

# Vitiligo and Skincare Physicians Meeting

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## Stable vitiligo can be treated by various surgical procedures

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**Background & Aim:** Stable vitiligo can be treated by various surgical procedures. Non-cultured melanocyte grafting techniques were developed to overcome time consuming process of culture while at the same time providing acceptable results. All the techniques using non-cultured melanocyte transfer involve trypsinization as an integral step. Jodhpur technique used by the author is autologous, non-cultured, non-trypsinized, melanocyte and keratinocyte grafting. This is the only technique that does not require split thickness graft.

**Methods:** At the donor site, dermabrasion was done with the help of micromotor dermabrader at slow rpm till pin point bleeding was seen. Dermabrasion was then continued till the upper dermis and then stopped. The paste like material obtained by this procedure containing melanocytes and keratinocytes was harvested with spatula and was subsequently spread over the recipient area. Recipient site was prepared in the same manner as donor site except no harvesting of epidermal particles was done. After 10 days dressing at both sites was removed taking utmost care at the recipient site as there was theoretical risk of dislodging epidermal cells.

**Results:** In a study of 437 vitiligo patches, more than 75% re-pigmentation (excellent improvement) was seen in 41% of the patches. Lesions on thigh (100%), face (75%) and trunk (50%) showed maximal excellent improvement while patches on joints and acral areas did not show much improvement.

**Conclusions:** This technique is a cheaper, less time consuming alternative to other techniques which involve trypsinization of melanocytes and at the same time provides satisfactory uniform pigmentation.

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## Evaluation of synergistic effect of red clover extract with Bimatoprost in the treatment of eyelash discoloration in patients with vitiligo

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Vitiligo is an autoimmune disease in which the body makes antibody against its own melanocytes and the skin loses its pigment and color in patches. Also, the amount of hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) is very high compared to the normal individual range. Increased tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF alpha) and interleukin-1 levels directly cause apoptosis and activate cell death pathway in eyelash follicle melanocytes. As a result, eyelashes turn white. Treatment methods such as psoralen and ultraviolet A irradiation (PUVA) or the use of steroids are effective in treating skin discoloration. But these methods are not usually effective in the case of eyelashes. When bimatoprost is used in Cerita eyelash enhancer solution, it increases melanin synthesis via induction of tyrosinase activity. Therefore, result indicated that bimatoprost increased the melanogenesis process. Also, red clover extracts is used in this solution. Red clover is a rich source of isoflavones and A, C, E vitamins (The maximum scale was used in the solution combination). Consequently, these compounds effectively reduce catalase activity and the amount of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Moreover, bimatoprost and red clover have a synergistic effect on each other. This study was performed on 50 infected patients. 25 people used Cerita eyelash enhancer solution and 25 people used a concurrent placebo control daily for a month. The result of observation in the scanning electron microscope confirmed that the color of eyelashes changed and gets darkened eyelashes in the first group 60% compared with the control group.

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