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First report of severe cnemidocoptiasis and its pathological lesions responsible for the death of budgerigars (*Melopsittacus undulatus*) in Iran

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Four dead budgerigars (*Melopsittacus undulatus*) with lesions on face and legs were referred to animal clinic of Veterinary College at University of Tabriz in Iran. In the face, there was a keratin-like mass with the dimensions 2 to 10 mm in the lateral corner of left lower eyelid. In legs, whitish, scaly lesions were observed. The scrape was collected and preserved in 70% ethanol. The mites were isolated from scrape, cleaned and mounted directly. Specimens were incubated and the rounded cover glasses were sealed by nail enamel. The diagnosis was done by laboratory identification of the causative mites under compound microscope. According to the lesions and by comparing with other studies, the species of the mite was reported as *Cnemidocoptes pilae*. The necropsy was done according to the classic method and necessary samples were taken. There were no lesions in internal organs but minor hyperemia was observed. The sciatic and brachial nerves were examined and no deformity was observed in these nerves. Brain was pulled out by cutting the skull and samples were taken from cerebra and cerebellum. Hyperemia was also observed in the brain. There were no other abnormalities in brain's cross-section.

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