



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

CLINICAL-EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY OF CHILDHOOD VITILIGO IN A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL IN MAHARASHTRA INDIA

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Introduction: Childhood vitiligo is a multifactorial pigmenatary disorder. Therapy in children is restricted as compared to the adult counterpart, which makes the management all the more difficult. The dynamics of the disease in growing children is different from that of adults. Our study is a small step to unravel different aspects of the disease in children at a tertiary care centre in Maharashtra as no similar studies have been found in literature in the past one decade, to the best of our knowledge. We hope that the findings of this study will help in a better understanding of the disease and will help to select the best mode of treatment to relieve patient's and guardian's anxiety associated with the disease.

Results: The study was a prospective observational study of clinical-epidemiology of childhood vitiligo in a tertiary care centre in Mumbai 2015-2017 (73 patients included).

An average age of presentation was 8.1 years with the youngest patient belonging to the segmental type of vitiligo. The most common type of vitiligo observed was vitiligo vulgaris. Non segmental vitiligo was seen in 64.%. The average age of onset of the disease was 5.9 years with female preponderance. Majority of patients were unstable(68.4%). The initial site of involvement was face followed by lower limbs.

Family history in 26% patients. Around 18.6 % of children were hypothyroid. Anti-thyroid peroxidase was seen positive in 10.9%. No patient showed any clinical signs of thyroid disorder. Serum IgE was raised in 21.9%patients. A low vitamin D was noted in 72 % patients.

Conclusion: Childhood vitiligo differs from adult vitiligo in many aspects. The course and associations of childhood vitiligo is an enigma due to the lack of long-term studies and published data. Our study is a small step to unravel childhood vitiligo.

