The Gold Standard Treatment Plan for Vitiligo: A Review on Conventional and Updated Treatment Methods

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Abstract : White patches are a symptom of vitiligo, a chronic autoimmune dermatological condition that causes a loss of pigmentation in the skin. Vitiligo can cause issues of self-esteem and quality of life while also progressing the development of other autoimmune diseases. Current treatments in allopathy and homeopathy exist; some treatments have been found to be toxic, whereas others have been helpful. Allopathy has seemed to offer several treatment plans, such as phototherapy, skin lightening preparations, immunosuppressive drugs, combined modality therapy, and steroid medications to improve vitiligo. This presentation will review the FDA-approved topical cream, Opzelura, a JAK inhibitor, and its effects on limiting vitiligo progression. Meanwhile, other non-conventional methods, such as Arsenic Sulphuratum Flavum used in homeopathy, will be debunked based on current literature. Most treatments still serve to arrest progression and induce skin repigmentation. Treatment plans may differ between patients due to depigmentation location on the skin. Since there is no gold standard plan for treating patients with vitiligo, the oral presentation will review all topical and systemic pharmacological therapies that fight the depigmentation of the skin and categorize their validity from a systematic review of the literature. Since treatment plans are limited in nature, all treatment methods will be mentioned and an attempt will be made to make a golden standard treatment process for these patients.

Keywords: vitiligo, phototherapy, immunosuppressive drugs, skin lightening preparations, combined modality therapy, arsenic sulphuratum flavum, homeopathy, allopathy, golden standard, Opzelura

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