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Evaluation of various modalities of treatment for vitiligo

Pradeep Mahajan

MIMER Medical college, India

In many parts of the world especially in Indian subcontinent where the skin and hair color is darker, great shame and stigma is tied to vitiligo, an autoimmune disease of skin with disfiguring white spots, appearing anywhere on the body. The disorder can cause hair to lose pigment and turn white. In some societies, individuals with vitiligo, and even their family members, are shunned and excluded from arranged marriages. The condition affects up to 2 percent of world's population. Vitiligo is caused by loss of pigment in skin, due to destruction of pigment-forming cells melanocytes. Vitiligo can be frustrating and embarrassing, for some, it leads to clinical depression and anxiety and some have even committed suicide. We have been using different treatment modalities both medical and surgical for the repigmentation of vitiligo patches to provide improvement in patients' disease state and quality of life. Topical treatment options studied are Pseudo catalase, Steroids, Latanoprost, Bawchi (traditional) etc. Phototherapy methods like PUVA, NBUVB, Excimer light and laser are also assessed. Systemic agents used are Azathioprin, Statins, steroids and apremilast. Various forms of grafting LIKE punch, split thickness and suction grafting and melanocyte-keratinocyte culture are practiced as surgical treatments. We evaluated safety, tolerability and efficacy of all these agents and compared them. Though newer drugs like Tofacitinib or Afamelanotide or ATI-50002 Topical Solution, 0.46% or INCB018424 cream are not available in India we review literature on their use in subjects with vitiligo.

Biography

Pradeep Mahajan has completed post-graduate studies (MD) in dermatology in 1988. He was awarded Fellowship in Dermatopathology at Ackerman Academy of Dermatopathology at New York, USA in 2002. He worked as Associate Prof. at BJ Medical College and SKN Medical College Pune, India for 16 years. Currently he is Prof. and Head Department of Dermatology at MIMER Medical College, Pune, India. He has more than 35 publications in national and International journals. Dr Mahajan worked as Editor-in-chief for IADVL Color Atlas Of Dermatopathology, a 450 pages book published in 2017.

pradeepmahajan@doctor.com

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