Background
Telogen effluvium (TE) is one of the most prevalent causes of diffuse hair loss, because of a defect in hair cycling. Vitamin D plays important role in hair growth, and this is clear in patients with hereditary vitamin D receptor deficiency.

Objective
This study aimed to evaluate the status of 25-hydroxyl (OH) vitamin D, calcium, and phosphorus in women with chronic idiopathic TE and investigate a probable relationship.

Patients and methods
A total of 80, Egyptian, nonmenopausal women were recruited for this case–control study. Among them, 40 had chronic idiopathic TE, and 40 were healthy, agematched controls. Serum levels of 25-OH vitamin D, calcium, and phosphorus were measured.

Results
Serum 25-OH vitamin D levels were significantly decreased in chronic idiopathic TE patients compared with controls (P<0.001). There were no statistically significant differences in levels of calcium and phosphorus between patients and controls.

Conclusion
Low serum 25-OH vitamin D level may be associated with chronic TE and should be measured in patients who present with TE. Supplements should be provided to patients with low levels of serum 25-OH vitamin D. Serum calcium and phosphorus had no role in chronic idiopathic TE.

Keywords:
calcium, phosphorus, telogen effluvium, vitamin D