



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

## A STUDY OF AUTOLOGOUS NON-CULTURED MELANOCYTE TRANSPLANT IN 39 PATIENTS WITH 65 PATCHES OF STABLE VITILIGO WITHOUT THE USE OF NB-UVB.

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**Introduction-** In the ocean of conservative treatment modalities, repigmentation is not always seen therefore surgical treatment can be a hope for patients with stable vitiligo.

**Background-** Vitiligo is multifactorial polygenic disorder associated with complex pathogenesis. India is amongst the countries with highest incidence rates varying from 3 to 4%, an incidence as high as 8.8% has been reported in states of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Non cultured epidermal suspension is a new cellular grafting technique which is less tedious, less time consuming and more area can be covered in single sitting as compared to other techniques.

**Objectives-** To study the outcome and complications of non-cultured melanocyte transplant in patients with stable vitiligo without the use of NB-UVB.

**Method-** Skin grafts were taken from the lateral aspect of patient's thigh and hot trypsinization was done. Shearing of the epidermal cells in Dulbecco's medium was done without use of trypsin inhibitor. The solution was then centrifuged to obtain pellets which were applied on dermabraded vitiliginous skin. Dressing soaked in the Dulbecco's medium was applied on the grafted area instead of collagen dressing further decreasing the cost of the procedure. NB UVB was not given to the patient.

**Results-** A total of 65 patches in 39 patients with depigmented area of 1302.5cm<sup>2</sup> and size of lesions varying from 5.6cm<sup>2</sup> – 157.2cm<sup>2</sup> underwent the procedure. Repigmentation area of 874.5cm<sup>2</sup> (67.14%) was achieved at 6 month of follow up. Patients who were lost to follow-up were not included in the study. Excellent repigmentation was achieved in 38/59 (64.41%), 17/59(28.21%) patients achieved good result, 2/59(3.39%) fair and 2/59(3.39%) achieved poor repigmentation. The side effects noted in our study were mild to moderate hyperpigmentation in 3(7.69%) patients.

**Conclusion-** NCES is a novel, easy, affordable and rapid surgical method as a treatment





modality in stable vitiligo with excellent to good results.

