



PIGMENTATION

ROLE OF PHENOL TOUCH IN CASES OF VITILIGO

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Introduction: Vitiligo is a pigmentary anomaly. It is of a major concern in south Asian population because the white patches stand out prominently against the dark complexion. It has social stigma attached with it especially for the Indian women. It also has psychological impact on patient.

Objective: Over the years, the number of refractory cases of vitiligo encountered has drastically increased. These cases were refractory even to the new treatment modalities (8-methoxypsoralen, PUVA, tacrolimus, etc). Under such circumstances, we thought of combining the current treatment regime of the patient with the old therapy of phenol touch.

Method and Material: 25 Cases of Stable vitiligo which were refractory to other therapies were selected. Refractory cases were defined as -cases in which no changes in the lesion were noted, despite continuous treatment for 12 months. Phenol touch was performed over the sites, every month. 6 phenol touch sittings were done with regular follow up.

Results: Excellent results were obtained when phenol touch was combined with existing treatment modalities in 20 cases. 1 case did not show any improvement. In major cases, repigmentation was seen evidently. Hairy areas responded very well in comparison to the non hairy areas. Bony parts responded poorly.

Limitation: size of sample study

Conclusion: It's worth combining phenol touch in cases which are refractory to other treatment modalities alone. Phenol touch is easily available, cheap and has excellent patient compliance.

Keywords: Phenol, vitiligo, refractory cases, white patch,

