



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

DERMOSCPIC EVALUATION OF DISEASE STABILITY IN VITILIGO – A PROSPECTIVE STUDY IN SKIN OF COLOR.

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INTRODUCTION: Vitiligo is a common acquired depigmentary disorder which is usually diagnosed clinically. Dermoscopy helps in characterizing the evolving and stable lesions in vitiligo.

OBJECTIVE: To study various dermoscopic patterns in vitiligo and to correlate with the disease activity.

METHODS: A prospective analysis of dermoscopy in 62 vitiligo cases using Derm-Lite 4 was performed. On basis of history and clinical examination – patients were divided into 3 groups, that is Stable (for >1year), Progressing and Repigmenting. They were assessed on the following parameters - Border, Pigmentary Network, Perifollicular pigmentation, Perilesional pigmentation and other special features.

RESULTS: Sixty-two patients with stable (23), progressing (26) and repigmenting (13) lesions were prospectively evaluated. Generalized vitiligo was the most common type in our study seen in 45.16% cases. Ill-defined borders & perilesional hyperpigmentation were characteristic dermoscopic findings of stable vitiligo seen in 16 (69.5%) and 9 (39.1%) cases respectively. Sharp borders, absent pigmentary network, and perifollicular pigmentation were the most noted findings of progressing disease seen in 16 (61.5%), 13 (50%) and 14 (53.8%) cases, respectively. Starburst appearance (42.3%), comet tail appearance (11.5%) and salt and pepper pigmentation (11.5%) were other features of progressing vitiligo. Perifollicular pigmentation (53.8%) and telangiectasia (53.8%) were the common findings in repigmenting lesions. An altered pigment network was present in most patients, though was not much helpful to differentiate between stable and unstable vitiligo.

CONCLUSION: There is no definite consensus in defining disease stability in vitiligo, but it is extremely crucial to the planning of treatment regimens and also in prognosticating for the patient. Dermoscopy is a handy and non-invasive tool for evaluation of vitiligo activity which can help us to plan an appropriate treatment and assess patient's suitability for skin grafting or other surgical procedures.

