

## In Dermatology

Pseudopelade of Brocq (PoB) is an unusual form of permanent hair loss from the scalp affecting most commonly affects middle-aged and older women.

The cause is unknown, as is the mechanism by which the hair loss occurs.

PoB is not an inflammatory form of alopecia and the hair loss seems to be due to atrophy of the hair follicles rather than scarring.

The clinical features of the patch(es) of hair loss are Single or multiple, Slightly depressed, Asymptomatic.

The bald areas have been described as looking like 'footprints in the snow' See Figures 1 & 2.

No treatment has yet been found to stop the process or to regain lost hair. Surgery may help to improve the cosmetic appearance once the condition is no longer active.



Figure 1: 'Footprints in the snow' appearance



Figure 2: Patchy scarring alopecia