

## Jeff Donovan MD PhD FRCPC

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Other names: perfolliculitis capitis abscedens and suffodiens

## What is dissecting cellulitis?

- Dissecting cellulitis is an uncommon type of scarring hair loss condition that predominantly affects black and hispanic men aged 20-40.
- Affected individuals notice pustules and soft boggy nodules of the scalp that drain pus and sometimes blood.
- Hair loss develops in the area.
- Some patients also develop boil-like lesions in the armpit area or the groin (called hidradenitis) and some patients develop very bad acne-like lesions.

## How is dissecting cellulitis diagnosed?

- Often dissecting cellulitis can be diagnosed by visual examination by an experienced dermatologist.
- A scalp biopsy is not usually needed but may be done in more challenging diagnoses

## What is the treatment for dissecting cellulitis?

- Treatment for dissecting cellulitis is challenging but include:
  - o a range of antibiotics (ie Cephalexin)
  - Isotretinoin
  - o TNF inhibitors

