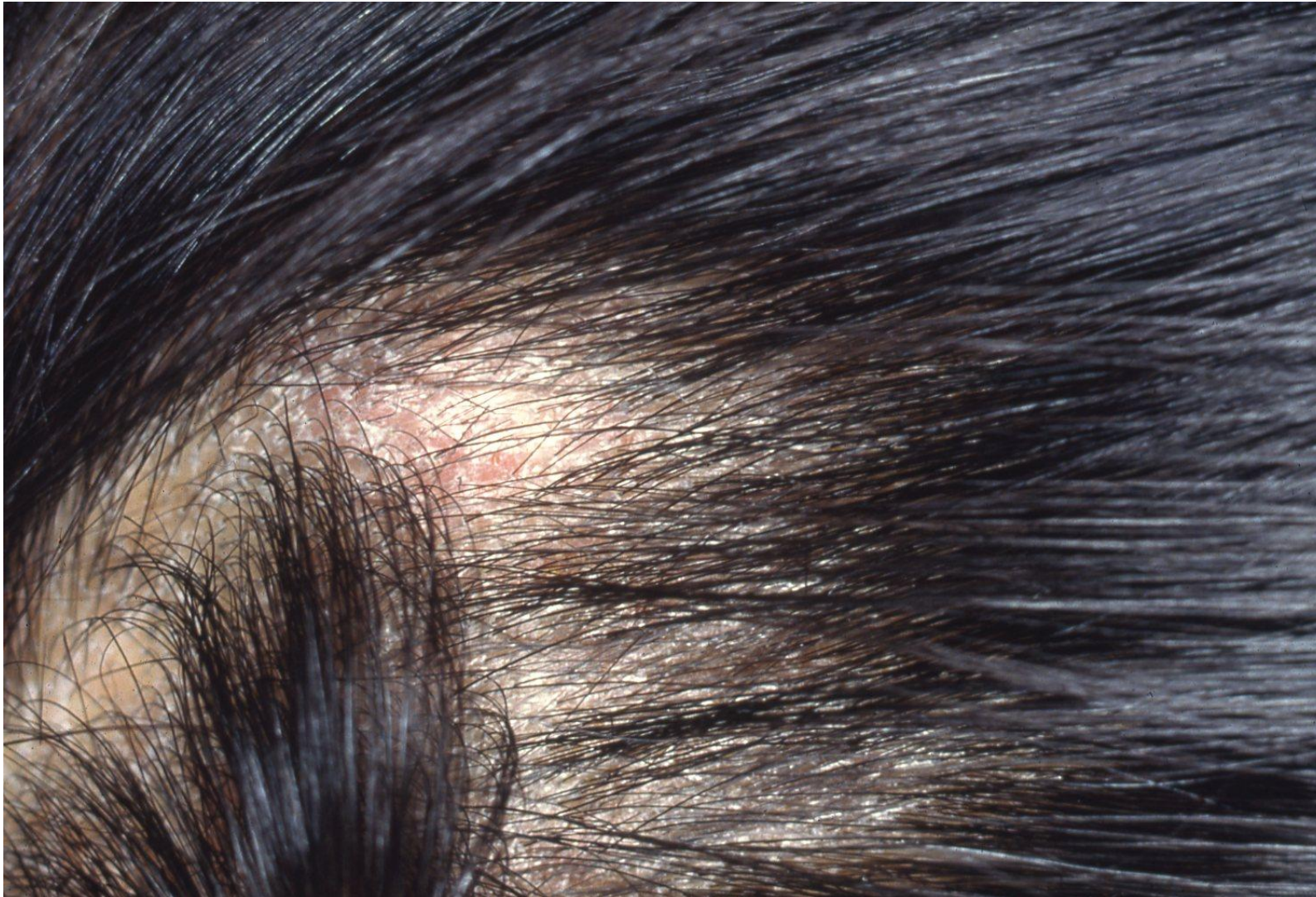
Ref.: Figueroa Basurto CI, et al. Understanding kerion Ccelsi in children: diagnosis and therapeutic guidelines through an algorithm. Cureus 2024; 16(4): e58475. doi: 10.7759/cureus.58475

**Case 1**  
**Kerion celsi**  
**10M**



Case 1 (a 10 y-o boy). Kerion celsi is the severe form of a painful inflammatory variety of tinea capitis. Alopecia is consistently associated.

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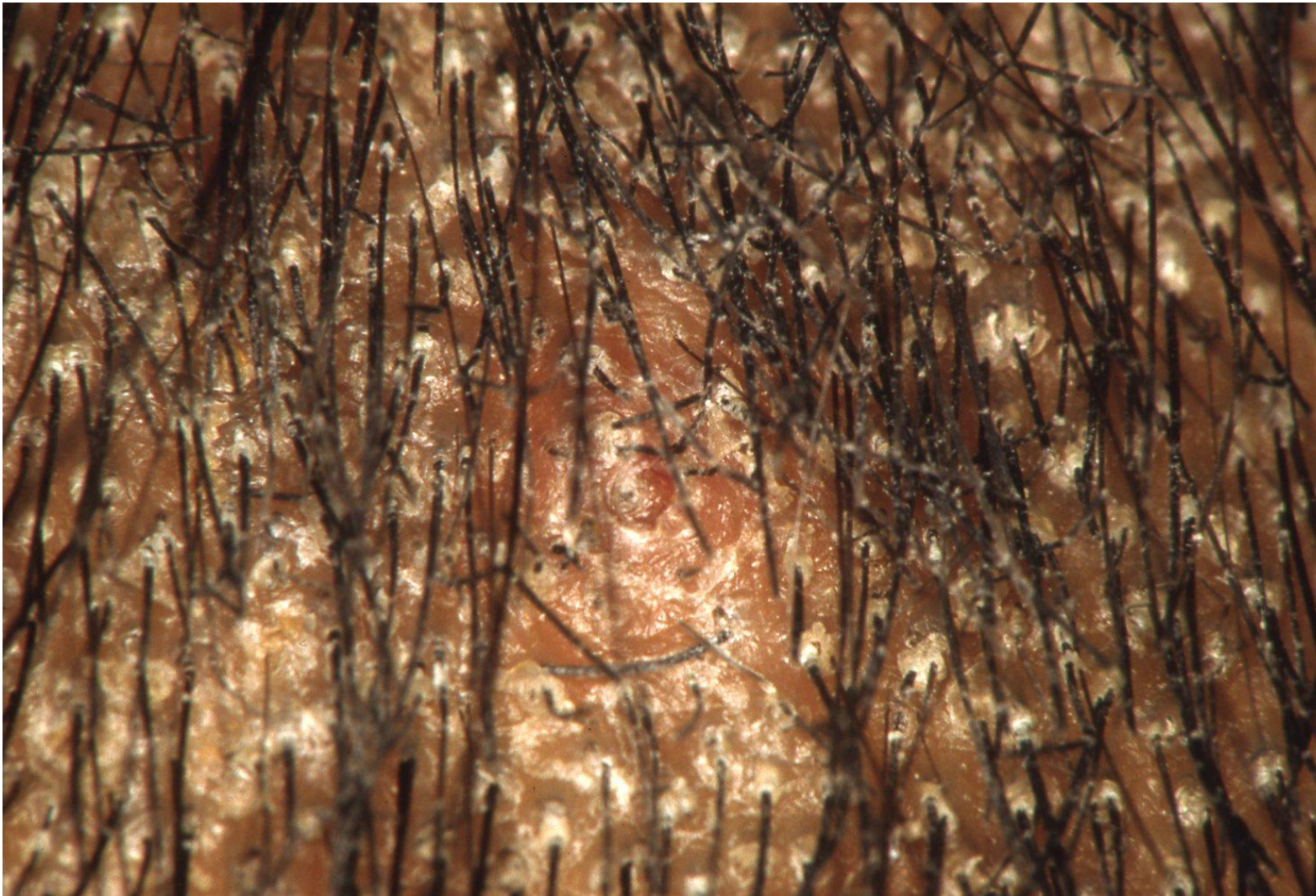
**Case 2**  
**Kerion celsi**  
**13M**



Case 2 (a 12 y-o boy). Kerion celsi is the severe form of a painful inflammatory variety of tinea capitis. Alopecia is consistently associated.

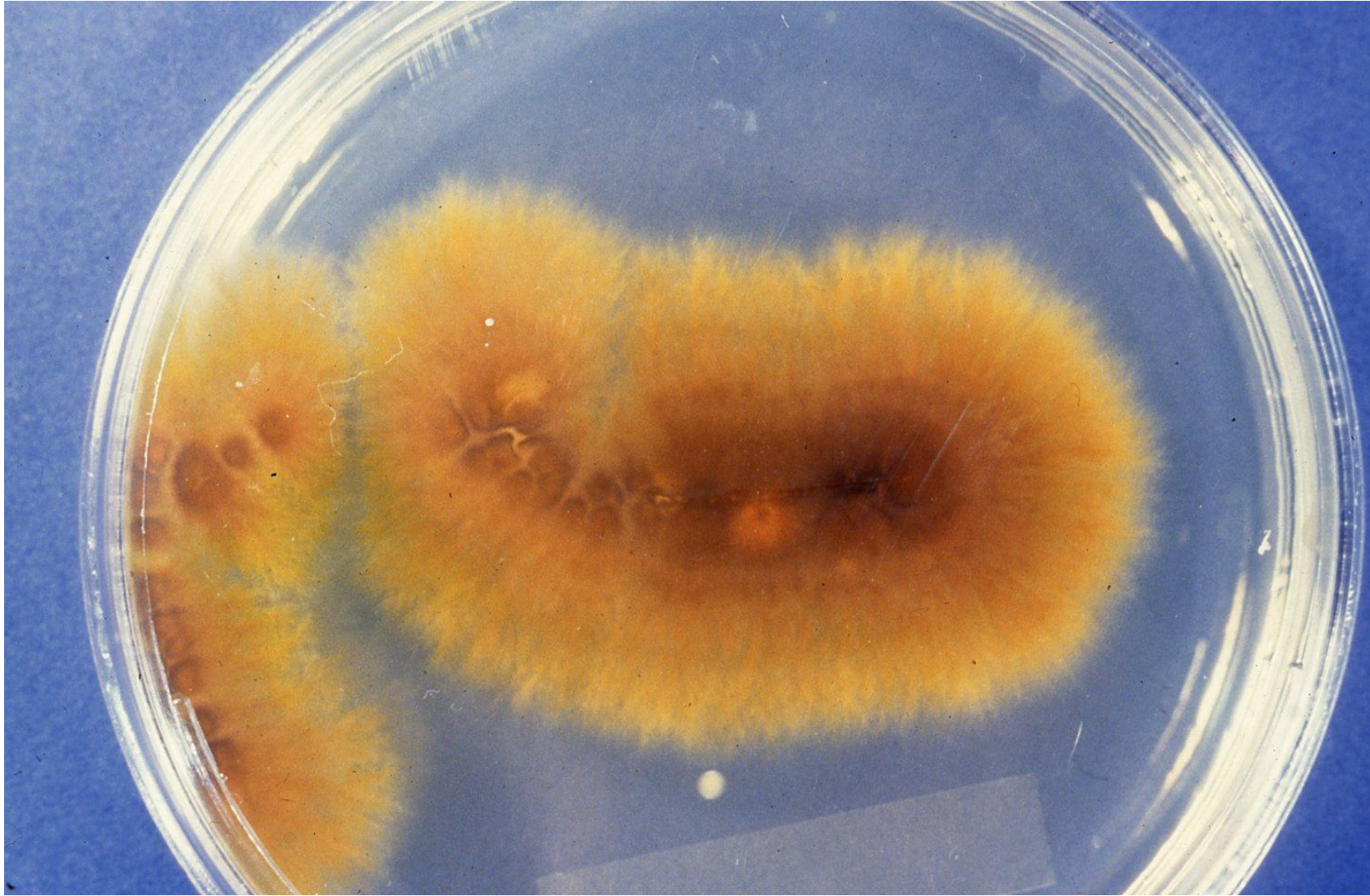


**Case 2**  
**Kerion celsi**  
**13M**



Case 2 (a 12 y-o boy). Kerion celsi is the severe form of a painful inflammatory variety of tinea capitis. Active dermal inflammation results in permanent alopecia.



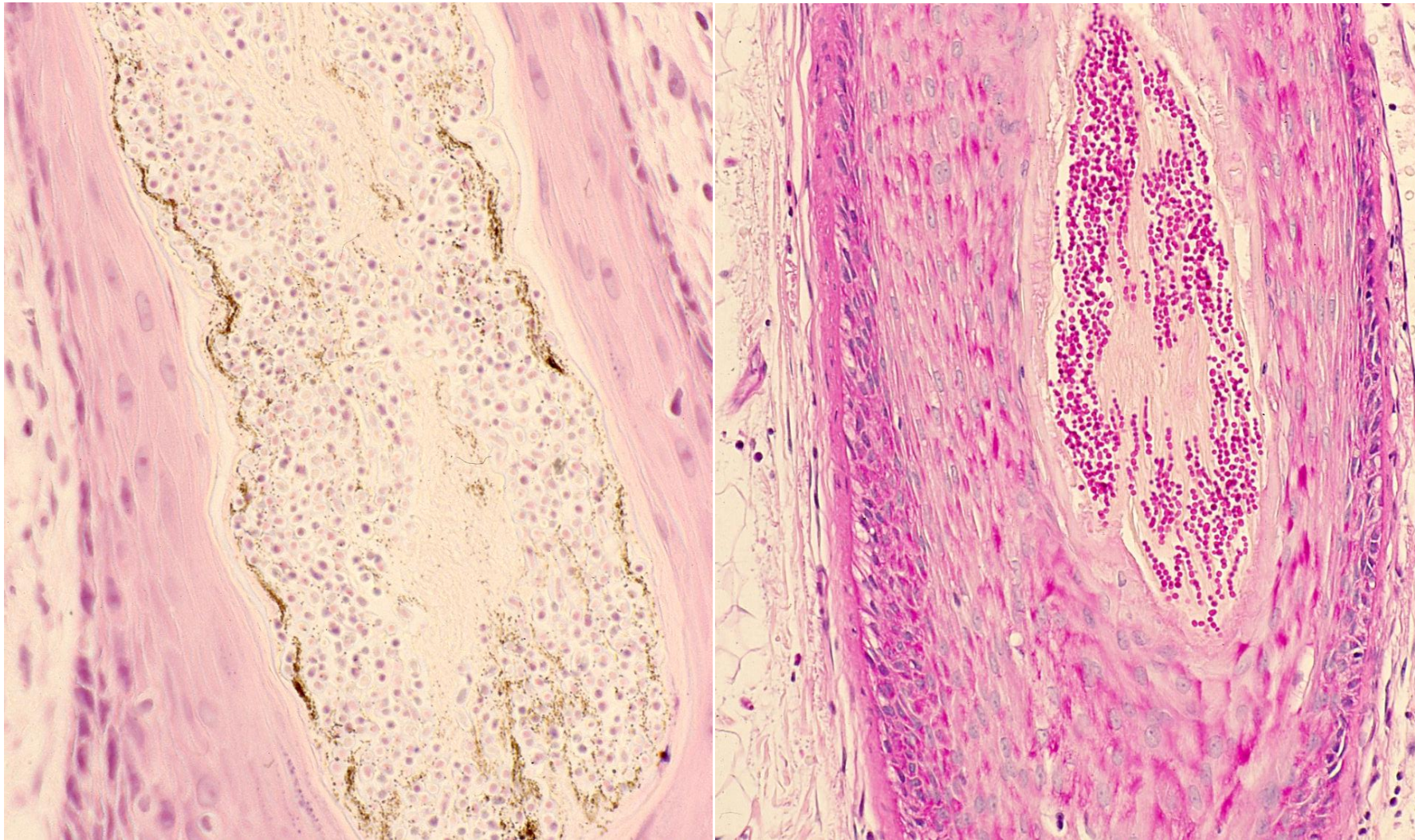


Colonies of cultured *Microsporum canis*. Long and yellowish brown-colored, hairy or feathery hyphae are characteristic. Domestic cats may have the fungi on the skin.



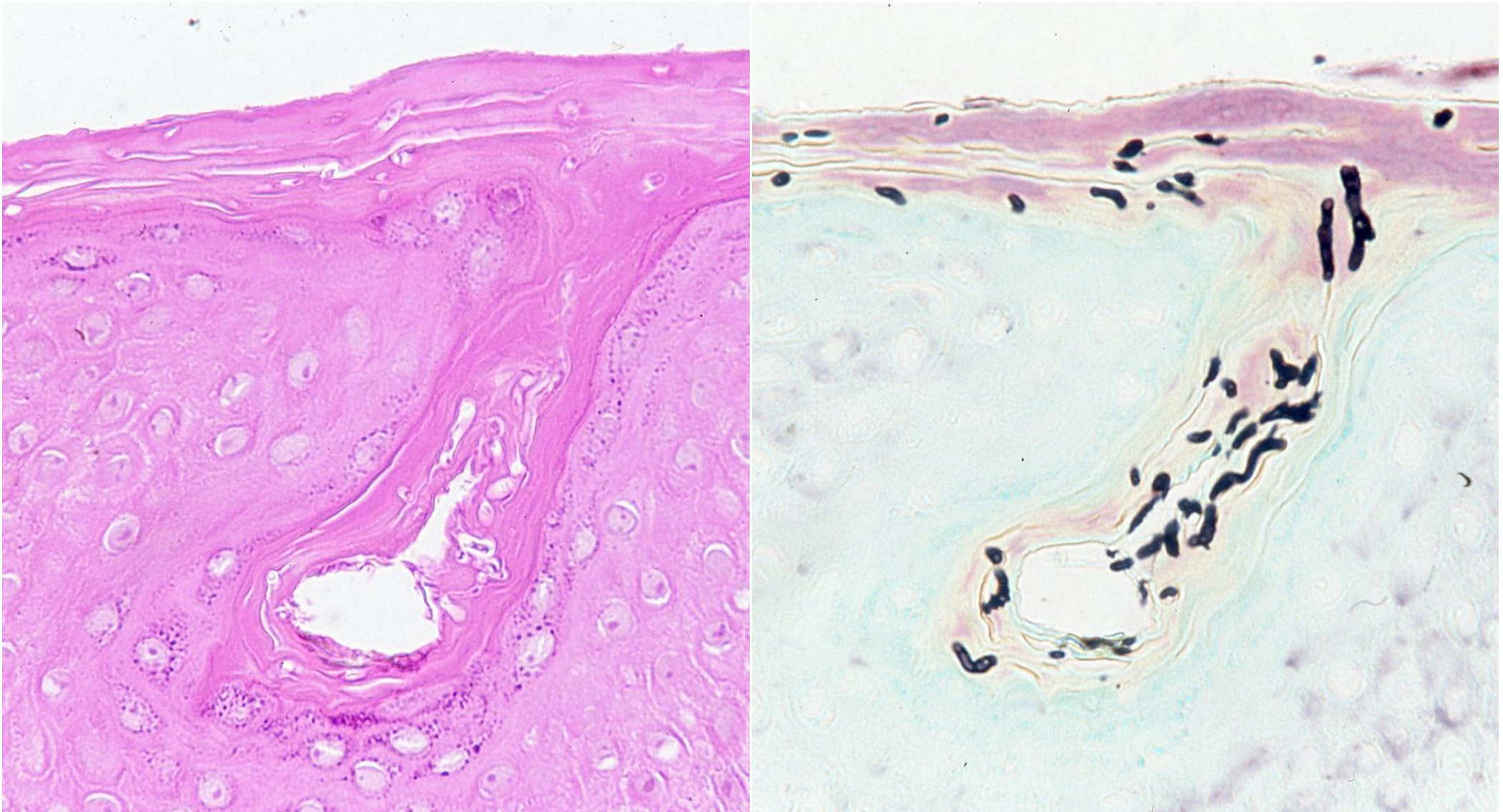
Macroconidia of cultured *Microsporum canis*. Spindle-shaped macroconidia have thick and coarsely roughened cell walls. The interior portion is divided into six or more compartments separated by broad cross-walls (Methylene blue).





Case 2 (a 12 y-o boy). Kerion celsi is the severe form of a painful inflammatory variety of tinea capitis. The hair shaft is involved by fungal infection, leading to hair loss (left: H&E, right: PAS).





Case 2 (a 12 y-o boy). Kerion celsi is the severe form of a painful inflammatory variety of tinea capitis. The hair follicle showing hair loss is involved by fungal infection (left: H&E, right: Grocott).